

SCREENING FOR STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

FOR THE

CAVAN LOCAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY PLAN 2024-2029

for: Cavan County Council

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Section 1 Introduction and Background

1.1 Introduction

This is the Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Report for the Cavan Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2024-2029¹ to be adopted ("the Plan").

SEA is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme, alteration to a plan or programme, etc., before a decision is made to adopt it. The SEA Directive² requires, inter alia, that SEA is undertaken for certain plans, programmes or alterations to these. Screening is the process for deciding whether a particular plan or programme, other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant SEA.

The purpose of this report is to inform: whether the Plan would, or would not, be likely to have significant environmental effects, taking into account relevant criteria set out under the SEA Directive and transposing Regulations³; and therefore would, or would not, necessitate the undertaking of SEA.

This report should be read in conjunction with the Plan and all other associated documents including the:

- Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028;
- SEA Environmental Report for the Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028;
- Appropriate Assessment (AA) Natura Impact Report for the Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028;
- Screening for AA Report for the Cavan Local Economic and Community Plan.

1.2 The Plan

The Cavan Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) sets out, for six years, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic and community development of County Cavan.

As detailed in the Plan:

"Implementing this Plan will involve Cavan County Council helping to facilitate, promote, support and coordinate stakeholders in their activities in a way that is consistent with existing and emerging plans setting out public policy for sustainable development, including that relating to the economy, communities, infrastructure, land use tourism and environmental protection and environmental management.

This Plan is situated alongside this hierarchy of statutory documents that has been subject to environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment, as appropriate, and forms the decision-making and consent-granting framework. The Plan does not provide consent or establish a framework for granting consent and will not be binding on any decisions relating to the granting of consent.

The Plan fully aligns with the provisions of the existing National Planning Framework, Ireland 2040, National Climate Action Plan 2023, Housing For All 2021, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2020-2032 and the current County Development Plan, all of which have been subject to legislative requirements relating to public consultation and environmental

¹ Incorporating Framework Plan and Implementation Plan

² Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of Ministers, of 27th June 2001, on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment

³ European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (SI No. 435 of 2004) amended by the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (SI No. 200 of 2011)

assessment/screening for environmental assessment. As such, the Plan is wholly subject to the requirements of the provisions set out in these documents, including provisions relating to sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been integrated into these documents, including through SEA and AA processes, and does not introduce any alterations or additions to those provisions.

In order to be realised, projects included in this Plan (in a similar way to other projects from any other sectors) will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and other licencing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework. It is a specific provision of this Plan to ensure that all of the provisions from the County Development Plan identified in the accompanying Screening for SEA and AA reports shall be complied with throughout the implementation of this Plan.”

1.3 Consultations

As part of the screening process, environmental authorities⁴ were notified that a submission or observation in relation to whether the Plan would, or would not, be likely to have significant effects on the environment may be made to the Council. One submission was received from Geological Survey Ireland (a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications), the issues raised in which are responded to on Table 1.1 below.

Table 1.1 SEA Screening Submission and Responses

| Ref. | Submission Text/Summary of Issues Raised | SEA Response |
|---|--|--|
| 1. Geological Survey Ireland (a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications) | | |
| | The Geological Survey Ireland’s submission covers a wide range of topics including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geoheritage • Culture and Tourism • Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark • PROJECT Belturbet • Dimension Stone/Stone Built Ireland • Groundwater • Geological Mapping • Geotechnical Database Resources • Geohazards • Geothermal Energy • Natural Resources (Minerals/Aggregates) • Geochemistry of soils, surface waters and sediments • Physiographic Units | Relevant GSI data sets have been considered in the preparation of this report and will be considered throughout the Screening for SEA process. |

⁴ The following environmental authorities were notified: Environmental Protection Agency; Department of Environment, Climate and Communications; Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine; and Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Section 2 SEA Screening

2.1 Introduction

This section examines whether or not the Plan would be likely to have significant environmental effects (and thus would warrant the undertaking of SEA). This examination takes account of relevant criteria set out Annex II of the SEA Directive (see Section 2.4).

2.2 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Appropriate Assessment (AA) is an impact assessment process concerning *Natura 2000*, or *European*, sites - these sites have been designated or proposed for designation by virtue of their ecological importance. The Habitats Directive⁵ and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) provide the requirement to screen for effects on European Sites. If the effects are deemed to be *significant, potentially significant or uncertain* then Stage 2 AA must be undertaken.

The Plan has been subject to a Screening for AA process in order to establish whether or not AA must be undertaken. The conclusion of the Screening for AA process is that the Plan is not likely to result in significant effects on European sites and will not give rise to any effects on the ecological integrity of any European site, alone or in combination with any other plans, programmes, and projects etc.

2.3 Screening Analysis

The analysis of the Plan is undertaken with reference to the main interactions with Strategic Environmental Objectives⁶ (SEOs). SEOs are detailed in full at Table 2.1. The range of interactions identified with symbols are detailed on Table 2.2.

Using the SEO codes (Table 2.1) and interaction symbols (Table 2.2), Table 2.3 examines whether each relevant part of the Plan would be likely to have significant environmental effects (and thus would warrant the undertaking of SEA).

Table 2.3 is supplemented by Table 2.4 which provides details on:

- The likely significant effects of implementing the Plan, in combination with the wider planning framework, if unmitigated;
- Key mitigation measure(s) in force under the Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028 that any projects under the Plan would be required to comply with; and
- Residual non-significant adverse effects arising from the Plan.

Effects encompass the full range of effects⁷, including those arising cumulatively – such as those potentially arising as a result of interactions with other plans and programmes.

The examination of the Plan also takes into account relevant criteria set out under Annex II of the SEA Directive '*Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in Article 3(5)*' (see Section 2.4).

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

⁶ Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) are methodological measures developed from policies which generally govern environmental protection objectives established at international, Community or Member State level and are used as standards against which the provisions of the Plan can be considered in order to help identify whether any provisions would be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

⁷ These include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects

Table 2.1 Strategic Environmental Objectives

| Environmental Component | SEO Code | Guiding Principle | Strategic Environmental Objectives |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--|--|
| Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna | BFF | No net contribution to biodiversity losses or deterioration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To preserve, protect, maintain and, where appropriate, enhance the terrestrial, aquatic and soil biodiversity, particularly EU designated sites and protected species Ensure no adverse effects on the integrity of any European site, with regard to its qualifying interests, associated conservation status, structure and function Safeguard national, regional and local designated sites and supporting features which function as stepping stones for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species Enhance biodiversity in line with the National Biodiversity Action Plan and its targets To protect, maintain and conserve the County's natural capital |
| Population and Human Health | PHH | Improve quality of life for all ages and abilities based on high-quality, serviced, well connected and sustainable residential, working, educational and recreational environments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote economic growth to encourage retention of working age population and funding of sustainable development and environmental protection and management Ensure that existing population and planned growth is matched with the required public infrastructure and the required services Safeguard the County's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and well-being |
| Soil (and Land) | S | Ensure the long-term sustainable management of land | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect soils against pollution, and prevent degradation of the soil resource Promote the sustainable use of infill and brownfield sites over the use of greenfield within the County Safeguard areas of prime agricultural land and designated geological sites |
| Water | W | Protection, improvement and sustainable management of the water resource | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the status of water bodies is protected, maintained and improved in line with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and Marine Strategy Framework Directive Ensure that economic growth of the marine resource and its ecosystems are managed sustainably Ensure water resources are sustainably managed to deliver proposed regional and County growth targets in the context of existing and projected water supply and wastewater capacity constraints ensuring the protection of receiving environments Avoid inappropriate zoning and development in areas at risk of flooding and areas that are vulnerable to current and future erosion Integrate sustainable water management solutions (such as SuDS, porous surfacing and green roofs) into development proposals |
| Material Assets | MA | Sustainable and efficient use of natural resources | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optimise existing infrastructure and provide new infrastructure to match population distribution proposals in the County - this includes transport infrastructure Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all which encourages a broad energy generation mix to ensure security of supply – wind, wave solar, tidal, biomass, energy from waste and traditional fossil fuels Promote the circular economy, reduce waste, and increase energy efficiencies Ensure there is adequate sewerage and drainage infrastructure in place to support new development Reduce the energy demand from the transport sector and support moves to electrification of road and rail transport modes Encourage the transition to a zero-carbon economy by facilitating the development of a grid infrastructure to support renewables and international connectivity. Reduce the average energy consumption per capita including promoting energy efficient buildings, retrofitting, smart-buildings, cities and grids |
| Air | A | Support clean air policies that reduce the impact of air pollution on the environment and public health | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole resulting from emissions to air from all sectors with particular reference to emissions from transport, residential heating, industry and agriculture Maintain and promote continuing improvement in air quality through the reduction of emissions and promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency Promote continuing improvement in air quality Reduction of emissions of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, volatile |

| Environmental Component | SEO Code | Guiding Principle | Strategic Environmental Objectives |
|--------------------------|-----------|---|--|
| | | | <p>organic compounds, ammonia and fine particulate matter which are responsible for acidification, eutrophication and ground-level ozone pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet Air Quality Directive standards for the protection of human health • Significantly decrease noise pollution and move closer to WHO recommended levels |
| Climatic Factors | C | Achieving transition to a competitive, low carbon, climate-resilient economy that is cognisant of environmental impacts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To minimise emissions of greenhouse gasses • Integrate sustainable design solutions into the County's infrastructure (e.g. energy efficient buildings; green infrastructure). • Contribute towards the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in line with national targets. • Promote development resilient to the effects of climate change • Promote the use of renewable energy, energy efficient development and increased use of public transport |
| Cultural Heritage | CH | Safeguard cultural heritage features and their settings through responsible design and positioning of development | Protect places, features, buildings and landscapes of cultural, archaeological or architectural heritage |
| Landscape | L | Protect and enhance the landscape character | To implement the Plan's framework for identification, assessment, protection, management and planning of landscapes having regard to the European Landscape Convention |

Table 2.2 Main Interactions and associated Symbols

| Symbol | Main Interactions Identified |
|--------|--|
| + | Significant beneficial environmental effects are already present under the existing planning framework. Likely significant effects would not result from the Plan. |
| - | Potentially significant adverse effects, if unmitigated, are already present under the existing planning framework and have already been envisaged and mitigated by the relevant assessments. Likely significant effects would not result from the Plan. |
| * | Please also refer to Section 2.2 |

Table 2.3 SEA Screening Analysis of Plan

| SEO Codes (see Table 2.2 for main interactions) | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---|
| BFF | PHH | S | W | MA | A | C | CH | L | Additional SEA Screening Comments |
| - + * | - + | - + | - + | - + | - + | - + | - + | - + | <p>The Cavan Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) sets out, for six years, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic and community development of County Cavan.</p> <p>Implementing the Plan will involve Cavan County Council helping to facilitate, promote, support and coordinate stakeholders in their activities in a way that is consistent with existing and emerging plans setting out public policy for sustainable development, including that relating to the economy, communities, infrastructure, land use tourism and environmental protection and environmental management. The Plan is situated alongside this hierarchy of statutory documents that has been subject to environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment, as appropriate, and forms the decision-making and consent-granting framework. The Plan does not provide consent or establish a framework for granting consent and will not be binding on any decisions relating to the granting of consent.</p> <p>The Plan fully aligns with the provisions of the existing National Planning Framework, Ireland 2040, National Climate Action Plan 2023, Housing For All 2021, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and the Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028, all of which have been subject to legislative requirements relating to public consultation and environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment. As such, the Plan is wholly subject to the requirements of the provisions set out in these documents, including provisions relating to sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been integrated into these documents, including through SEA and AA processes, and does not introduce any alterations or additions to those provisions.</p> <p>In order to be realised, projects included in the Plan (in a similar way to other projects from any other sectors) will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and other licencing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework. It is a specific provision of the Plan to ensure that all of the provisions from the County Development Plan identified in the accompanying Screening for SEA and AA reports shall be complied with throughout the implementation of the Plan.</p> <p>Taking into account all of the above (refer also to Table 2.4 and Appendix I) it is demonstrated that: significant beneficial environmental effects are present already under the existing planning framework and would not result from the Plan; and potentially significant adverse effects, if unmitigated, are present already under the existing planning framework, have already been envisaged and mitigated by the relevant assessments and would not result from the Plan. Consequently, it is advised that the Plan would not result in likely significant environmental effects and does not necessitate the undertaking of SEA.</p> |

Table 2.4 Detail of effects from the existing planning framework, if unmitigated, mitigation measures for potential effects and residual adverse effects

| Environmental Component | Environmental Effects, in combination with the wider planning framework | | | Selection of Mitigation Measures from the Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028, including the following: |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| | Significant Positive Effect, likely to occur | Potentially Significant Adverse Environmental Effects, if unmitigated | Likely Residual Adverse Non-Significant Effects | |
| | Effects include in-combination effects that are planned for through the wider planning framework including the NPF and associated NDP 2021, the Northern and Western RSES, the Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028 and other plans and programmes – see Appendix I. | | | |
| All | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various | <p>Core Strategy - Ecosystems Services Approach and Natural Capital</p> <p>In preparing the Draft Plan and developing policy objectives, the Council have followed these Ecosystem Services⁸ Approach principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of natural systems - by using knowledge of interactions in nature and how ecosystems function. Taking into account of the services that ecosystems provide - including those that underpin social and economic well-being, such as flood and climate regulation, resources for food, fibre or fuel, or for recreation, culture and quality of life. Involving people - those who benefit from the ecosystem services and those managing them need to be involved in decisions that affect them. Public consultation has informed the preparation of the Draft Plan which will be further refined before adoption, taking into account submissions/observations made on the Draft Plan during public display. <p>The Council shall promote an Ecosystem Services Approach, following the above principles, in its decision-making processes, including those relating to the preparation of statutory land use plans.</p> <p>In recognition of the need to manage natural capital⁹, provisions have been integrated into the Plan that will contribute towards management of air quality, noise pollution, light pollution, water quality and integrated river basin management.</p> <p>United Nations Sustainability Goals</p> <p>Contribute, as practicable, towards achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which came into force in 2016.</p> <p>Various other Objectives</p> <p>GR 09 New roads and other transport infrastructure projects that are not already provided for by existing plans/programmes or are not already permitted, are subject to the undertaking of feasibility assessment, taking into account planning need, environmental sensitivities as identified in the SEA Environment Report and the objectives of the Plan relating to sustainable mobility. Where feasibility is established, a Corridor and Road Selection Process will be undertaken where appropriate, for relevant new road infrastructure in two stages: Stage1 – Router Corridor Identification, Evaluation and Sections; and Stage 2 – Route Identification, Evaluation and Selection.</p> <p>RCWM-05 All relevant development proposals shall include a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) with planning application documentation¹⁰.</p> |

⁸ Ecosystems are multifunctional communities of living organisms interacting with each other and their environment. Ecosystems provide a series of services for human well-being (ecosystem services) either directly or indirectly contributing towards human wellbeing

⁹ Renewable and non-renewable resources (e.g. plants, animals, air, water, soils, minerals)

¹⁰ Construction Environment Management Plans shall be prepared in advance of the construction of relevant projects and implemented throughout. Such plans shall incorporate relevant mitigation measures which have been integrated into the Plan and any lower tier Environmental Impact Statement or Appropriate Assessment. CEMPs typically provide details of intended construction practice for the proposed development, including:

- location of the sites and materials compound(s) including area(s) identified for the storage of construction refuse;
- location of areas for construction site offices and staff facilities;
- details of site security fencing and hoardings;
- details of on-site car parking facilities for site workers during the course of construction;
- details of the timing and routing of construction traffic to and from the construction site and associated directional signage;
- measures to obviate queuing of construction traffic on the adjoining road network;
- measures to prevent the spillage or deposit of clay, rubble or other debris;
- alternative arrangements to be put in place for pedestrians and vehicles in the case of the closure of any public right of way during the course of site development works;
- details of appropriate mitigation measures for noise, dust and vibration, and monitoring of such levels;
- containment of all construction-related fuel and oil within specially constructed bunds to ensure that fuel spillages are fully contained (such bunds shall be roofed to exclude rainwater);
- disposal of construction/demolition waste and details of how it is proposed to manage excavated soil, including compliance with 2006 Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government;
- a water and sediment management plan, providing for means to ensure that surface water runoff is controlled such that no silt or other pollutants enter local water courses or drains;
- details of a water quality monitoring and sampling plan;
- if peat is encountered - a peat storage, handling and reinstatement management plan;

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| | | | | <p>GE 08 Where undergrounding and/or overgrounding of cables is being pursued, proposals should demonstrate that environmental impacts including the following are minimise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Habitat loss as a result of removal of field boundaries and hedgerows (right of way preparation) followed by topsoil stripping (to ensure machinery does not destroy soil structure and drainage properties). - Short to medium term impacts on the landscape where, for example, hedgerows are encountered; - Impacts on underground archaeology; - Impacts on soil structure and drainage; - Impacts on surface waters as a result of sedimentation and - Visual impacts. |
| <p>Biodiversity and Flora and Fauna</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution towards protection of ecology (including designated sites, ecological connectivity, habitats) by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. • Contribution towards the maintenance of existing green infrastructure and associated ecosystem services, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats. • Contribution towards protection and/or maintenance of biodiversity and flora and fauna by contributing towards the protection of natural capital including the environmental vectors of air, water and soil. Biodiversity and flora and fauna includes biodiversity in designated sites (including European Sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats | <p>Arising from both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of/damage to biodiversity in designated sites (including European Sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna; • Habitat loss, fragmentation and deterioration, including patch size and edge effects; and • Disturbance (e.g. due to noise and lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species such as birds and bats. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of an extent of non-protected habitats and species arising from the replacement of semi-natural land covers with artificial surfaces. • Losses or damage to ecology (these would be in compliance with relevant legislation). | <p>Lighting Development Objectives</p> <p>LP 01 Control lighting in urban, rural areas and sensitive areas in accordance with Euronats and Darksy Circular, in order to minimise impacts on residential amenity, habitats and species of importance.</p> <p>LP 03 Ornamental lighting of public buildings, bridges, monuments and public spaces must not fall beyond the area intended or directed skywards. Architecturally sensitive tones such as passive, warm coloured lights should be considered before blue or rich white lights and only used where necessary in accordance with Eurobats and Darksy Circular.</p> <p>Natural Heritage Development Objectives</p> <p>NH1 Conserve, protect and manage the County's natural heritage assets for future generations while encouraging appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the amenity value for the present generation.</p> <p>NH2 Maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits that may be derived from the conservation and management of Cavan's Natural Heritage and green infrastructure.</p> <p>NH3 Support the implementation of relevant actions in the National Biodiversity Plan, the All Ireland Pollinator Plan and the National Peatlands Strategy.</p> <p>NH4 Implement, in partnership with Cavan County Heritage Forum, relevant stakeholders and the wider community, Cavan County Heritage and Biodiversity Plans and any revisions thereof.</p> <p>NH5 Integrate biodiversity consideration into all Cavan County Council activities through the County Biodiversity Action Plan process.</p> <p>NH6 Ensure the protection of species of flora and fauna afforded legal protection under Irish and European Legislation.</p> <p>NH7 Assess the impact on biodiversity of proposals for large developments, particularly those on greenfield sites, or in environmentally sensitive areas. Such developments must include measures for the enhancement and protection of biodiversity.</p> <p>NH8 Promote the conservation of biodiversity outside of designated areas, including features such as wetlands, woodlands, hedgerows and uplands.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Designated Sites</p> <p>NHDS1 Protect and conserve Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Natural Heritage Areas and proposed Natural Heritage Areas.</p> <p>NHDS2 Ensure an Appropriate Assessment is carried out in respect of any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary for the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of a European Site(s), either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, in view of the site's conservation objectives.</p> <p>NHDS3 Ensure that any plan or project that could have an adverse impact on a NHA, pNHA, SAC, SPA (either by themselves or in combination with other plans and projects) or upon the conservation objectives of the site or would result in the deterioration of any habitat or any species reliant on that habitat will be subject to the requirements of Article 6(3) and Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>NHDS4 Ensure an Appropriate Assessment (AA) in accordance with Article 6(3) and Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, and in accordance with the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities, 2009 and relevant EPA and European Commission guidance documents, is carried out in respect of any Plan or Project likely to have significant effect on a Natura 2000 site(s), either individually or in combination.</p> <p>NHDS5 Require an ecological appraisal for development not directly connected with or necessary to the management of Natura Sites, or a proposed Natura Site and which are likely to have significant effects on that site either individually or cumulatively.</p> <p>NHDS6 Support the development of a Strategic Habitat Map for the Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark in consultation with National Parks and Wildlife Service and relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>NHDS7 Promote the maintenance and as appropriate, achievement of favourable conservation status of habitats and species and to improve the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network, by maintaining and where appropriate, developing features in the landscape which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora.</p> <p>NHDS8 Ensure that new development proposals affecting designated sites have regard to the sensitivities identified in the SEA Environmental Report prepared in respect of this plan.</p> <p>NHDS9 Have regard to the views of the National Parks and Wildlife Service in respect of proposed development where such development</p> |

- measures adopted during construction to prevent the spread of invasive species (such as Japanese Knotweed);
- appointment of an ecological clerk of works at site investigation, preparation and construction phases; and
- details of appropriate mitigation measures for lighting specifically designed to minimise impacts to biodiversity, including bats.

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| | <p>and species (including birds and bats), listed/protected species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats (including terrestrial and aquatic habitats), and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna – including terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity and flora and fauna.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustains existing sustainable rural management practices – and the communities who support them – to ensure the continuation of long-established managed landscapes and the flora and fauna that they contain. | | <p>may have an impact on a designated National or European site or proposed site for designation.</p> <p>NHDS10 Consult with National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) in regard to any developments (those requiring planning permission and those not requiring planning permission) which the council proposes to carry out within pNHAs, NHAs, SACs, SACs, SPAs, SPAs and other important ecological sites.</p> <p>NHDS11 Maintain the conservation value of Council owned land within NHAs and pNHAs and promote the conservation value of Council owned land adjoining NHAs.</p> <p>NHDS12 Continue to undertake surveys and collect data that will assist Cavan County Council in building its knowledge base and meeting its obligations under Article 6 of the Habitat Directives.</p> <p>NHDS 13 Projects giving rise to adverse effects on the integrity of European sites (cumulatively, directly or indirectly) arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall not be permitted except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz there must be: (a) no alternative solution available, (b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and (c) adequate compensatory measures in place.</p> <p>NHDS 14 Contribute towards the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and ecological connectivity where these form part of the ecological network and/or may be considered as ecological corridors or stepping stones.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Non- Designated Sites</p> <p>NHND1 Support the protection of non-designated sites and acknowledge the need to protect non-designated habitats and landscapes and to conserve biological diversity.</p> <p>NHND2 Conserve the existing wide range of flora, fauna and wildlife habitats in the county through the preservation of ecological corridors and networks vital to the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species. To designate County Biodiversity Sites within the lifetime of this plan and to protect the ecological integrity of these sites.</p> <p>NHND3 Implement the actions of Cavan County Biodiversity Plan and any subsequent revisions in fulfilment of the requirements of the National Biodiversity Plan.</p> <p>NHND4 Continue habitat mapping of the county to enable planning for the future development in a sensitive and sustainable manner and this mapping to inform the development management policy.</p> <p>NHND5 Require an Ecological Impact Assessment (EiA) for any proposed development which may have a significant impact on rare, threatened and or protected species and non designated habitats of biodiversity value.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Invasive Species</p> <p>IN1 Support initiatives, which reduce the risk of invasions, help control and manage new and established invasive species, monitor impacts and raise public awareness.</p> <p>IN2 Encourage the use of native species in amenity planting and stocking and related community actions to reduce the introduction and spread of non-native species.</p> <p>IN3 Prevent the spread of invasive species within the plan area, including requiring landowners and developers to adhere to best practice guidance in relation to the control of invasive species.</p> <p>IN4 Ensure proposals for development do not lead to the spread or introduction of invasive species. If developments are proposed on sites where invasive species are or were previously present, the applicant will be required to submit a control and management programme for the particular invasive species as part of the planning process and to comply with the provisions of the European Communities Birds and Habitats Regulations 2011 (S.I 4777/2011)</p> <p>IN5 Support the National Parks and Wildlife Service’s efforts to seek to control and manage the spread of non-native invasive species on land and water.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Wetlands</p> <p>WL 1 Development that would negatively impact upon any wetland including fragmentation or degradation will be resisted in the County.</p> <p>WL 2 Review and update the 2008 Wetlands Survey for County Cavan with a view to mapping the extent and condition of wetland sites in the county as a comprehensive GIS Layer. This review will also identify information gaps and inform future wetland policy.</p> <p>WL3 Where it is intended to fill or reclaim or carry out a development proposal on a wetland area, the minimum level of assessment on a site above 0.1ha shall be an ecological impact assessment and an Appropriate Assessment where necessary.</p> <p>WL4 Protect wetlands, floodplains and watercourses for biodiversity and flood protection value.</p> <p>WL5 Ensure land zonings carefully consider appropriate riparian setback distances that support high ecological status of water bodies, the conservation of biodiversity, healthy ecosystems and buffer zones from flood plains.</p> <p>WL6 Implement parts of the Planning and Development (Amendment) (No.2) Regulations 2011 and the European Communities (Amendment to Planning and Development) Regulations 2011 which require planning permission to be applied for where the area impacted exceeds 0.1 hectares or where such works may have a significant effect on the environment. Such planning applications would need to be supported by an Appropriate Assessment where necessary.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Woodlands, Trees, Hedgerows and Stonewalls</p> <p>WTHS1 Continue to co-operate with relevant stakeholders to improve public access to State forests for amenity purposes and consider development which will enhance the amenity provided by existing trees and woodlands.</p> <p>WTHS2 Promote awareness, understanding and best practice in the management of Cavan’s woodland, tree, hedgerow and stone wall resource.</p> <p>WTHS3 Encourage the retention of mature trees and the use of tree surgery rather than felling where possible when undertaking,</p> |
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| | | | | <p>approving or authorising development.</p> <p>WTHS4 Protect Champion and Heritage Trees where identified on the Tree Register of Ireland and Heritage Tree Database, when undertaking, approving, or authorising development.</p> <p>WTHS5 Encourage the use of native species wherever possible in Cavan County Council's own landscaping work, and on Council property.</p> <p>WTHS6 Promote and encourage planting of native hedgerow species of local provenance.</p> <p>WTHS7 Encourage the retention of hedgerows and stone walls and other distinctive boundary treatments in rural areas and prevent loss and fragmentation, where possible. Where removal of a hedgerow or stone wall is unavoidable, mitigation by provision of the same type of boundary will be required and where removal is proposed which may affect bat species it shall be subject to regime of protection under the EC (Birds and Habitats) Regulations, 2011, as amended.</p> <p>WTHS8 Carry out a review of the Cavan Hedgerow Survey undertaken in 2006 during the lifetime of this plan.</p> <p>Landscapes Character/ Natural Heritage Climate Change Development Objectives</p> <p>LCC 01 Within the lifetime of the plan, undertake a survey and vector mapping exercise to identify exemplar wetlands, bogs, individual trees and/or stands of trees and/or woodlands throughout the county worthy of protection and preservation.</p> <p>LCC 02 Encourage the potential community woodlands areas in urban/urban fringe areas and the development of community woodlands throughout rural Cavan.</p> <p>LCC 03 Promote the use in public spaces of hot water, foam stream, flame weeding and/or concentrated vinegar in favour of glyphosate weedkillers.</p> <p>LCC 04 Prepare a Peatland Strategy that shall encourage the rewilding, restoration and protection of peat bogs after turf cutting and/or peat extraction has ceased.</p> <p>LCC 05 Support the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme 2017 – 2022.</p> <p>LCC06 Promote the roll-out of renewables and stringent protection and enhancement of carbon pools, such as forests, peatlands and permanent grasslands.</p> <p>LCC 07 Explore the opportunity of engaging the services of a full-time Ecologist on a shared basis amongst neighbouring Local Authorities.</p> <p>LCC 08 Install and promote the installation of bird, bat, and owl boxes, and bee bricks and insect hotels or equivalent, at all relevant locations and developments, where possible.</p> <p>LCC 09 Actively participate and seek to adopt recommendations originating out of the Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) and Northern and Western Climate Action Region.</p> <p>LCC 10 Fracking and the industrial extraction of fossil fuels will not be encouraged within Cavan 's functional area.</p> <p>LCC 11 Develop a strategy to support an active native Tree Planting programme in the context of climate adaption.</p> <p>Various Other Objectives</p> <p>LW 04 Facilitate increased access to Cavan's waterways, from towns and villages where visitor services are located, with an emphasis on providing a strong visitor experience associated with the lakes and waterways and their heritage and amenity value, including trails, bird hides, and water sports facilities, subject to the protection of environmentally sensitive areas and the requirements of the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>T 09 Ensure all tourism developments shall integrate climate change adaptation, the enhancement of nature and biodiversity measures into their activities, plans and proposals.</p> <p>CC 10 Support collaboration between local authorities and relevant stakeholders regarding integrated peatland management and support for rehabilitation and/or re-wetting of suitable peatland habitats, in particular the Geopark and Cuilcagh Carbon sequestration potential.</p> <p>Tourism Development Objectives</p> <p>T 01 Promote the development and strengthening of the overall value of Cavan as a tourist destination by encouraging the enhancement and development of sustainable and high-quality visitor attractions, activities and infrastructure, enabling an increase in the overall capacity and long-term development of the county's tourism industry, subject to appropriate siting and design criteria and the protection of environmentally sensitive areas.</p> <p>T 02 Engage and collaborate with key stakeholders, relevant agencies, sectoral representatives and local communities to develop the tourism sector in Cavan, to ensure that the economic potential of the tourism sector is secured for the local economy.</p> <p>T 03 Support the implementation of the County's Tourism Strategy in line with national and regional policy, tourism trends and identified challenges, in collaboration with Fáilte Ireland, Waterways Ireland, tourism businesses and communities and other supporting agencies.</p> <p>T 04 Continue to work closely with Fáilte Ireland to maximise the benefit of national and regional initiatives/plans/strategies for the county, with a particular emphasis on initiatives which will increase the economic benefit from tourism, support local business development and encourage new enterprise opportunities.</p> <p>T 05 Utilise the county's natural and heritage resources to foster the development of tourism as a viable sector of the economy in a sustainable manner which complements the scale, quality and unique features of the location and county.</p> <p>T 06 Protect and conserve the natural, built and cultural heritage features which add value to the visitor experience in Cavan and seek to restrict developments which would damage or detract from the quality of scenic areas and identified natural and cultural heritage assets.</p> <p>T 07 Support actions to increase access to state and semi-state lands such as National Parks, Forest Parks, Waterways, together with Monuments and Historic Properties, for recreation and tourism purposes, subject to the requirements of the Habitats Directive, National Monuments Act and other provisions and policies to protect and safeguard these resources and subject to the ability of local infrastructure to support the resulting increased tourism.</p> |
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| | | | | <p>LW 04 Facilitate increased access to Cavan's waterways, from towns and villages where visitor services are located, with an emphasis on providing a strong visitor experience associated with the lakes and waterways and their heritage and amenity value, including trails, bird hides, and water sports facilities, subject to the protection of environmentally sensitive areas and the requirements of the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>LW 05 Support the provision of infrastructure to enable increased tourism activity associated with Cavan's waterways, including boating, marina/berthing, kayaking, angling, blueways and harbour amenities while ensuring that such provision does not negatively impact on sensitive environments and subject to the requirements of the Birds and Habitats Directives.</p> <p>LW 07 Support the provision of walking and cycling links between lakes, rivers, bogs and nearby towns, villages and visitor attractions, provided such developments do not negatively impact on sensitive environments.</p> <p>GCW 09 Promote the principles of 'Leave no Trace' in all trail information panels, promotional materials and events and use all statutory procedures to deter negative environmental impact resulting from use of our trails and outdoor recreation amenities.</p> <p>TC 03 Support opportunities for increased tourism within limits of existing infrastructure and sensitive habitats.</p> <p>TC 07 Support, implement and require best-practice environmental management and climate proofing of tourism related developments and activities, such as accommodation, restaurants, activity providers, festivals and events and tourism enterprises, to include zero climate impact, energy efficiency, waste management, and recycling.</p> <p>HHAS 03 Support enhanced access to state, semi-state and private lands such as bogs, forests, waterways, together with National Monuments and Historic Properties, for recreation and tourism purposes. Access should be planned and managed in a sustainable manner that protects heritage, environmental sensitivities, ecological corridors, and the ability of local infrastructure to support increased tourism.</p> <p>T 10 Monitor and manage any increase in visitor numbers and/or any change in visitor behaviour in order to avoid significant effects, including loss of habitat and disturbance. Visitor/Habitat Management Plans will be required for proposed projects as relevant and appropriate.</p> |
| <p>Population and Human Health</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of economic growth to encourage retention of working age population and funding of sustainable development and environmental protection and management. Contribution towards appropriate provision of infrastructure and services to existing population and planned growth by facilitating compact development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. Contribution towards the protection of human health by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential adverse effects arising from flood events. Potential interactions if effects arising from environmental vectors. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential interactions with residual effects on environmental vectors – please refer to residual adverse effects under "Soil", "Water" and "Air and Climatic Factors" below. | <p>Also refer to measures under other environmental components including Soil, Water and Air and Climatic Factors.</p> <p>Air Quality Development Objectives</p> <p>AQ 01 Promote the preservation of best ambient air quality compatible with sustainable development in accordance with the EU Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (CAFE) Directive (2008/5/0/EC) and ensure that all air emissions associated with new developments are within Environmental Quality Standards, as set out in the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 180 of 201) (or any updated/superseding documents).</p> <p>Noise Development Objectives</p> <p>N 01 Support the implementation of the Noise Directive 2002/49/EC and all associated Environmental Noise Regulations 2006.</p> <p>N 02 Require all developments to be designed and operated in a manner that will minimise and contain noise levels having regard to relevant national guidelines and in the absence of national guidelines, to relevant international standards, where appropriate. Seek identification and implementation of noise mitigation measures, where warranted, for developments proposed in the vicinity of existing or proposed national roads.</p> <p>Human Health Development Objectives</p> <p>HH 01 Ensure new developments will not have significant adverse effects on the amenities of an area through pollution by noise, fumes, odours, dust, grit or vibration or cause pollution of air, water and or soil unless mitigation measures eliminate adverse environmental impacts or reduce them to an acceptable operating level.</p> <p>HH 02 Ensure the implementation of the specific guidance on radon prevention measures for new homes as contained within the existing Building Regulations (including any updated/superseding regulations that may be published within the lifetime of this Plan).</p> |

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| | <p>to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-serviced lands elsewhere in the County and beyond.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributes towards protection of human health as a result of contributing towards the protection of natural capital including environmental vectors, including air and water. | | | |
| Soil | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution towards the protection of soils (including those used for agriculture) and designated sites of geological heritage by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-serviced lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. Contribution towards the protection of the environment from contamination the highest standards of remediation, and where appropriate to consultations with the EPA and other relevant bodies, will be required to resolve any instances of environmental pollution created by contaminated land. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential adverse effects on the hydrogeological and ecological function of the soil resource, including as a result of development on contaminated lands. Potential for riverbank erosion. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of an extent of soil function arising from the replacement of semi-natural land covers with artificial surfaces. Riverbank erosion will continue to occur naturally over time and is likely to be enhanced by climate change. | <p>Also refer to measures under other environmental components including Water.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Geological Heritage</p> <p>GH1 Protect and enhance the County Geological Heritage Audit of Cavan</p> <p>GH2 Support the implementation of recommendations in the Geological Audit of Cavan</p> <p>GH3 Provide safe and sustainable access to geological sites where appropriate and subject to requirements of Article 6 of the Habitat's Directive.</p> <p>GH4 Consult Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) when undertaking, authorising developments likely to impact on the County Geological Sites or involve significant ground excavations.</p> <p>GH5 Continue to promote the unique geological heritage of the Cuilcagh Lakelands Global Geopark (UNESCO Geopark). Individual notable sites within the Cuilcagh Lakelands Global Geopark include Cuilcagh Mountain and Mid-Cavan Drumlinised Ribbed Moraines. These sites should be valued for their scientific and educational value to the community.</p> <p>GH6 Have regard to the geological and geomorphological heritage values of County Cavan geological heritage sites and to avoid inappropriate development, through consultation with the Geological Survey of Ireland.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Marble Arch Caves, UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p>GP1 Conserve and manage the geological resources of a discrete area to develop sustainable tourism, enterprise and community life.</p> <p>GP2 Build on the existing progress and achievements of the Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark in supporting the ten-year Development Plan 2020-2030.</p> <p>GP3 Support the development of geotourism and the recreational potential of Cavan Burren, the Shannon Pot, Killykeen, Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs, Cuilcagh and other Geopark sites through increased social use of the landscape, with attendant conservation, economic, social and community benefits within the region.</p> <p>GP4 Support the continuing development of strategic walking routes, trails and other countryside recreational opportunities within the Geopark such as the cross-border 'Smuggler's Route'.</p> <p>GP5 Continue to support the CANN cross-border environmental project restoring blanket bog habitat on Cuilcagh summit.</p> <p>GP6 Enhance the geodiversity, biodiversity and natural environments of the region including additional measures to conserve geosites and natural habitats where appropriate.</p> <p>GP7 Develop knowledge and understanding of geology, related Earth Sciences, endangered habitats and associated environmental issues through education and research programmes.</p> <p>GP8 Encourage enquiry through fieldwork and inspire scientific research through education and research programmes.</p> <p>GP9 Recognise the strategic location of Blacklion at the heart of the Geopark and other Geopark towns, villages and communities and seek to promote the development of appropriate ancillary facilities like interpretation, accommodation and social outlets.</p> <p>GP10 Support Swanlinbar and other Geopark towns, villages and communities as hubs for appropriate outdoor recreational activities.</p> <p>Waste Management Development Objectives</p> <p>WM 14 Treatment and/or management of any contaminated material shall comply as appropriate with the Waste Management Act 1996 (waste licence, waste facility permit), as amended, and under the EPA Act 1992 (Industrial Emissions licensing, in particular the First Schedule, Class 11 Waste), as amended. These measures will ensure that contaminated material will be managed in a manner that removes any risk to human health and ensures that the end use will be compatible with any risk.</p> |
| Water | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution towards the protection of water by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential adverse effects upon the status of water bodies and entries to the WFD Register of Protected Areas (ecological and human value), arising from | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any increased loadings as a result of development to comply with the River Basin Management Plan. Flood related risks remain due | <p>Also refer to measures under other environmental components including Soil and Material Assets and various settlement specific measures provided for under Chapter 2 Settlement Strategy.</p> <p>Groundwater Development Objectives</p> <p>GW 01 Ensure that groundwater is protected by ensuring compliance with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The appropriate control of development in areas of high groundwater vulnerability. Implementation of the Programme of Measures as required in the River Basin Management Plans Licensing of discharges of effluent to groundwater, having particular regard to the requirements of the EC Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations, 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) Implementation of the EC (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations (S.I. No. 610 of 2010, which give effect to several EU Directives including in relation to protection of waters against pollution from agricultural sources ('the Nitrates Directive'), |

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| | <p>easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-serviced lands elsewhere in the County and beyond.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributions towards the protection of water resources including the status of surface and groundwaters and water-based designations. Contribution towards flood risk management and appropriate drainage. | <p>changes in quality, flow and/or morphology.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in flood risk and associated effects associated with flood events. | <p>to uncertainty with regard to extreme weather events – however such risks will be mitigated by measures that have been integrated into the Plan.</p> | <p>dangerous substances in water and protection of groundwater.</p> <p>GW 02 Protect ground water resources and abstraction points, and as ensures such sources and their zones of contribution are protected and safeguarded in the interests of common good and public health.</p> <p>GW 03 Support the implementation of the relevant recommendations and measures outlined in the relevant River Basin Management Plan 2022-2027, and associated Programme of Measures, or any such plan that may supersede same during the lifetime of the plan. Development proposals shall not have an unacceptable impact on water quality, the water environment, including surface waters, groundwater quality and quantity, river corridors and associated woodlands species and wetlands, in County Cavan and in any areas that are hydrologically or hydrogeologically linked, including areas in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>GW 04 Contribute towards, as appropriate, the protection of existing and potential water resources, and their use by humans and wildlife, including rivers, streams, wetlands, groundwater and associated habitat and species in accordance with the requirements and guidance in the EU Water Framework Directive 2000 (2000/60/EC). The European Union (Water policy) Regulations 2003 (as amended), the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 (as amended), the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC and the European Communities Environmental Objectives (groundwater) Regulations 2010 (as amended) and other relevant EU Directives, including associated national legislation and policy guidance (including any superseding versions of same, to have cognisance of, where relevant, the EUs Common Implementation Strategy Guidance Document No. 20 and No. 36 which provide guidance on exceptions to the environmental objectives of the Water Framework Directive).</p> <p>GW 05 In conjunction with Irish Water, have regard to the EPA 2019 publication 'Drinking Water Report for Public Water Supplies 2018 (and any subsequent update) in the establishment and maintenance of water sources in the County.</p> <p>GW 06 Ensure that in assessing applications for development, that consideration is given to the impact on the quality of surface waters having regard to targets and measures set out in the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021, and any subsequent local or regional plans.</p> <p>GW 07 Discourage the over concentration of individual septic tanks and treatment plans to minimise the risk of groundwater pollution.</p> <p>GW 08 Support the preparation of Drinking Water Protection Plans and Source Protection Plans to protect sources of public water supply, in accordance with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>GW 09 Protect both ground and surface water resources including taking account of the impacts of climate change, and to support Irish Water in the development and implementation of Drinking Water Safety Plans and the National Water Resources Plan.</p> <p>GW 10 Promote water conservation and demand management measures among all water users and to support Irish Water in implementing water conservation measures such as leakage reduction and network improvements.</p> <p>GW 11 Promote measures to prevent siltation of water courses from developments including planting and clear felling of commercial forests.</p> <p>GW 12 Promote measures to prevent acidification of water courses.</p> <p>Water Development Objectives</p> <p>W 01 In conjunction with Irish Water, have regard to the EPA 2019 publication 'Drinking Water Report for Public Water Supplies 2018' (and any subsequent update) in the establishment and maintenance of water sources in the County.</p> <p>W 02 Ensure that in assessing applications for development, consideration is GIVEN to the impact on the quality of surface waters having regard to targets and measures set out in the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021 and any subsequent local or regional plans.</p> <p>W 03 Ensure that development 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.</p> <p>W 04 Support the preparation of Drinking Water Protection Plans and Source Protection Plans to protect sources of public water supply, in accordance with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>W 06 Support the development in the County of green infrastructure, river walkways (in accordance with the principles of Planning for Watercourses in the Urban Environment, A guideline Developed by Inland Fisheries) and access from amenities, residential areas and community services to the town centre</p> <p>Agri-Food Development Objectives</p> <p>AF 06 Support agricultural development as a contributory means of maintaining population and sustaining the rural economy, whilst maintaining and enhancing the standing of the rural environment through application of the EU Water Framework Directive and EU Habitats Directive.</p> <p>AF 09 Facilitate the development of environmentally sustainable agricultural activities, whereby natural waters and watercourses, wildlife habitats, conservation areas and areas of ecological importance and other environmental assets are protected from the threat of pollution, and where development does not impinge on the visual amenity of the countryside.</p> <p>Agricultural Buildings and Structures Development Objectives</p> <p>ABS 01 Facilitate the development of environmentally sustainable agricultural activities, whereby watercourses, habitats, areas of ecological importance and environmental assets are protected and development does not impinge on the visual amenity of the countryside.</p> <p>Forestry Development Objectives</p> <p>F 01 Encourage the development of a well-managed sustainable forestry sector, which is compatible with the protection of the environment including the avoidance of likely significant effects on European Sites (SACs and SPAs); and is planted, managed and harvested in accordance with the 'Forest Service Guidelines for Landscape, Forest Harvesting and Environmental, Archaeology, Biodiversity and Water Quality'.</p> <p>F 02 Promote forestry development of appropriate scale and character while ensuring that such development does not have a negative</p> |
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| | | | | <p>impact on the residential amenity or the countryside, (including public access/rights of way, traditional walking routes and recreational facilities), or cause pollution or degradation of wildlife habitats, natural waters or areas of ecological importance.</p> <p>Horticulture Development Objectives</p> <p>H 01 Encourage the development of environmentally sustainable horticultural practices, to ensure that development does not impinge on the visual amenity of the countryside and that watercourses, wildlife habitats and areas of ecological importance are protected from the threat of pollution.</p> <p>Water Quality and Groundwater Policy Objectives</p> <p>WQG 01 Support the implementation of the relevant recommendations and measures outlined in the relevant River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021, and associated Programme of Measures, or any such plan that may supersede same during the lifetime of the plan. Development proposals shall not have an unacceptable impact on the water environment, including surface waters, groundwater quality and quantity, river corridors and associated woodlands.</p> <p>WQG 02 Collaborate with Irish Water in contributing towards compliance with the S.I. No. 122/2014 - European Union (Drinking Water) Regulations 2014 and any regulations made thereunder. and compliance of water supplies with the parameters identified in these Regulations.</p> <p>WQG 03 Contribute towards, as appropriate, the protection of existing and potential water resources, and their use by humans and wildlife, including rivers, streams, wetlands, groundwater and associated habitat and species in accordance with the requirements and guidance in the EU Water Framework Directive 2000 (2000/60/EC). the European Union (Water policy) Regulations 2003 (as amended), the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 (as amended), the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC and the European Communities Environmental Objectives (groundwater) Regulations 2010 (as amended) and other relevant EU Directives, including associated national legislation and policy guidance (including any superseding versions of same).</p> <p>WQG 04 In conjunction with Irish Water, have regard to the EPA 2020 'Drinking Water Quality in Public Supplies 2019' (and any subsequent update) in the establishment and maintenance of water sources in the County in the establishment and maintenance of water sources in the County.</p> <p>WQG 05 In conjunction with Irish Water, support recommendations made by the EPA arising from any failures to meet drinking water standards and any enlistment on the EPA's Remedial Action List.</p> <p>WQG 06 Ensure that in assessing applications for development, that consideration is given to the impact on the quality of surface waters having regard to targets and measures set out in the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021 and any subsequent local or regional plans.</p> <p>WQG 07 Ensure that development 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.</p> <p>WQG 08 Discourage the over concentration of individual septic tanks and treatment plans to minimise the risk of groundwater pollution.</p> <p>WQG 09 Support the preparation of Drinking Water Protection Plans and Source Protection Plans to protect sources of public water supply, in accordance with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>Various Other Objectives</p> <p>IW1 Protect and enhance the natural heritage and landscape character of the County's Waterways and to maintain them free from inappropriate development and to provide for public access, where feasible, acknowledging the existence of contiguous Natura 2000 sites.</p> <p>IW2 Protect the biodiversity of rivers, streams and other water courses and maintain them in an open state and to discourage the culverting or realignment thereof.</p> <p>IW3 Consult with, as appropriate, the Inland Fisheries Ireland in relation to any development that could have a potential impact on the aquatic ecosystems and associated riparian habitats.</p> <p>IW4 Consult with Waterways Ireland and the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the DECLG and the Inland Waterways Association on the development proposals that may affect inland waterways, rivers, lakes, canals or watercourses.</p> <p>IW5 Ensure that the County's watercourses are retained for their biodiversity and flood protection values and conserve and enhance, where possible, the wildlife habitats of the county's rivers and riparian zones, lakes, canals and streams which occur outside of designated areas to provide for a network of habitats and biodiversity corridors throughout the county.</p> <p>CP12 Encourage the use of materials and engineering solutions that optimise natural surface water drainage as part of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) associated with large scale car parks.</p> <p>GED 02 Engage with all relevant government stakeholders, enterprise agencies and sectoral representatives in pursuing green approaches to economic development, and actively collaborate with key industry and educational bodies to promote Cavan based initiatives the economic sectors.</p> <p>RIC 21 Require the incorporation of Sustainable Drainage Schemes (SuDS) for all future developments with an identified need.</p> <p>LW 05 Support the provision of infrastructure to enable increased tourism activity associated with Cavan's waterways, including boating, marina/berthing, kayaking, angling, blueways and harbour amenities while ensuring that such provision does not negatively impact on sensitive environments and subject to the requirements of the Birds and Habitats Directives.</p> <p>NH8 Promote the conservation of biodiversity outside of designated areas, including features such as wetlands, woodlands, hedgerows and uplands.</p> <p>WL4 Protect wetlands, floodplains and watercourses for biodiversity and flood protection value.</p> <p>WL5 Ensure land zonings carefully consider appropriate riparian setback distances that support high ecological status of water bodies, the conservation of biodiversity, healthy ecosystems and buffer zones from flood plains.</p> |
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| <p>Material Assets</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution towards appropriate provision of infrastructure and services to existing population and planned growth by facilitating compact development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. Contribution towards compliance with national and regional water services and waste management policies. Contribution towards increase in renewable energy use by facilitating renewable energy and electricity transmission infrastructure developments. Contribution towards limits in increases in energy demand from the transport sector by facilitating sustainable compact growth. Contribution towards reductions in average energy consumption per capita including promoting sustainable compact growth, sustainable mobility, sustainable design and energy efficiency. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to provide adequate and appropriate waste water treatment (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts). Failure to adequately treat surface water run-off that is discharged to water bodies (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts). Failure to comply with drinking water regulations and serve new development with adequate drinking water (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts). Increases in waste levels. Potential impacts upon public assets and infrastructure. Interactions between agriculture and soil, water, biodiversity and human health - including phosphorous and nitrogen deposition as a result of agricultural activities and the production of secondary inorganic particulate matter. Risk of aggregate potential | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceedance of capacity in critical infrastructure risks remain, including due to uncertainty with regard to climate – however, such risks will be mitigated by: measures, including those requiring the timely provision of critical infrastructure, and compliance with the Water Framework Directive and associated River Basin Management Plan. Residual wastes to be disposed of in line with higher-level waste management policies. Any impacts upon public assets and infrastructure to comply with statutory planning/consent-granting framework. | <p>Also refer to measures under other environmental components including Population and Human Health, Cultural Heritage, Soil, Water, Air, various Land Use and Phasing provisions and various settlement specific measures provided for under Chapter 2 Settlement Strategy.</p> <p>LUR 09 Require all major developments to submit Traffic Impact Assessments and Mobility Management Plans.</p> <p>Groundwater Development Objectives</p> <p>GW 01 Ensure that groundwater is protected by ensuring compliance with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The appropriate control of development in areas of high groundwater vulnerability. Implementation of the Programme of Measures as required in the River Basin Management Plans Licensing of discharges of effluent to groundwater, having particular regard to the requirements of the EC Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations, 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) Implementation of the EC (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations (S.I. No. 610 OF 2010, which give effect to several EU Directives including in relation to protection of waters against pollution from agricultural sources ('the Nitrates Directive'), dangerous substances in water and protection of groundwater. <p>GW 02 Protect ground water resources and abstraction points, and as ensures such sources and their zones of contribution are protected and safeguarded in the interests of common good and public health.</p> <p>GW 03 Support the implementation of the relevant recommendations and measures outlined in the relevant River Basin Management Plan 2022-2027, and associated Programme of Measures, or any such plan that may supersede same during the lifetime of the plan. Development proposals shall not have an unacceptable impact on water quality, the water environment, including surface waters, groundwater quality and quantity, river corridors and associated woodlands species and wetlands, in County Cavan and in any areas that are hydrologically or hydrogeologically linked, including areas in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>GW 04 Contribute towards, as appropriate, the protection of existing and potential water resources, and their use by humans and wildlife, including rivers, streams, wetlands, groundwater and associated habitat and species in accordance with the requirements and guidance in the EU Water Framework Directive 2000 (2000/60/EC). The European Union (Water policy) Regulations 2003 (as amended), the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 (as amended), the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC and the European Communities Environmental Objectives (groundwater) Regulations 2010 (as amended) and other relevant EU Directives, including associated national legislation and policy guidance (including any superseding versions of same, to have cognisance of, where relevant, the EUs Common Implementation Strategy Guidance Document No. 20 and No. 36 which provide guidance on exceptions to the environmental objectives of the Water Framework Directive).</p> <p>GW 05 In conjunction with Irish Water, have regard to the EPA 2019 publication 'Drinking Water Report for Public Water Supplies 2018 (and any subsequent update) in the establishment and maintenance of water sources in the County.</p> <p>GW 06 Ensure that in assessing applications for development, that consideration is given to the impact on the quality of surface waters having regard to targets and measures set out in the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021, and any subsequent local or regional plans.</p> <p>GW 07 Discourage the over concentration of individual septic tanks and treatment plans to minimise the risk of groundwater pollution.</p> <p>GW 08 Support the preparation of Drinking Water Protection Plans and Source Protection Plans to protect sources of public water supply, in accordance with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>GW 09 Protect both ground and surface water resources including taking account of the impacts of climate change, and to support Irish Water in the development and implementation of Drinking Water Safety Plans and the National Water Resources Plan.</p> <p>GW 10 Promote water conservation and demand management measures among all water users and to support Irish Water in implementing water conservation measures such as leakage reduction and network improvements.</p> <p>GW 11 Promote measures to prevent siltation of water courses from developments including planting and clear felling of commercial forests.</p> <p>GW 12 Promote measures to prevent acidification of water courses.</p> <p>Foul Drainage and Wastewater Development Objective</p> <p>FDW 01 Collaborate with Irish Water in contributing towards compliance with the relevant provisions of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Regulations 2001 and 2004 and the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007, as amended</p> <p>FDW 02 Ensure that development will only be permitted in instances where there is sufficient capacity for appropriate collection, treatment and disposal (in compliance with the Water Framework Directive and River Basin Management Plan) of wastewater.</p> <p>FDW 03 Liaise with and work in conjunction with Irish Water during the lifetime of the plan for the provision, extension and upgrading of wastewater collection and treatment systems in all towns and villages and Rural Community Nodes of the County, to serve existing populations and facilitate sustainable development of the County, in accordance with the requirements of the Settlement Strategy and associated Core Strategy.</p> <p>FDW 04 Support strategic wastewater treatment infrastructure investment and provide for the separation of foul and surface networks to accommodate future growth in the County</p> <p>FDW 05 Ensure new developments provide a separate foul and surface water drainage system and to incorporate sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate in new development and the public realm.</p> <p>FDW 06 Incorporate the requirement for Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems where appropriate in local authority projects and private development sites.</p> <p>FDW 07 Prohibit the discharge of additional surface water to combined (foul and surface water) sewers in order to maximise the capacity of existing collection for foul water. Support the Assessment of the need for upgrades of drainage systems, including separation of sewer and</p> |
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| | | sterilisation. | <p>surface water required to reduce risk of capacity pressure on drainage systems.</p> <p>FDW 08 Ensure all new developments connect to the public wastewater infrastructure, where available, and to encourage existing developments that are in close proximity to a public sewer to connect to that sewer, subject to connection agreements with Irish Water. New developments connecting to Irish Water network shall be assessed through Irish Water's New Connection Process.</p> <p>FDW 09 Protect against development proposals, involving individual treatment systems, which would increase effluent loading within existing housing clusters located within areas of high groundwater vulnerability.</p> <p>FDW 10 Ensure that private wastewater treatment plants, where permitted, are operated in compliance with EPA's Code of Practice Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Houses (PE. ≤10) (EPA 2009), or any updates thereafter.</p> <p>FDW 12 Incorporate considerations of the impact of climate change into proposals submitted under the OPW Minor Works Programme.</p> <p>FDW 13 Support appropriate options for the extraction of energy and other resources from sewerage sludge in the County.</p> <p>FDW 14 Support the servicing of rural villages (serviced sites) to provide an alternative to one-off housing in the countryside in line with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.</p> <p>FDW 15 Support the development of group water supplies and public drinking water supplies throughout the county.</p> <p>FDW 16 Liaise with Irish Water with regard to the installation of a wastewater treatment facility in Miltown.</p> <p>FDW 17 Ensure new developments provide adequate storm water infrastructure in order to accommodate the planned levels of growth and ensure there is appropriate flood management measures implemented to protect property and infrastructure.</p> <p>FDW18 Support Irish Water in the promotion of effective management of trade discharges to sewers in order to maximise the capacity of existing sewer networks and minimise detrimental impacts on sewerage treatment works.</p> <p>Waste Management Development Objectives</p> <p>WM 01 Support the implementation of the Connacht-Ulster Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021 and any updates made thereto.</p> <p>WM 02 Implement EU and national waste and related environmental policy, legislation, guidance and codes of practice to improve management of material resources and wastes.</p> <p>WM 03 Prioritise waste prevention through behavioural change activities to decouple economic growth and resource use.</p> <p>WM 04 Encourage the transition from a waste management economy to a green circular economy to enhance employment and increase the value recovery and recirculation of resources</p> <p>WM 05 Promote sustainable waste management treatment in keeping with the waste hierarchy and the move towards a circular economy and greater self sufficiency.</p> <p>WM 06 Encourage and support waste prevention, minimisation, reuse, recycling and recovery as methods of managing waste.</p> <p>WM 07 Facilitate the transition from a waste management economy to a green circular economy to increase the value recovery and recirculation of resources.</p> <p>WM 08 Encourage and support the provision of separate collection of waste in accordance with the requirements of the Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations 2009, the Waste Framework Directive Regulations, 2011 and other relevant legislation.</p> <p>WM 09 Promote and facilitate communities to become involved in environmental awareness activities and community based recycling initiatives or environmental management initiatives, that will lead to local sustainable waste management practices.</p> <p>WM 10 Ensure that the Council fulfils its duties under the Waste Management (certification of historic unlicensed waste disposal and recovery activity) Regulations 2008 (S.I. No. 524 of 2008) including those in relation to the identification and registration of closed landfills.</p> <p>WM 11 Encourage and promote technologies, for example anaerobic digestion, that will contribute positively and grow the Circular and Bio-economy to promote sustainable rural and urban economic development, as part of the overall aim of transitioning to a low carbon economy with reduced green house gases.</p> <p>WM 12 Ensure that the local authority is cognisant of targets under EU Circular Economy proposals, landfill capacity limitations and proper management of soil, stone and C&D materials</p> <p>WM 13 To require developers to prepare construction and demolition waste management plans for new construction projects over certain thresholds which shall meet the relevant recycling/recovery targets for such waste in accordance with the national legislation and national and regional waste management policy.</p> <p>WM 14 Treatment and/or management of any contaminated material shall comply as appropriate with the Waste Management Act 1996 (waste licence, waste facility permit), as amended, and under the EPA Act 1992 (Industrial Emissions licensing, in particular the First Schedule, Class 11 Waste), as amended. These measures will ensure that contaminated material will be managed in a manner that removes any risk to human health and ensures that the end use will be compatible with any risk.</p> <p>Wastewater Treatment in Rural Areas Development Objectives</p> <p>WTR 01 Ensure proposals involving the installation of an on site wastewater treatment system are in accordance with the requirements of the 'EPA Code of Practice Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Houses,' (2009) or any subsequent Code of Practice which supersedes it.</p> <p>WTR 02 Ensure proposals shall be accompanied by a Site Characterisation Form which has been properly completed by a suitably qualified person.</p> <p>WTR 03 Proposals for significant extensions will be required to ensure that existing effluent treatment systems are adequate to cater for any additional loading that may result from the extension.</p> <p>WTR 04 Ensure that private wastewater treatment plants, where permitted, are operated in compliance with EPA's Code of Practice Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Houses (PE. ≤10) (EPA 2009), as may be amended.</p> <p>WTR 05 Protect against development proposals, involving individual treatment systems, which would increase effluent loading within</p> |
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| | | | | <p>existing housing clusters located within areas of high groundwater vulnerability.</p> <p>Private Wells Development Objectives PW 01 Support householders, through advice and guidance, to ensure that private wells are to acceptable drinking water standards.</p> <p>Environment, Water and Waste Water Climate Context and Development Objectives EWC 01 Require in accordance with the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government's 'Best Practice Guidelines for the Preparation of Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Protects (2006), the submission of a Construction and Demolition Waste Management Plan (CDWMP) for any project in excess of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - aggregate floor area in excess of 1250 sq. m; - demolition or refurbishment of 100 m3 of Construction of Demolition waste; or - civil engineering projects in excess of 500 m3 of waste. <p>Fisheries LW 02 Continue to engage with Inland Fisheries Ireland on the delivery of the National Strategy for Angling Development in Cavan LW 05 Support the provision of infrastructure to enable increased tourism activity associated with Cavan's waterways, including boating, marina/berthing, kayaking, angling, blueways and harbour amenities while ensuring that such provision does not negatively impact on sensitive environments and subject to the requirements of the Birds and Habitats Directives.</p> |
| <p>Air and Climatic Factors</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution towards climate mitigation and adaptation by facilitating compact development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. • In combination with other plans, programmes etc., contribution towards the objectives of the wide policy framework relating to climate mitigation and adaptation, and associated contribution towards maintaining and improving air quality and managing noise levels, including through measures relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sustainable compact growth; ○ Sustainable mobility, including walking, cycling and public transport; ○ Drainage, flood risk management and resilience; ○ Sectors including agriculture, forestry, energy and buildings; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential conflict between development under the Plan and aiming to reduce carbon emissions in line with local, national and European environmental objectives. • Potential conflicts between transport emissions, including those from cars, and air quality. • Potential conflicts between increased frequency of noise emissions and protection of sensitive receptors. • Potential conflicts with climate adaptation measures including those relating to flood risk management. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An extent of travel related greenhouse gas and other emissions to air. This has been mitigated by provisions which have been integrated into the Plan, including those relating to sustainable compact growth and sustainable mobility. • Interactions between noise emissions and sensitive receptors. Various provisions have been integrated into the Plan to ensure that noise levels at sensitive receptors will be minimised. | <p>Progressing climate action is a priority for the County Development Plan which will be done through a Climate Strategy which incorporates national and regional policy through an approach which includes mitigation and adaptation. This is outlined fully under Chapter 5 of the Plan. The two components of climate action are critical in order to build resilience and adapt to the changing climate in a planned and structured way.</p> <p>Air Quality Development Objectives AQ 01 Promote the preservation of best ambient air quality compatible with sustainable development in accordance with the EU Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (CAFE) Directive (2008/5/0/EC) and ensure that all air emissions associated with new developments are within Environmental Quality Standards, as set out in the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 180 of 2011) (or any updated/superseding documents).</p> <p>Noise Development Objectives N 01 Support the implementation of the Noise Directive 2002/49/EC and all associated Environmental Noise Regulations 2006. N 02 Require all developments to be designed and operated in a manner that will minimise and contain noise levels having regard to relevant national guidelines and in the absence of national guidelines, to relevant international standards, where appropriate. Seek identification and implementation of noise mitigation measures, where warranted, for developments proposed in the vicinity of existing or proposed national roads.</p> <p>Human Health Development Objectives HH 01 Ensure new developments will not have significant adverse effects on the amenities of an area through pollution by noise, fumes, odours, dust, grit or vibration or cause pollution of air, water and or soil unless mitigation measures eliminate adverse environmental impacts or reduce them to an acceptable operating level.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o and Sustainable design, energy efficiency and green infrastructure. | | | |
| <p>Cultural Heritage</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes towards protection of cultural heritage elsewhere in the County by facilitating development within existing settlements. • Contributes towards protection of cultural heritage within existing settlements by facilitating brownfield development and regeneration. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential effects on protected and unknown archaeology and protected architecture arising from construction and operation activities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential effects on known architectural and archaeological heritage and unknown archaeology however, these will occur in compliance with legislation. | <p>BCHPO 01 Undertake to preserve, conserve, enhance and promote understanding of the cultural heritage of County Cavan by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Making heritage more accessible to all citizens of Cavan - Promoting heritage learning and its value as an educational resource - Developing heritage-based tourism products by facilitating the development of infrastructure both hard and soft, heritage events and festivals - Supporting the development and implementation of Cavan Heritage Plan 2021-2026 (currently in development). <p>Protected Structures Development Objectives</p> <p>RPS1 Protect, conserve and manage the built heritage of County Cavan and to encourage sensitive and sustainable development to ensure its preservation for future generations.</p> <p>RPS2 Review and update the Record of Protected Structures on an on-going basis.</p> <p>RPS3 Positively consider proposals to improve, alter, extend or change use of Protected Structures so as to render them viable for modern use, subject to suitably qualified Conservation Architects and / or other relevant experts, suitable design materials and construction methods.</p> <p>RPS4 Quality contemporary and innovative designs will be supported. These designs should not detract from the historic fabric of a Protected Structure.</p> <p>RPS5 Ensure all development works on or at the sites of Protected Structures, including site works necessary are carried out using best heritage practice for the protection and preservation of those aspects or features of the structures /site that render it worthy of protection. The form and structural integrity of Protected Structures should be retained as part of any redevelopment proposal and the relationship between the Protected Structure and any complex of adjoining buildings, designed landscape features, or designed views and vistas from to the structure should be considered.</p> <p>RPS6 Support the re-introduction of traditional features on Protected Structures where there is evidence that such features previously existed.</p> <p>RPS7 Applications for works to Protected Structures will be assessed in accordance with the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines 2011. Works should ensure that the special character and integrity of the Protected Structure is preserved.</p> <p>RPS8 Resist the demolition and inappropriate alteration of Protected Structures.</p> <p>RPS9 Support the rehabilitation, renovation and re-use of existing Protected Structures for their own economic benefit and that area in which they are located.</p> <p>RPS10 Proposals for large scale developments and infrastructure projects should consider the impacts on the architectural heritage and seek to avoid them. The extent, route, services and signage for such projects should be sited at a distance from Protected Structures, outside the boundaries of designed historic landscapes, and not interrupt specifically designed vistas. Where this is not possible the visual impact must be minimised through appropriate mitigation measures such as high-quality design and/or use of screen planting.</p> <p>RPS11 Carry out an audit of Protected Structures within the council's ownership and devise a management / maintenance plan for these structures.</p> <p>RPS12 Identify Protected Structures in council ownership that are under threat directly or indirectly through climate change.</p> <p>RPS13 Seek to integrate climate adaptation measures into future conservation and management plans for Protected Structures.</p> <p>RPS14 Support owners / occupiers of Protected Structures seeking to upgrade energy efficiency and climate resilience measures. Works to upgrade the environmental performance and the implementation of measures to address the impacts of climate change will be encouraged to ensure the sustainability of Protected Structures and buildings sited within an ACA. Such works should not adversely impact the special character of a structure.</p> <p>RPS15 Support schemes which encourage the conservation of Protected Structures e.g. Built Heritage Investment Scheme, Historic Structures Fund, Historic Towns Initiative.</p> <p>Architectural Conservation Areas Development Objectives</p> <p>ACA1 Ensure that all development proposals within the boundaries of the ACA will enhance rather than detract from the historic and architectural character and settings of the buildings within the ACA. Proposals within ACAs should be in accordance with Statement of Characters prepared for ACAs.</p> <p>ACA2 Avoid the removal of structures and distinctive elements (such as boundary treatments, street furniture, paving and landscaping) that positively contribute to the character of Architectural Conservation Areas.</p> <p>ACA3 Ensure that Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs), including any associated public realm area, are protected and ensure that any new development or alteration of a building within or adjoining an ACA positively enhances the character of the area and is appropriate in terms of plot size, proposed design, including: scale, mass, height, proportions, density, layout, materials, plot ratio and building lines. Planning permission will not normally be approved for developments that are not consistent with and complementary to the character of the ACA.</p> <p>ACA4 Support and promote best practice conservation in works to Protected Structures and buildings within ACAs and to encourage the</p> |

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| | | | <p>use of tradespeople, professionals trained in the use of traditional skills, materials, and building techniques.</p> <p>ACA5 Protect and enhance the special character of the public domain of an ACA. Features of the public domain including traffic and parking infrastructure, signage, public utilities, street furniture, and street lighting must be appropriately designed to enhance and preserve the character of the ACA.</p> <p>ACA6 Encourage the rehabilitation and reuse of derelict and vacant sites within an ACA.</p> <p>Vernacular Buildings and Structures Development Objectives</p> <p>VA1 Encourage the retention, rehabilitation and reuse of older buildings that are not Protected Structures in recognition of their contribution both individually and collectively to the unique character, heritage and identity of local areas and the County.</p> <p>VA2 Seek the retention of original and early fabric of older buildings, including windows, doors, roof material, glazing and render or external finishes. The Planning Authority will encourage reinstatement of known original or early features where possible.</p> <p>VA3 Protect vernacular architecture, such as thatched cottages, farm buildings and old school-houses in County Cavan for the benefit of future generations.</p> <p>Historical Shop Fronts Development Objective</p> <p>HSF1 Seek the repair and retention of traditional timber and/or rendered shop fronts and pub fronts, including, where appropriate, those that may not be Protected Structures.</p> <p>Industrial Heritage Development Objectives</p> <p>IH1 Utilise the information provided within Cavan Industrial Heritage Survey when assessing development proposals for industrial heritage sites.</p> <p>IH2 Support the retention and appropriate repair/maintenance of historic bridges and other significant industrial heritage sites.</p> <p>IH3 Protect our industrial architecture and encourage appropriate new uses for vacant structures.</p> <p>Historic Gardens, Demesnes and Country Estates Development Objectives</p> <p>HG1 Utilise existing surveys to identify and evaluate the surviving historic designed landscapes in Cavan and promote the conservation of their essential character, both built and natural.</p> <p>HG2 Ensure that proposals for development within historic designed landscapes include an appraisal of the designed landscape, including an ecological assessment, prior to the initial design of any development, in order for this evaluation to inform the design which must be sensitive to and respect the built heritage elements and green space values of the site.</p> <p>Language Heritage Development Objectives</p> <p>LH1 Preserve historic place and street names and ensure that new street names reflect appropriate local historical or cultural features in the area.</p> <p>LH2 Encourage the naming of new residential developments in bi-lingual format.</p> <p>LH3 Ensure that the naming of mixed residential and mixed used schemes reflect local history, townlands, folklore and/or place names or cultural features.</p> <p>LH4 Support the use of the Irish language on shopfronts.</p> <p>Archaeological Heritage Development Objectives</p> <p>AH1 Protect and safeguard the county's archaeological resource and ensure the sympathetic enhancement of archaeological heritage. Applications will be referred to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage by the Planning Authority in its capacity of being charged with the implementation of the National Monuments Acts.</p> <p>AH2 Protect and enhance archaeological sites and monuments, their settings and zones of archaeological potential that are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places, in the ownership/guardianship of the State, or that are the subject of Preservation Orders or have been registered in the Register of Historic Monuments. Ensure the protection of sites which have been identified subsequent to the publication of the Record of Monuments and Places.</p> <p>AH3 Development adjacent to or near an archaeological site or monument should not interfere with the character of the site, or its setting. Proposed developments should be sited to ensure minimal impact on the site or monument. Development which has a negative impact on a site or monument will not be permitted.</p> <p>AH4 Seek to promote best practice for archaeological excavation ensuring that they are undertaken according to best practice as outlined by the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, The National Museum and the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland.</p> <p>AH5 Encourage the dissemination of findings from archaeological investigations and excavations through the publication of archaeological reports.</p> <p>AH6 Support the growth of cultural tourism within the county, including the potential for niche heritage-tourism products by facilitating the development of heritage events and infrastructure such as heritage trails, walkways and cycleways.</p> <p>AH7 Seek funding to prepare and implement a Conservation Management Plan for Clough Oughter Castle in consultation with the OPW and the National Monuments Service.</p> <p>AH8 Continue to support the development of sustainable heritage-based tourism initiatives in the UNESCO Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark subject to archaeological and ecological assessment.</p> <p>AH9 Facilitate appropriate guidance in relation to the protection of the archaeological heritage and implications of a proposed development.</p> <p>AH10 Promote public awareness of the rich archaeological heritage of the county.</p> <p>AH11 Secure the preservation of sites and features of historical and archaeological interest. The preservation in-situ of archaeological</p> |
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| | | | | <p>monuments and sites as a preferred option.</p> <p>AH12 Where archaeological sites or monuments have to be removed as a result of development, it is essential that they be preserved by record, through archaeological excavation and recording, which is to be undertaken by a suitably qualified professional archaeologist.</p> <p>AH13 Support the appropriate management and maintenance of the county's historical burial grounds, in accordance with conservation principles and best practice guidelines. In this regard, seek to continue to support the work of the Historic Graveyards Network.</p> <p>AH14 Seek to co-operate with other agencies regarding the impact of climate change on our archaeological heritage.</p> <p>Built and Cultural Heritage Climate Development Objectives</p> <p>BCHC 01 Adopt the principles of conservation-led regeneration by applying the Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Architectural Heritage Protection (2011).</p> <p>BCHC 02 Seek enrolment on all future Historic Towns Initiatives (HTI).</p> <p>BCHC 03 Notify owners of Protected Structures of the increased threat climate change presents, while reminding them of their continued and legal requirement to ensure the structure(s) do not become endangered through neglect, decay, damage or harm (Practical advice on basic methods of conservation should accompany the notice).</p> <p>BCHC 04 Require the proposed demolition of any structure or part thereof, as considered of merit by the Planning Authority, to be accompanied by a report from a registered / chartered professional within a related discipline justifying same, to the satisfaction of the planning authority.</p> <p>BCHC 05 Require the submission of a life-cycle cost report with all applications in excess of 500 sq. m, new build construction, unless deemed otherwise by the Planning Authority.</p> <p>BCHC 06 Require the submission of a cost benefit analysis by a chartered quantity surveyor justifying any demolition or refurbishment of 100 m3 of construction and demolition waste, or above, unless deemed otherwise by the Planning Authority.</p> <p>Development Objectives for County Heritage Sites</p> <p>CHS1 Restrict incompatible development in order to protect the amenity, scientific and historical values of these areas.</p> |
| <p>Landscape</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributes towards protection of wider landscape and landscape designations by facilitating development within existing settlements. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occurrence of adverse visual impacts and conflicts with the appropriate protection of designations relating to the landscape. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscapes will change overtime as a result of natural changes in vegetation cover combined with new developments that will occur in compliance with the Plan's landscape protection measures. | <p>Also refer to measures under Biodiversity and Flora and Fauna and Cultural Heritage.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Landscape Character Areas</p> <p>LC1 Ensure the preservation of the unique landscape character type by having regard to the character, value and sensitivity of a landscape when determining a planning application.</p> <p>LC2 Ensure development reflects and reinforces the distinctiveness and sense of place of the landscape character areas. This should include the retention of important features or characteristics which contribute to their distinctiveness such as geology and landform, habitats, settlement patterns, historic and vernacular heritage.</p> <p>LC3 Resist development such as houses, forestry, masts, extractive operations, landfills, caravan parks and large agricultural /horticulture units which would interfere with the character of highly sensitive areas or with a view or prospect of special amenity value.</p> <p>LC4 Ensure that new development does not impinge in any significant way on the character, integrity and distinctiveness of highly sensitive areas and does not detract from the scenic value of the area such as visual harm, not in keeping elements of the landscape, causes loss or disturbance of the landscape elements contributing to the local distinctiveness, historic elements that contribute to landscape character and quality, vegetation which is characteristic of a particular landscape and visual conditions of a landscape.</p> <p>LC5 Ensure new development meets high standards of siting and design.</p> <p>LC6 Protect skylines and ridgelines from development</p> <p>LC7 Ensure necessary assessments including visual impact assessments are prepared prior to approving development in highly sensitive areas.</p> <p>LC8 Commence the preparation of a Landscape Character Assessment within 6 months of the adoption of the development plan.</p> <p>LCC 12 Support the aims of the National Peatlands Strategy and the implementation of the National Raised Bog SAC Management Plan 2017-2022 and Peatlands Climate Action Scheme.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Areas of High Landscape Value or Special Landscape Interest</p> <p>SLPA1 Maintain the scenic and recreation value of these areas by restricting all adverse uses and negative visual impacts.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Scenic Viewing Points</p> <p>SVP1 Restrict development that would obstruct views and to minimise visual intrusion by only permitting compatible uses.</p> <p>SVP2 Ensure the location, design and visual prominence of developments are examined, including possible effects on views from the public realm toward sensitive or vulnerable landscape features.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Scenic Routes</p> <p>SR1 Regulate development that would seriously obstruct and detract from views of high scenic value from designated Scenic Routes.</p> <p>SR2 Maintain and protect the natural landscapes visual character which is recognised to be of an exceptional high amenity value.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Forest Parks and Other Parks</p> <p>FP1 Regulate development within Forest Parks and other Parks to maximise recreational, amenity and community uses</p> <p>Development Objectives for Major Lakes and Lake Environs</p> <p>ML&LE1 Maintain major lake and lake environment amenity value within a landscape recreational and ecological context by restricting and regulating development that would prejudice use and enjoyment of the areas, give rise to adverse visual impacts or threaten habitats through disposal of effluents.</p> <p>ML&LE2 Maintain and protect shorelines of lakes and their immediate area adjoining including skyline development on surrounding hill crests.</p> |

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| | | | <p>Development Objectives for Lakeside Amenity Areas</p> <p>LAA 1 Regulate development of adjoining lands to Lakeside Amenity Areas to ensure that public use is not prejudiced by incompatible use or adverse visual impact.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Riverside Amenity Areas</p> <p>RAA1 Regulate all development on lands adjoining Riverside Amenity Areas in order to maintain their amenity value.</p> <p>Development Objectives for Inland Waterways</p> <p>IW1 Protect and enhance the natural heritage and landscape character of the County's Waterways and to maintain them free from inappropriate development and to provide for public access, where feasible, acknowledging the existence of contiguous Natura 2000 sites.</p> <p>IW2 Protect the biodiversity of rivers, streams and other water courses and maintain them in an open state and to discourage the culverting or realignment thereof.</p> <p>IW3 Consult with, as appropriate, the Inland Fisheries Ireland in relation to any development that could have a potential impact on the aquatic ecosystems and associated riparian habitats.</p> <p>IW4 Consult with Waterways Ireland and the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the DECLG and the Inland Waterways Association on the development proposals that may affect inland waterways, rivers, lakes, canals or watercourses.</p> <p>IW5 Ensure that the County's watercourses are retained for their biodiversity and flood protection values and conserve and enhance, where possible, the wildlife habitats of the county's rivers and riparian zones, lakes, canals and streams which occur outside of designated areas to provide for a network of habitats and biodiversity corridors throughout the county.</p> <p>IW6 Support the development of blueways in County Cavan.</p> <p>Landscape Character/ Natural Heritage Climate Change Development Objectives</p> <p>LCC 01 Within the lifetime of the plan, undertake a survey and vector mapping exercise to identify exemplar wetlands, bogs, individual trees and/or stands of trees and/or woodlands throughout the county worthy of protection and preservation.</p> <p>LCC 02 Encourage the potential community woodlands areas in urban/urban fringe areas and the development of community woodlands throughout rural Cavan.</p> <p>LCC 03 Promote the use in public spaces of hot water, foam stream, flame weeding and/or concentrated vinegar in favour of glyphosate weedkillers.</p> <p>LCC 04 Prepare a Peatland Strategy that shall encourage the rewilding, restoration and protection of peat bogs after turf cutting and/or peat extraction has ceased.</p> <p>LCC 05 Support the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme 2017 – 2022.</p> <p>LCC06 Promote the roll-out of renewables and stringent protection and enhancement of carbon pools, such as forests, peatlands and permanent grasslands.</p> <p>LCC 07 Explore the opportunity of engaging the services of a full-time Ecologist on a shared basis amongst neighbouring Local Authorities.</p> <p>LCC 08 Install and promote the installation of bird, bat, and owl boxes, and bee bricks and insect hotels or equivalent, at all relevant locations and developments, where possible.</p> <p>LCC 09 Actively participate and seek to adopt recommendations originating out of the Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) and Northern and Western Climate Action Region.</p> <p>LCC 10 Fracking and the industrial extraction of fossil fuels will not be encouraged within Cavan 's functional area.</p> <p>LCC 11 Develop a strategy to support an active native Tree Planting programme in the context of climate adaption.</p> |
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2.4 Criteria under Annex II of the SEA Directive¹¹

PART 1

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

The Cavan Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) sets out, for six years, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic and community development of County Cavan.

Implementing the Plan will involve Cavan County Council helping to facilitate, promote, support and coordinate stakeholders in their activities in a way that is consistent with existing and emerging plans setting out public policy for sustainable development, including that relating to the economy, communities, infrastructure, land use tourism and environmental protection and environmental management. The Plan is situated alongside this hierarchy of statutory documents that has been subject to environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment, as appropriate, and forms the decision-making and consent-granting framework. The Plan does not provide consent or establish a framework for granting consent and will not be binding on any decisions relating to the granting of consent.

The Plan fully aligns with the provisions of the existing National Planning Framework, Ireland 2040, National Climate Action Plan 2023, Housing For All 2021, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and the Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028, all of which have been subject to legislative requirements relating to public consultation and environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment. As such, the Plan is wholly subject to the requirements of the provisions set out in these documents, including provisions relating to sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been integrated into these documents, including through SEA and AA processes, and does not introduce any alterations or additions to those provisions.

In order to be realised, projects included in the Plan (in a similar way to other projects from any other sectors) will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and other licencing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework. It is a specific provision of the Plan to ensure that all of the provisions from the County Development Plan identified in the accompanying Screening for SEA and AA reports shall be complied with throughout the implementation of the Plan.

Taking into account all of the above (refer also to Table 2.4 and Appendix I) it is demonstrated that: significant beneficial environmental effects are present already under the existing planning framework and would not result from the Plan; and potentially significant adverse effects, if unmitigated, are present already under the existing planning framework, have already been envisaged and mitigated by the relevant assessments and would not result from the Plan.

Taking the above and the other SEA screening assessment provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the degree to which the Plan would set a framework for projects and other activities, the Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

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

Implementing the Plan will involve Cavan County Council helping to facilitate, promote, support and coordinate stakeholders in their activities in a way that is consistent with existing and emerging plans setting out public policy for sustainable development, including that relating to the economy,

¹¹ Schedule 1 of the Regulations

communities, infrastructure, land use tourism and environmental protection and environmental management. The Plan is situated alongside this hierarchy of statutory documents that has been subject to environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment, as appropriate, and forms the decision-making and consent-granting framework. The Plan does not provide consent or establish a framework for granting consent and will not be binding on any decisions relating to the granting of consent.

The Plan fully aligns with the provisions of the existing National Planning Framework, Ireland 2040, National Climate Action Plan 2023, Housing For All 2021, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and the Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028, all of which have been subject to legislative requirements relating to public consultation and environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment. As such, the Plan is wholly subject to the requirements of the provisions set out in these documents, including provisions relating to sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been integrated into these documents, including through SEA and AA processes, and does not introduce any alterations or additions to those provisions.

In order to be realised, projects included in the Plan (in a similar way to other projects from any other sectors) will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and other licencing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework. It is a specific provision of the Plan to ensure that all of the provisions from the County Development Plan identified in the accompanying Screening for SEA and AA reports shall be complied with throughout the implementation of the Plan.

Taking the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the degree to which the Plan would influence other plans, the Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

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

The Plan is situated alongside the hierarchy of statutory documents that has been subject to environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment, as appropriate, and forms the decision-making and consent-granting framework. The Plan does not provide consent or establish a framework for granting consent and will not be binding on any decisions relating to the granting of consent.

The Plan fully aligns with the provisions of the existing National Planning Framework, Ireland 2040, National Climate Action Plan 2023, Housing For All 2021, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and the Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028, all of which have been subject to legislative requirements relating to public consultation and environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment. As such, the Plan is wholly subject to the requirements of the provisions set out in these documents, encompassing measures relating to sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been integrated into these documents (a selection of which are identified on Table 2.4), including through SEA and AA processes, and does not introduce any alterations or additions to those provisions.

Taking the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the degree to which the Plan would be relevant for the integration of environmental considerations with a view to promoting sustainable development, the Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

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

Environmental problems arise where there is a conflict between current environmental conditions and legislative targets. Through its provisions relating to environmental protection and management, the existing planning framework contributes towards ensuring that environmental conditions do not get worse. As identified in the Plan, in order to be realised, projects included in the Plan (in a similar way to other projects from any other sectors) will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and other licencing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework (a selection of which are identified on Table 2.4).

Taking the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from environmental problems relevant to the Plan, the Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

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

The Plan relates to the economic and community sector. Implementing the Plan will involve Cavan County Council helping to facilitate, promote, support and coordinate stakeholders in their activities in a way that is consistent with existing and emerging plans setting out public policy for European Union legislation on the environment (e.g. plans linked to waste-management or water protection), including the existing National Planning Framework, Ireland 2040, National Climate Action Plan 2023, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy, the County Development Plan, the National River Basin Management Plan and the Regional Waste Management Plan.

The Plan fully aligns with the provisions of the existing National Planning Framework, Ireland 2040, National Climate Action Plan 2023, Housing For All 2021, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and the Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028, all of which have been subject to legislative requirements relating to public consultation and environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment. As such, the Plan is wholly subject to the requirements of the provisions set out in these documents, including provisions relating to sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been integrated into these documents, including through SEA and AA processes, and does not introduce any alterations or additions to those provisions.

Taking the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the relevance of the Plan for the implementation of European Union legislation on the environment, the Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

PART 2

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

The Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

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

The Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

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

The Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

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

The Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

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

The Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

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

- a) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;**
The Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).
- b) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values, and;**
The Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).
- c) intensive land-use.**
The Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

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

The Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

Section 3 Conclusion

Screening is the process for deciding whether a particular plan or programme, other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant SEA. The purpose of this report is to inform: whether the Cavan Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2029 to be adopted would, or would not, be likely to have significant environmental effects, taking into account relevant criteria set out under the SEA Directive and transposing Regulations¹²; and therefore would, or would not, necessitate the undertaking of SEA.

This Screening for SEA Report has examined the Plan to be adopted, including against relevant criteria set out in Annex II '*Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in Article 3(5)*' of the SEA Directive [Schedule 1 of the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004, as amended]. Taking into account this examination, the findings of which are provided in this report, it is advised that the Plan would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

Implementing the Plan will involve Cavan County Council helping to facilitate, promote, support and coordinate stakeholders in their activities in a way that is consistent with existing and emerging plans setting out public policy for sustainable development, including that relating to the economy, communities, infrastructure, land use tourism and environmental protection and environmental management. The Plan is situated alongside this hierarchy of statutory documents that has been subject to environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment, as appropriate, and forms the decision-making and consent-granting framework. The Plan does not provide consent or establish a framework for granting consent and will not be binding on any decisions relating to the granting of consent.

The Plan fully aligns with the provisions of the existing National Planning Framework, Ireland 2040, National Climate Action Plan 2023, Housing For All 2021, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and the Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028, all of which have been subject to legislative requirements relating to public consultation and environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment. As such, the Plan is wholly subject to the requirements of the provisions set out in these documents, encompassing measures relating to sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been integrated into these documents, including through SEA and AA processes, and does not introduce any alterations or additions to those provisions.

In order to be realised, projects included in the Plan (in a similar way to other projects from any other sectors) will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and other licencing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework.

Taking into account all of the above (refer also to Table 2.4 and Appendix I) it is demonstrated that: significant beneficial environmental effects are present already under the existing planning framework and would not result from the Plan; and potentially significant adverse effects, if unmitigated, are present already under the existing planning framework, have already been envisaged and mitigated by the relevant assessments and would not result from the Plan. Consequently, it is advised that the Plan would not result in likely significant environmental effects and does not necessitate the undertaking of SEA.

This Screening for SEA Report, which takes into account responses from environmental authorities, is referred to Cavan County Council for an SEA Screening Determination.

¹² European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (SI No. 435 of 2004) amended by the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (SI No. 200 of 2011)

Appendix I Relationship with Legislation and Other Plans and Programmes

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

| Legislation, Plan, etc. European Level | Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective | Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc. | Relevance to the Plan |
|--|---|---|---|
| SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. Provide for a high level of protection of the environment by carrying out an environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out an environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive. Prepare an environmental report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives that consider the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme. Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission. Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects. Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme. Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive. Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. Aims to assess and implement avoidance or mitigation measures to eliminate environmental effects, before consent is given of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to a requirement for development consent and an assessment with regard to their effects. Those projects are defined in Article 4. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA. For projects listed in Annex II, a "screening procedure" is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account Annex III. The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor. Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of community interest. Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species. Establish a network of European sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, to enable the natural habitat types and the species' habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range. Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present. Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats. Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation. The species included in Annex I shall be the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1. Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas). Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones, re-establish destroyed biotopes and creation of biotopes. Measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I is required as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. The protection of wetlands and particularly wetlands of international importance. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and - preventing further such pollution. | <p>Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme is designed to prevent pollution of surface waters and ground water from agricultural sources and to protect and improve water quality. Ireland's third NAP came into operation in 2014. Each Member State's NAP must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a limit on the amount of livestock manure applied to the land each year set periods when land spreading is prohibited due to risk set capacity levels for the storage of livestock manure | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – |

Screening for SEA Report

| Legislation, Plan, etc. | Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective | Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc. | Relevance to the Plan |
|---|--|--|--|
| EU Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive (2008/1/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of this Directive is to achieve integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from the activities listed in Annex I. It lays down measures designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions in the air, water and land from the abovementioned activities, including measures concerning waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole, without prejudice to Directive 85/337/EEC and other relevant Community provisions. | <p>The IPPC Directive is based on several principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an integrated approach best available techniques, flexibility; and public participation | <p>in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Directive aims at reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment by introducing different targets, tools and measures such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM) or National Action Plans (NAPs). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Framework Directive applies to pesticides which are plant protection products. Regarding pesticide application equipment already in professional use, the Framework Directive introduces requirements for the inspection and maintenance to be carried out on such equipment. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| EU Renewables Directive (2009/28/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Renewable Energy Directive establishes an overall policy for the production and promotion of energy from renewable sources in the EU. It requires the EU to fulfil at least 20% of its total energy needs with renewables by 2020 – to be achieved through the attainment of individual national targets. All EU countries must also ensure that at least 10% of their transport fuels come from renewable sources by 2020. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Directive promotes cooperation amongst EU countries (and with countries outside the EU) to help them meet their renewable energy targets. The Directive specifies national renewable energy targets for each country, taking into account its starting point and overall potential for renewables. EU countries set out how they plan to meet these targets and the general course of their renewable energy policy in national renewable energy action plans. Progress towards national targets is measured every two years when EU countries publish national renewable energy progress reports. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| Indirect Land Use Change Directive (2012/0288(COD)) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 3(4) of Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (3) requires Member States to ensure that the share of energy from renewable energy sources in all forms of transport in 2020 is at least 10 % of their final energy consumption. The blending of biofuels is one of the methods available for Member States to meet this target, and is expected to be the main contributor. Other methods available to meet the target are the reduction of energy consumption, which is imperative because a mandatory percentage target for energy from renewable sources is likely to become increasingly difficult to achieve sustainably if overall demand for energy for transport continues to rise, and the use of electricity from renewable energy sources. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit the contribution that conventional biofuels (with a risk of ILUC emissions) make towards attainment of the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive; Improve the greenhouse gas performance of biofuel production processes (reducing associated emissions) by raising the greenhouse gas saving threshold for new installations subject to protecting installations already in operation on 1st July 2014; Encourage a greater market penetration of advanced (low-ILUC) biofuels by allowing such fuels to contribute more to the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive than conventional biofuels; Improve the reporting of greenhouse gas emissions by obliging Member States and fuel suppliers to report the estimated indirect land-use change emissions of biofuels. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (2014/94/EU) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive establishes a common framework of measures for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure in the Union in order to minimise dependence on oil and to mitigate the environmental impact of transport. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive sets out minimum requirements for the building-up of alternative fuels infrastructure, including recharging points for electric vehicles and refuelling points for natural gas (LNG and CNG) and hydrogen, to be implemented by means of Member States' national policy frameworks, as well as common technical specifications for such recharging and refuelling points, and user information requirements. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| EU Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes a set of binding measures to help the EU reach its 20% energy efficiency target by 2020. Under the Directive, all EU countries are required to use energy more efficiently at all stages of the energy chain, from production to final consumption. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy distributors or retail energy sales companies have to achieve 1.5% energy savings per year through the implementation of energy efficiency measures EU countries can opt to achieve the same level of savings through other means, such as improving the efficiency of heating systems, installing double glazed windows or insulating roofs The public sector in EU countries should purchase energy efficient buildings, products and services Every year, governments in EU countries must carry out energy efficient renovations on at least 3% (by floor area) of the buildings they own and occupy Energy consumers should be empowered to better manage consumption. This includes easy and free access to data on consumption through individual metering | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |

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| Legislation, Plan, etc. | Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective | Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc. | Relevance to the Plan |
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| EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive lays down rules for the prevention of major accidents which involve dangerous substances, and the limitation of their consequences for human health and the environment, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection throughout the Union in a consistent and effective manner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National incentives for SMEs to undergo energy audits Large companies will make audits of their energy consumption to help them identify ways to reduce it Monitoring efficiency levels in new energy generation capacities. <p>The Seveso Directive is well integrated with other EU policies, thus avoiding double regulation or other administrative burden. This includes the following related policy areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals; The Union's Civil Protection Mechanism; The Security Union Agenda including CBRN-E and Protection of critical infrastructure; Policy on environmental liability and on the protection of the environment through criminal law; Safety of offshore oil and gas operations. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 - Bringing nature back into our lives (European Commission, 2020) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030 is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan to protect nature and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. The strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030, and contains specific actions and commitments. | <p>The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea, building upon existing Natura 2000 areas, with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value. An EU Nature Restoration Plan - a series of concrete commitments and actions to restore degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, and manage them sustainably, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss. A set of measures to enable the necessary transformative change: setting in motion a new, strengthened governance framework to ensure better implementation and track progress, improving knowledge, financing and investments and better respecting nature in public and business decision-making. Measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge, demonstrating that the EU is ready to lead by example towards the successful adoption of an ambitious global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| EU Green Infrastructure Strategy | <p>Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas. Supporting EU-level GI projects. Improving access to finance for GI projects. Improving information and promoting innovation. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| UN Kyoto Protocol (2nd Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement) | <p>The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol. At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II). EU member states implement measures to improve on or compliment the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP. Under COP21, governments agreed to come together every 5 years to set more ambitious targets as required by science; report to each other and the public on how well they are doing to implement their targets; track progress towards the long-term goal through a robust transparency and accountability system. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Binding legislation which aims to ensure the European Union meets its climate and energy targets for 2020. Aims to achieve a 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels. Aims to raise the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20%. Achieve a 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency. | <p>Four pieces of complimentary legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reform of the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) to include a cap on emission allowances in addition to existing system of national caps. Member States have agreed national targets for non-EU ETS emissions from countries outside the EU. Meet the national renewable energy targets of 16% for Ireland by 2020. Preparing a legal framework for technologies in carbon capture and storage. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| EU 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 2030 Framework for climate and energy, including EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period between 2020 and 2030 that has been agreed by European countries. Targets include a 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels, at least a 27% share of renewable energy consumption and at least 27% energy savings compared with the business-as-usual scenario. | <p>To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A reformed EU emissions trading scheme (ETS). New indicators for the competitiveness and security of the energy system, such as price differences with major trading partners, diversification of supply, and interconnection capacity between EU countries. First ideas for a new governance system based on national plans for competitive, secure, and sustainable energy. These plans will follow a common EU approach. They will ensure stronger investor certainty, greater transparency, enhanced policy | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection</p> |

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| <p>The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC) (EU Air Framework Directive)</p> <p>Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive). Sets new air quality objectives for PM_{2.5} (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives. Accounts for the possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values. Allows the possibility for time extensions of three years (PM₁₀) or up to five years (NO₂, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission. The Fourth Daughter Directive lists pollutants, target values and monitoring requirements for the following: arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air. | <p>coherence and improved coordination across the EU.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets objectives for ambient air quality designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole. Aims to assess the ambient air quality in Member States on the basis of common methods and criteria. Obtains information on ambient air quality in order to help combat air pollution and nuisance and to monitor long-term trends and improvements resulting from national and community measures. Ensures that such information on ambient air quality is made available to the public. Aims to maintain air quality where it is good and improving it in other cases. Aims to promote increased cooperation between the Member States in reducing air pollution. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)</p> | <p>The Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source.</p> | <p>The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw up strategic noise maps for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators and use these maps to assess the number of people which may be impacted upon as a result of excessive noise levels; Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise. <p>The Directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities.</p> | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess all water courses and coast lines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps outlining the extent or potential of flooding and assets and humans at risk in these areas at River Basin District level (Article 3(2) (b)) and areas covered by Article 5(1) and Article 13(1) (b) in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3. Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above. Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies to include inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater and their dependent wildlife and habitats. Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain "good status" of water bodies. Promote sustainable water usage. The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive Sampling Drinking Water Directive Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive Shellfish Directive Freshwater Fish Directive Groundwater (Dangerous Substances) Directive Dangerous Substances Directive | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive. Achieve "good status" for all waters. Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts. Involve the public and streamline legislation. Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas. Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas. Recover costs for water services. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, control and conserve groundwater. Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater. Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive. Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve and maintain the quality of water intended for human consumption. Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set values applicable to water intended for human consumption for the parameters set out in Annex I. Set values for additional parameters not included in Annex I, where the protection of human health within national territory or part of it so requires. The values set should, as a minimum, satisfy the requirements of Article 4(1) (a). Implement all measures necessary to ensure that regular monitoring of the quality | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards –</p> |

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| | | <p>of water intended for human consumption is carried out, in order to check that the water available to consumers meets the requirements of this Directive and in particular the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that any failure to meet the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5 is immediately investigated in order to identify the cause. • Ensure that the necessary remedial action is taken as soon as possible to restore its quality and shall give priority to their enforcement action. • Undertake remedial action to restore the quality of the water where necessary to protect human health. • Notify consumers when remedial action is being undertaken except where the competent authorities consider the non-compliance with the parametric value to be trivial. | <p>in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors. • The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban waste water entering collecting systems shall before discharge, be subject to secondary treatment. • Annex II requires the designation of areas sensitive to eutrophication which receive water discharges. • Establishes minimum requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems in specified agglomerations to include special requirements for sensitive areas and certain industrial sectors. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC and Directive 2013/30/EU</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent. • Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures. • Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7. • The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive. • The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator. • The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met. • The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing knowledge and new needs. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of this (revised) Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study. | <p>The Valletta Convention makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies. The Convention sets guidelines for the funding of excavation and research work and publication of research findings. It also deals with public access, in particular to archaeological sites, and educational actions to be undertaken to develop public awareness of the value of the archaeological heritage. It also constitutes an institutional framework for pan-European co-operation on the archaeological heritage, entailing a systematic exchange of experience and experts among the various States.</p> | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It also affirms the need for European solidarity with regard to heritage conservation and is designed to foster practical co-operation among the Parties. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reinforcement and promotion of policies for protecting and enhancing the heritage within the territories of the parties. • The affirmation of European solidarity with regard to the protection of the heritage and the fostering of practical co-operation between states and regions. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the</p> |

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| Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro 2005) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time. A heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, to sustain and transmit to future generations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise that rights relating to cultural heritage are inherent in the right to participate in cultural life, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Recognise individual and collective responsibility towards cultural heritage. Emphasise that the conservation of cultural heritage and its sustainable use have human development and quality of life as their goal. Take the necessary steps to apply the provisions of this Convention concerning the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society. Greater synergy of competencies among all the public, institutional and private actors concerned. | regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| European Landscape Convention 2000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, together with the practices followed in town and country planning, transport, networks, tourism and recreation, and at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases accelerated the transformation of landscapes. The Convention expresses a concern to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. It aims to respond to the public's wish to enjoy high quality landscapes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. Organise European co-operation on landscape issues. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| The Seventh Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community (2013-2020) | <p>It identifies three key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing | <p>Four so called "enablers" will help Europe deliver on these objectives (goals):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better implementation of legislation. Better information by improving the knowledge base. More and wiser investment for environment and climate policy. Full integration of environmental requirements and considerations into other policies. <p>Two additional horizontal priority objectives complete the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make the Union's cities more sustainable. To help the Union address international environmental and climate challenges more effectively. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats) | <p>The convention has three main aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats to promote cooperation between states to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species | <p>The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to ensure the conservation of nature in their countries, paying particular attention to planning and development policies and pollution control. Look at implementing the Bern Convention in central Eastern Europe and the Caucasus. Take account of the potential impact on natural heritage by other policies. Promote education and information of the public, ensuring the need to conserve species is understood and acted upon. Develop an extensive number of species action plans, codes of conducts, and guidelines, at their own initiative or in co-operation with other organisations. Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Bali Road Map (2007) | <p>The overall goals of the project are twofold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase national capacity to co-ordinate ministerial views, participate in the UNFCCC process, and negotiate positions within the timeframe of the Bali Action Plan; and To assess investment and financial flows to address climate change for up to three key sectors and/or economic activities. | <p>The Bali Action Plan is centred on four main building Blocks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> mitigation adaptation technology financing | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Cancun Agreements (2010) | <p>Set of decisions taken at the COP 16 Conference in Cancun in 2010 which addresses a series of key issues in the fight against climate change. Cancun Agreements' main objectives cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigation Transparency of actions Technology Finance Adaptation Forests Capacity building | <p>Among the most prominent agreements is the establishment of a Green Climate Fund to transfer money from the developed to developing world to tackle the impacts of climate change.</p> | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| Doha Climate Gateway (2012) | Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which pave the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015 (to come into effect in 2020); Complete the work under Bali Action Plan and to focus on new completing new targets; Strengthen the aim to cut greenhouse gases and help vulnerable countries to adapt; Amend Kyoto Protocol to include a new commitment period for cutting down the greenhouse gases emissions; and Provide the financial and technology support and new institutions to allow clean energy investment and sustainable growth in developing countries. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU Common Agricultural Policy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve agricultural productivity, so that consumers have a stable supply of affordable food; and To ensure that EU farmers can make a reasonable living. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensuring viable food production that will contribute to feeding the world's population, which is expected to rise considerably in the future; Climate change and sustainable management of natural resources; Looking after the countryside across the EU and keeping the rural economy alive. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances. | <p>The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation; and Restriction of chemicals. <p>REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.</p> | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Stockholm Convention | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit and/or eliminate the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex A to the Convention Restrict the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex B to the Convention Reduce or eliminate releases from unintentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex C to the Convention Ensure that stockpiles and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs are managed safely and in an environmentally sound manner Other provisions of the Convention relate to the development of implementation plans, information exchange, public information, awareness and education, research, development and monitoring, technical assistance, financial resources and mechanisms, reporting, effectiveness evaluation and non-compliance | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Ramsar Convention | The Convention's mission is "the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world". | <p>Under the "three pillars" of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work towards the wise use of all their wetlands; Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") and ensure their effective management; Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| European 2020 Strategy for Growth | <p>Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe's social market economy for the 21st century and puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation; Sustainable growth: promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy; Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion. | <p>In order to reach these priorities, the Commission proposes five quantitative targets to fulfil by 2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed; 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D; the "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right); the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree; 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

Screening for SEA Report

| Legislation, Plan, etc. | Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective | Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc. | Relevance to the Plan |
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| National Level | | | |
| Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, the National Planning Framework, and the National Development Plan | The National Planning Framework is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of to the year 2040. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for people, and to protect and enhance the environment - from villages to cities, and everything around and in between. The National Development Plan sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the successful implementation of the new National Planning Framework. This will guide national, regional and local planning and investment decisions in Ireland over the next two decades, to cater for an expected population increase of over 1 million people. | National Strategic Outcomes as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compact Growth 2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility 3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities 4. Sustainable Mobility 5. A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills 6. High-Quality International Connectivity 7. Enhanced Amenities and Heritage 8. Transition to a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Society 9. Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources 10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040 [in preparation] | The PLUTO will take account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies and will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term; 2. Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and, 3. Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040. | In preparation | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The core principal objectives of this Act are to amend the Planning Acts of 2000 – 2009 with specific regard given to supporting economic renewal and sustainable development. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development, with certain exceptions, is subject to development control under the Planning Acts and the local authorities grant or refuse planning permission for development, including ones within protected areas. • There are, however, a range of exemptions from the planning system. Use of land for agriculture, peat extraction and afforestation, subject to certain thresholds, is generally exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission. • Additionally, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for a range of classes and large-scale projects. • Under planning legislation, Development Plans must include mandatory objectives for the conservation of the natural heritage and for the conservation of European sites and any other sites which may be prescribed. There are also discretionary powers to set objectives for the conservation of a variety of other elements of the natural heritage. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment – commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning. • These Regulations also amend certain provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to provide the statutory basis for the transposition of the Directive in respect of land-use planning. • Transposition in respect of the land-use planning sector is contained in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004). | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011, as amended) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These Regulations provide a new for the implementation in Ireland of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on habitats and protection of wild fauna and flora (as amended) and for the implementation of Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of wild birds. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They provide, among other things, for: the appointment and functions of authorized officers; identification, classification and other procedures relative to the designation of Community sites. • The Regulations have been prepared to address several judgments of the CJEU against Ireland, notably cases C-418/04 and C-183/05, in respect of failure to transpose elements of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive into Irish law. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Waste Management Act 1996, as amended | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make provision in relation to the prevention, management and control of waste; to give effect to provisions of certain acts adopted by institutions of the European communities in respect of those matters; to amend the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992, and to repeal certain enactments and to provide for related matters. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Waste Management Act contains a number of key legal obligations, including requirements for waste management planning, waste collection and movement, the authorisation of waste facilities, measures to reduce the production of waste and/or promote its recovery. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| European Communities Environmental Objectives (FPM) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 296 of 2009) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set environmental quality objectives for the habitats of the freshwater pearl mussel populations named in the First Schedule to these Regulations that are within the boundaries of a site notified in a candidate list of European sites, or designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 94/1997). Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of measures to achieve these objectives. Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. 9 of 2010), as amended (S.I. No. 366 of 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) to make further provision to implement Commission Directive 2014/80/EU of 20 June 2014 amending Annex II to Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration. | <p>The substances and threshold values set out in Schedule 5 to S.I. No. 9 of 2010 have been reviewed and amended where necessary, based on existing monitoring information and international guidelines on appropriate threshold values.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part A of Schedule 6 has been amended to include changes to the rules governing the determination of background levels for the purposes of establishing threshold values for groundwater pollutants and indicators of pollution. Part B of Schedule 6 has been amended to include nitrites and phosphorus (total) / phosphates among the minimum list of pollutants and their indicators which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must consider when establishing threshold values. Part C of Schedule 6 amends the information to be provided to the Minister by the EPA with regard to the pollutants and their indicators for which threshold values have been established. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 31 of 2014) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These Regulations, which give effect to Ireland's 3rd Nitrates Action Programme, provide statutory support for good agricultural practice to protect waters against pollution from agricultural sources | <p>The Regulations include measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Periods when land application of fertilisers is prohibited Limits on the land application of fertilisers Storage requirements for livestock manure; and Monitoring of the effectiveness of the measures in terms of agricultural practice and impact on water quality. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015, as amended | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Act to provide for the approval of plans by the Government in relation to climate change for the purpose of pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy. | <p>When considering a plan or framework, for approval, the Government shall endeavour to achieve the national transition objective within the period to which the objective relates and shall, in endeavouring to achieve that objective, ensure that such objective is achieved by the implementation of measures that are cost effective and shall, for that purpose, have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ultimate objective specified in Article 2 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change done at New York on 9 May 1992 and any mitigation commitment entered into by the European Union in response or otherwise in relation to that objective, The policy of the Government on climate change, Climate justice, Any existing obligation of the State under the law of the European Union or any international agreement referred to in section 2; and The most recent national greenhouse gas emissions inventory and projection of future greenhouse gas emissions, prepared by the Agency. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Climate Action Plan 2023 | <p>The National Climate Action Plan 2023 provides a detailed plan for taking decisive action to achieve a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and setting Ireland on a path to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Programme for Government and set out in the Climate Act 2021.</p> | <p>The Plan lists the actions needed to deliver on Ireland's climate targets and sets indicative ranges of emissions reductions for each sector of the economy. It will be updated periodically to ensure alignment with Ireland's legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral ceilings.</p> | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| The Sustainable Development Goals National Implementation Plan (2018 – 2020) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Implementation Plan 2018 - 2020 is in direct response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a whole-of-government approach to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Plan provides a 'SDG Matrix' which identifies the responsible Government Departments for each of the 169 targets. It also includes a 'SDG Policy Map' indicating the relevant national policies for each of the targets. | <p>The Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness: raise public awareness of the SDGs; Participation: provide stakeholders opportunities to engage and contribute to follow-up and review processes, and further develop national implementation of the Goals; Support: encourage and support efforts of communities and organisations to contribute towards meeting the SDGs, and foster public participation; and Policy alignment: develop alignment of national policy with the SDGs and identify opportunities for policy coherence. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| Infrastructure and Capital Investment Plan (2016-2021) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> €27 billion multi-annual Exchequer Capital Investment Plan, which is supported by a programme of capital investment in the wider State sector, and which over the period 2016 to 2021 will help to lay the foundations for continued growth in Ireland. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Capital Plan reflects the Government's commitment to supporting strong and sustainable economic growth and raising welfare and living standards for all. It includes allocations for new projects across a number of key areas and funding to ensure that the present stock of national infrastructure is refreshed and maintained. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-Fisheries) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 290 of 2013) | These regulations have been drafted to implement the responsibilities of the Minister for Agriculture Food and the Marine in relation to sea fisheries in Natura 2000 sites, in accordance with the Habitats and Birds Directives as transposed by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation 3 provides for the submission of a Fisheries Natura Plan in relation to planned fisheries; Regulation 4 provides for a screening of a Fisheries Natura Plan to determine whether or not an appropriate assessment is required; Regulation 5 provides for an appropriate assessment of a Fisheries Natura Plan and also provides for public and statutory consultation; Regulation 6 provides for the Minister to make a determination to adopt a Fisheries Natura Plan. The Minister may amend, withdraw or revoke a plan; Regulation 7 provides for publication of the adopted Fisheries Natura Plan; Regulation 8 provides for a Risk Assessment of unplanned fisheries and also provides for public and statutory consultation on the assessment; Regulation 9 provides for the issue of a Natura Declaration to prohibit, restrict including restricting by permit, control, etc. of sea fishing activities; Regulation 10 provides for Natura Permits to be issued where required by Natura Declarations; and Regulations 11 to 31 deal with functions of authorised officers and related matters, offences, etc. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Ireland's National Renewable Energy Action Plan 2010 (Irish Government submission to the European Commission) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) sets out the Government's strategic approach and concrete measures to deliver on Ireland's 16% target under Directive 2009/28/EC. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NREAP sets out the Member State's national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020, and demonstrates how the Member State will meet its overall national target established under the Directive. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Strategy for Renewable Energy (2012-2020) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government's overarching strategic objective is to make renewable energy an increasingly significant component of Ireland's energy supply by 2020, so that at a minimum it will achieve its legally binding 2020 target in the most cost-efficient manner for consumers. Of critical importance is the role which the renewable energy sector plays in job creation and economic activity as part of the Government's action plan for jobs. | <p>This document sets out five strategic goals, reflecting the key dimensions of the renewable energy challenge to 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing on and offshore wind, Building a sustainable bioenergy sector, Fostering R&D in renewables such as wave & tidal, Growing sustainable transport; and Building out robust and efficient networks. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Climate Mitigation Plan 2017 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Plan represents an initial step to set Ireland on a pathway to achieve the deep decarbonisation required in Ireland by mid-century in line with the Government's policy objectives. | <p>The National Mitigation Plan focuses on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Action Policy Framework Decarbonising Electricity Generation Decarbonising the Built Environment Decarbonising Transport An Approach to Carbon Neutrality for Agriculture, Forest and Land Use Sectors | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Clean Air Strategy [in preparation] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Clean Air Strategy will provide the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having a National Strategy will provide a policy framework by which Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation. The Strategy should also help tackle climate change. The Strategy will consider a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture. In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people's health is paramount and this will be a strong theme of the Strategy. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| EirGrid’s Grid25 Strategy and associated Grid25 Implementation Programme 2017-2022 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EirGrid’s mission is to develop, maintain and operate a safe, secure, reliable, economical and efficient transmission system for Ireland; <i>“Our vision is of a grid developed to match future needs, so it can safely and reliably carry power all over the country to the major towns and cities and onwards to every home, farm and business where the electricity is consumed and so it can meet the needs of consumers and generators in a sustainable way.”</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grid25, EirGrid’s roadmap to uprate the electricity transmission grid by 2025, continues to be implemented so as to increase the capacity of the grid, to satisfy future demand, and to help Ireland meet its target of 40 per cent of electricity from renewable energy by 2020. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The objective of this Strategy is to assist in the strategic development of nationally and regionally significant Greenways in appropriate locations constructed to an appropriate standard in order to deliver a quality experience for all Greenways users. It also aims to increase the number and geographical spread of Greenways of scale and quality around the country over the next 10 years with a consequent significant increase in the number of people using Greenways as a visitor experience and as a recreational amenity. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Strategic Greenway network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and/or link with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure; Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in activity tourism to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors, domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity; Greenways that provide a substantially segregated off road experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; and Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Water Resources Plan [in preparation] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NWRP is a plan on how to provide a safe, secure and reliable water supply to customers for the next 25 years, without causing adverse impact on the environment. The objective of the NWRP is to set out how we intend to maintain the supply and demand for drinking water over the short, medium and long term whilst minimising the impact on the environment. The preparation of the NWRP has been divided into two phases, the combination of which will become the final NWRP. The NWRP Framework Plan (Phase 1) has now been adopted. Phase 2 of the NWRP (four Regional Water Resources Plans), currently in preparation, will address the needs across the 535 individual water supplies and identify the solutions to address these needs. | <p>The key objectives of the plan are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account normal and extreme weather conditions Assess the current and future water demand from homes, businesses, farms, and industry Consider the impacts of climate change on Ireland’s water resources Develop a drought plan advising measures to be taken before and during drought events Develop a plan detailing how we deal with the material that is produced as a result of treating drinking water Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Development (2014-2020) | <p>Vision: <i>“Aquaculture in RC is economically, socially and ecologically sustainable, with a developed infrastructure, strong human potentials and an organized market. The consumption of aquaculture products is equal or above EU average, while the technological development of the sector is among the best in the EU.”</i></p> | <p>General development and growth objectives of marine and freshwater aquaculture (2014 – 2020):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the social, business and administrative environment for aquaculture development Increase in the total production to 24,050 tonnes while adhering to the principles of economic, social and ecological sustainability Improvement of the perception and increase in the national consumption of National products | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry. The Strategy aims both to increase the capacity of the sector to create and maintain jobs, and to deliver a sustainable sector, operating at an appropriate level. It seeks to learn the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated. | <p>This Strategy therefore addresses issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A strategic approach to the provision of housing, based on real and measured needs, with mechanisms in place to detect and act when things are going wrong; Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements; The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects; Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms; Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety; Ensuring a fit for purpose sector supported by a highly skilled workforce achieving high quality and standards; and Ensuring opportunities are provided to unemployed former construction workers to contribute to the recovery of the sector. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland (1997) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The overall aim of this Strategy is to ensure that economy and society in Ireland can develop to their full potential within a well-protected environment, without compromising the quality of that environment, and with responsibility towards present and future generations and the wider international community. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Strategy addresses all areas of Government policy, and of economic and societal activity, which impact on the environment. It seeks to re-orientate policies as necessary to ensure that the strong growth Ireland enjoys and seeks to maintain will be environmentally sustainable. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their |

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| National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character Assessment (pending preparation) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Landscape Strategy will be used to ensure compliance with the European Landscape Convention and to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change. It will provide a high-level policy framework to achieve balance between the protection, management and planning of the landscape by way of supporting actions. Landscape Strategy Vision: <i>"Our landscape reflects and embodies our cultural values and our shared natural heritage and contributes to the well-being of our society, environment and economy. We have an obligation to ourselves and to future generations to promote its sustainable protection, management and planning."</i> | <p>The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the European Landscape Convention by integrating landscape into the approach to sustainable development; Establish and embed a public process of gathering, sharing and interpreting scientific, technical and cultural information in order to carry out evidence-based identification and description of the character, resources and processes of the landscape; Provide a policy framework, which will put in place measures at national, sectoral - including agriculture, tourism, energy, transport and marine - and local level, together with civil society, to protect, manage and properly plan through high quality design for the sustainable stewardship of the landscape; Ensure that we take advantage of opportunities to implement policies relating to landscape use that are complementary and mutually reinforcing and that conflicting policy objectives are avoided in as far as possible. | <p>plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2014-2020 and new National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2022-2028 | <p>This Plan sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous plan and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous plan was published. Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996 as amended, sets out the overarching objectives for the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan. In this context, the following objectives are included as priorities for the revised Plan period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To prevent and reduce the generation of hazardous waste by industry and society generally; To maximise the collection of hazardous waste with a view to reducing the environmental and health impacts of any unregulated waste; To strive for increased self-sufficiency in the management of hazardous waste and to minimise hazardous waste export; To minimise the environmental, health, social and economic impacts of hazardous waste generation and management. | <p>The revised Plan makes 27 recommendations under the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention Collection Self-sufficiency Regulation Legacy issues North-south cooperation Guidance and awareness Implementation | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department produces a range of guidelines designed to help planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála, developers and the general public and cover a wide range of issues amongst others, architectural heritage, child care facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minister issues statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act which planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to in the performance of their planning functions. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vision is: <i>"A Healthy Ireland, where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone's responsibility."</i> | <p>These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012 | <p>A medium to long term framework for advancing sustainable development and the green economy in Ireland. It identifies spatial planning as a key challenge for sustainable development and sets a series of measures to address these challenges.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out the challenges facing us and how we might address them in making sure that quality of life and general wellbeing can be improved and sustained in the decades to come. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future – A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2020 (2009) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines a policy for how a sustainable travel and transport system can be achieved. Sets out five key goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce overall travel demand. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Others lower level aims include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reduce distance travelled by private car and encourage smarter travel, including focusing population growth in areas of employment and to encourage people to live in close proximity to places of employment | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o To maximise the efficiency of the transport network. o To reduce reliance on fossil fuels. o To reduce transport emissions. o To improve accessibility to transport. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o ensuring that alternatives to the car are more widely available, mainly through a radically improved public transport service and through investment in cycling and walking o improving the fuel efficiency of motorised transport through improved fleet structure, energy efficient driving and alternative technologies o strengthening institutional arrangements to deliver the targets | <p>Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Investing in our Future: A Strategic Framework for Investment in Land Transport (SFILT) – Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SFILT sets out a set of priorities to guide the allocation of the State’s investment to best develop and manage Ireland’s land transport network over the coming decades. | <p>The three priorities stated in SFILT are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 1: Achieve steady state maintenance (meaning that the maintenance and renewal of the existing transport system is at a sufficient level to maintain the system in an adequate condition); • Priority 2: Address urban congestion; and • Priority 3: Maximise the value of the road network. <p>In delivering on the steady state maintenance objective set out in SFILT, the Plan includes for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planned replacement programme for the bus fleet operated under Public Service Obligation (“PSO”) contracts; • Tram refurbishment and asset renewal in the case of light rail; and • To the extent within the Authority’ remit, support for the operation of the existing rail network within the GDA. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland – The Energy Policy Framework 2007 – 2020 (2007)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White paper setting out a framework for delivering a sustainable energy future in Ireland. • Outlines strategic Goals for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Security of Supply o Sustainability of Energy o Competitiveness of Energy Supply | <p>The underpinning Strategic Goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that electricity supply consistently meets demand • Ensuring the physical security and reliability of gas supplies to Ireland • Enhancing the diversity of fuels used for power generation • Delivering electricity and gas to homes and businesses over efficient, reliable and secure networks • Creating a stable attractive environment for hydrocarbon exploration and production • Being prepared for energy supply disruptions | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2018 and associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAF specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities in their administrative areas in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptation under this Framework should seek to minimise costs and maximise the opportunities arising from climate change. • Adaptation actions range from building adaptive capacity (e.g. increasing awareness, sharing information and targeted training) through to policy and finance-based actions. • Adaptation actions must be risk based, informed by existing vulnerabilities of our society and systems and an understanding of projected climate change. • Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>National Renewable Energy Action Plan (2010)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets out the Member State’s national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020, and demonstrates how the Member State will meet its overall national target established under the Directive. | <p>Including Ireland’s 16% target of gross final consumption to come from renewables by 2020.</p> | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland (2009 – 2020)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is the second National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Plan reviews the original 90 actions outlined in the first Plan and updates/renews/removes them as appropriate. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Wildlife Act of 1976 Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems • Give statutory protection to NHAs • Enhances wildlife species and their habitats • Includes more species for protection | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the</p> |

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| <p>Actions for Biodiversity (2017-2021) Ireland's National Biodiversity Plan</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out strategic objectives, targets and actions to conserve and restore Ireland's biodiversity and to prevent and reduce the loss of biodiversity in Ireland and globally. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To mainstream biodiversity in the decision-making process across all sectors. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity. To increase awareness and appreciation of biodiversity and ecosystems services. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider countryside. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the marine environment. To expand and improve on the management of protected areas and legally protected species. To substantially strengthen the effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services. | <p>regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>National Broadband Plan (2012)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out the strategy to deliver high speed broadband throughout Ireland. | <p>The Plan sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High-Speed Broadband. Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high-speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered. The strategy and interventions that will underpin the successful implementation of these targets. A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of 2003)</p> <p>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014)</p> <p>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation. Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water. Identifies the competent authorities in charge of water policy (amended to Irish Water in 2013) and gives EPA and the CER the authority to regulate and supervise their actions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implements River basin districts and characterisation of RBDs and River Basin Management Plans. Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on RBDs. Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies. Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body. Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances. Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater. Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies. Outlines surface water quality standards. Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations of 2010 (SI 9 of 2010)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transpose the requirements of the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC into Irish Legislation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for groundwater bodies of groundwater against pollution and deterioration in quality. Sets groundwater quality standards. Outlines threshold values for the classification and protection of groundwater. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Water Pollution Acts 1977 to 1990</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division. | <p>The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prosecute for water pollution offences. Attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters. Issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution. Issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remedying of any effects of the pollution in the manner and within the period specified in such notices; Seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects. Prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Water Services Act 2007</p> <p>Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012</p> <p>Water Services Act (No. 2) 2013</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides the water services infrastructure. Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services. Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and waste water supply. | <p>Key strategic objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring Irish Water delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector. Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services in the gateways and hubs listed in the National Spatial Strategy, and in other locations where | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irish Water was given the responsibility of the provision of water and waste water services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland. | <p>services need to be enhanced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary waste water treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Waste water Treatment Directive. | <p>and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Irish Water’s Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and associated Proposed Capital Investment Plan (2014-2016)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Water Services Strategic Plan sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040. It details current and future challenges which affect the provision of water services and identifies the priorities to be tackled in the short and medium term. | <p>Six strategic objectives as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet Customer Expectations. Ensure a Safe and Reliable Water Supply. Provide Effective Management of Waste water. Protect and Enhance the Environment. Support Social and Economic Growth. Invest in the Future. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Areas</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims to meet nature conservation obligations while having regard to national and local economic, social and cultural needs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the implications of management choices for water levels, quantity and quality are fully explored, understood and factored into policy making and land use planning. Review the current raised bog NHA network in terms of its contribution to the national conservation objective for raised bog habitats and determine the most suitable sites to replace the losses of active raised bog habitat and high bog areas within the SAC network and to enhance the national network of NHAs. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Agri-Food Strategy 2030</p> | <p>This 10-year Strategy sets out four high-level “Missions” to be achieved in order to develop such a system in Ireland:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector Viable and Resilient Primary Producers with Enhanced Wellbeing Food that is Safe, Nutritious and Appealing, Trusted and Valued at Home and Abroad An Innovative, Competitive and Resilient Sector, driven by Technology and Talent | <p>Each of the Missions has a set of Goals which are underpinned by a series of Actions.</p> | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Agri-vision 2015 Action Plan</p> | <p>Outlines the vision for agricultural industry to improve competitiveness and response to market demand while respecting and enhancing the environment</p> | <p>not applicable</p> | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS) Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS) Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection. GLAS is the new replacement for REPS and AEOS which are both expiring. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation. Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats. Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment. Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans. Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>National Rural Development Programme</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas | <p>At a more detailed level, the programme also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation; Aims to improve the environment, biodiversity and the amenity value of the countryside by support for land management through funds such as Natura 2000 payments etc.; and Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as non-agricultural activities | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |

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| National Forestry Programme (2014-2020) | Represents Ireland's proposals for 100% State aid funding for a new Forestry Programme for the period 2014 – 2020. | Measures include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Afforestation and Creation of Woodland NeighbourWood Scheme Forest Roads Reconstitution Scheme Woodland Improvement Scheme Native Woodland Conservation Scheme Knowledge Transfer and Information Actions Producer Groups Innovative Forest Technology Forest Genetic Reproductive Material Forest Management Plans | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022-2027 3rd Cycle [in preparation] | This draft River Basin Management Plan sets out the measures that are necessary to protect and restore water quality in Ireland. The overall aim of the plan is to ensure that our natural waters are sustainably managed and that freshwater resources are protected so as to maintain and improve Ireland's water environment. | The River Basin Management Plan sets out the measures necessary to protect and improve the quality of Ireland's waters. These plans are prepared in 6-year cycles, during which a programme of measures must be implemented so as to achieve water quality objectives. Good water quality contributes to protecting human health by improving the quality of drinking water sources and bathing waters. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025) | This Strategy aims to provide a long-term framework within which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and economic contribution to the well-being of this and future generations. | Objectives of the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To give direction to Ireland's approach to peatland management. To apply to all peatlands, including peat soils. To ensure that the relevant State authorities and state-owned companies that influence such decisions contribute to meeting cross-cutting objectives and obligations in their policies and actions. To ensure that Ireland's peatlands are sustainably managed so that their benefits can be enjoyed responsibly. To inform appropriate regulatory systems to facilitate good decision making in support of responsible use. To inform the provision of appropriate incentives, financial supports and disincentives where required. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive. | CFRAM Studies have been undertaken for all River Basin Districts. The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. Flood Risk and Hazard mapping, including Flood Extent Mapping, was finalised in 2017. The final outputs from the studies are the CFRAM Plans, finalised in 2018. The Plans define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 - 2020 | The Draft Bioenergy Plan sets out a vision as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bioenergy resources contributing to economic development and sustainable growth, generating jobs for citizens, supported by coherent policy, planning and regulation, and managed in an integrated manner. | Three high level goals, of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To harness the market opportunities presented by bioenergy in order to achieve economic development, growth and jobs. To increase awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits of developing bioenergy. To ensure that bioenergy developments do not adversely impact the environment and its living and non-living resources. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE) 2016 | Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2009/28/EC: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources. | Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| Legislation, Plan, etc. | Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective | Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc. | Relevance to the Plan |
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| National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017- 2030 | This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework. | Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFV forecasts • Electricity targets • Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets • Hydrogen targets • Biofuels targets • LPG targets • Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Food Wise 2025 (DAFM) | Food Wise 2025 sets out a ten-year plan for the agri-food sector. It underlines the sector’s unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further. | Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 85% increase in exports to €19 billion. • 70% increase in value added to €13 billion. • 60% increase in primary production to €10 billion. • The creation of 23,000 additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high-end value-added product development. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Cycle Network Scoping Study 2010 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlines objectives and actions aimed at developing a strong cycle network in Ireland • Sets out 19 specific objectives, and details the 109 actions, aimed at ensuring that a cycling culture is developed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets a target where 10% of all journeys will be made by bike by 2020 • Proposes the planning, infrastructure, communication, education and stakeholder participations measures required to implement the initiative | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Policy Framework for Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport represents the first step in communicating our longer-term national vision for decarbonising transport by 2050, the cornerstone of which is our ambition that by 2030 all new cars and vans sold in Ireland will be zero-emissions capable. • By 2030 it is envisaged that the movement in Ireland to electrically-fuelled cars and commuter rail will be well underway, with natural gas and biofuels developing as major alternatives in the freight and bus sectors. | This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce overall travel demand • Maximise the efficiency of the transport network • Reduce reliance on fossil fuels • Reduce transport emissions • Improve accessibility to transport <p>These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework.</p> | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021 | The Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021 sets out actions that the Tourism Leadership Group has identified as priorities to be progressed until 2021 in order to maintain sustainable growth in overseas tourism revenue and employment. Each action involves specific tourism stakeholders, both in the public and private sectors, all of whom we expect to proactively work towards the completion of actions within the specified timeframe. | The Plan contains 27 actions focusing on the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Context • Marketing Ireland as a Visitor Destination • Enhancing the Visitor Experience • Research in the Irish Tourism Sector • Supporting Local Communities in Tourism • Wider Government Policy • International Context • Co-ordination Structures | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025 | The main goal of this policy statement is to have a vibrant, attractive tourism sector that makes a significant contribution to employment across the country; is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable; helps promote a positive image of Ireland overseas, and is a sector in which people want to work. | The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overseas tourism revenue of €5 billion per year net of inflation excluding carrier receipts; • 250,000 people employed in tourism; and • 10 million overseas visitors to Ireland per year. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| Legislation, Plan, etc. | Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective | Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc. | Relevance to the Plan |
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| Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCA) | Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2009/28/EC: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources. | Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála. Methodology: Development of the Policy and Development Framework is to be informed by the carrying out of an SEA, including widespread consultation with stakeholders and public, and with AA under the Habitats Directive. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017- 2030 | This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework. | Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFV forecasts • Electricity targets • Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets • Hydrogen targets • Biofuels targets • LPG targets Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 | The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is an island-wide attempt to reverse declines in pollinating insects to ensure the sustainability of our food, avoid additional economic impacts on agriculture, and protect the health of the environment. The main objectives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making farmland, public land and private land in Ireland pollinator friendly; • Raising awareness of pollinators and how to protect them; • Managed pollinators – supporting beekeepers and growers; • Expanding our knowledge of pollinators and pollination service; and • Collecting evidence to track change and measure success. | This voluntary Plan identified 81 actions, shared out between over 100 governmental and non-governmental organisations. A large focus of the Plan is to identify actions to improve the quality and amount of flower-rich habitat. Actions range from creating pollinator highways along our transport routes, to supporting pollinators on farmland, in gardens, businesses, and on public land. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) NI | The SPPS consolidates some twenty separate policy publications into one document and sets out strategic subject planning policy for a wide range of planning matters. It also provides the core planning principles to underpin delivery of the two-tier planning system with the aim of furthering sustainable development. | The overall objective of the planning system is to further sustainable development and improve well-being for the people of the North. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Regional/ County/Local Level | | | |
| Northern and Western Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy 2020-2032 | The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy provides a long-term strategic planning and economic framework for the Northern and Western Region in order to support the implementation of the National Planning Framework. | The Northern and Western Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its nine constituent local authorities: Donegal County Council; Leitrim County Council; Cavan County Council; Monaghan County Council; Cavan County Council; Mayo County Council; Sligo County Council; Galway City Council; Galway County Council. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Integrated Implementation Plan 2019-2024 | The Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035, which established an overall framework for transport investment over the next two decades and was subject to full SEA and Stage 2 AA, is a key policy shaping the six-year Integrated Infrastructure Plan. The priorities in the Integrated Infrastructure Plan align with the objectives and priorities set out in the Transport Strategy, focused on improving public and sustainable transport. | The Implementation Plan identifies investment proposals for a number of areas including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus; • Light Rail; • Heavy Rai; • Integration Measures and Sustainable Transport Investment; • Integrated Service Plan; and • Integration and Accessibility. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs | Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site • To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation objectives for SACs and SPAs (i.e. sites within the Natura 2000 network) have to be set for the habitats and species for which the sites are selected. • These objectives are used when carrying out appropriate assessments for plans and projects that might impact on these sites. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To describe the site and its management To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives | | Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Groundwater Protection Schemes | A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater. | A Groundwater Protection Scheme aims to maintain the quantity and quality of groundwater, and in some cases improve it, by applying a risk assessment-based approach to groundwater protection and sustainable development. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Regional Development Strategy 2035 (Northern Ireland) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spatial strategy for the future development of Northern Ireland. Strategic planning framework to facilitate and guide public and private sectors. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims to provide long-term policy direction with a strategic spatial perspective. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| NI Regional Landscape Character Assessment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In recognising the importance of sustaining local identity, the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) has commissioned Landscape Character Assessments of Northern Ireland from environmental consultants, which resulted in the identification of distinct character areas within Northern Ireland. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Northern Ireland Regional Landscape Character Assessment provides a strategic overview of the landscape in Northern Ireland and subdivides the countryside into 26 Regional Landscape Character Areas based upon information on people and place and the combinations of nature, culture and perception which make each part of Northern Ireland unique. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| NI Regional Seascape Character Assessment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this study is to provide a strategic understanding of different areas of regional seascape character along the entire Northern Ireland coast, complementing similar assessments undertaken elsewhere in the UK. This will contribute to the aims of the European Landscape Convention through promoting the protection, management and planning of the seascape, and to support the European cooperation in landscape issues. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and map the different regional seascape character areas. Describe the key features and characteristics of each seascape character area. Relate the description of each seascape character area to its neighbouring terrestrial landscape character areas (as described in the NI Landscape Character Assessment, 2000) and take account of boundaries identified in relation to neighbouring seascape areas for the British and Irish coastline. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028 and other Land Use Plans in force within Cavan and in other adjoining planning authorities. This includes Development Plans and Local Area Plans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline planning objectives for land use development. Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies. Set out the policies and proposals to guide development in the specific Local Authority area. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify future infrastructure, development and zoning required. Protect and enhances amenities and environment. Guide planning authority in assessing proposals. Aim to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development. Aim to promote sustainable development. Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| County Cavan Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Character Assessments in adjoining counties | Characterises the geographical dimension of the landscape. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area. Guides strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| Cavan County Local Biodiversity Action Plan | The Cavan County Local Biodiversity Action Plan translates International, European and National legislation and obligations in relation to biodiversity at a local level. The preparation and adoption of this plan will provide a framework for the conservation of biodiversity. It will assist sustainable planning and development and raise public awareness of biodiversity through engaging a number of people from wide ranging sectors. | The over main aims of the Cavan County Local Biodiversity Action Plan are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To conserve, protect and manage biodiversity throughout County Cavan in line with the Cavan County Heritage Plan To sustain the rich and diverse natural heritage of County Cavan for present and future generations To enable the people of the County to cherish and celebrate their natural heritage To ensure that natural heritage related matters are communicated effectively to all sectors. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Cavan Noise Action Plan 2019 | Noise Action Plans are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, Statutory Instrument 140 of 2006. These Regulations give effect to the EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. This Directive sets out a process for managing environmental noise in a consistent manner across the EU and the Noise Regulations set out the approach to meeting the requirements of the Directive in Ireland. | The main purpose of Noise Action Plans is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures which may be considered to address noise problems Address strategic noise issues by requiring competent authorities to draw up action plans to manage noise issues and their effects Reduce noise, where possible, and maintain the environmental acoustic quality where it is good | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Cavan County Council's Climate Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 and Local Authority Climate Action Charter | Response to the impact that the climate change is having and will continue to have on the County of Cavan and its citizens. It addresses how Cavan County as an organisation responds to the impacts of Climate Change. The Climate Action Charter, of which, Cavan County Council is a signatory place a commitment on the Local Authority to provide a framework for carbon-proofing major decisions, programmes and projects such as investment in infrastructure and energy. Accordingly, the Climate Action Charter signed by Cavan County Council has informed the preparation of this Plan and the commitments therein are reflected in the various climate, energy and environmental related policy objectives throughout this document. | The Plans' objectives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure a proper comprehension of the key risks and vulnerabilities of climate change; Bring forward the implementation of climate resilient actions in a planned and proactive manner; and Ensure that climate adaptation considerations are mainstreamed into all plans and policies and integrated into all operations and functions of the local authority. In line with the Local Authority Climate Action Charter, Cavan County Council committed to deliver a 50% improvement in energy efficiency in the operations of the Local Authority by 2030. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| County Cavan Tourism Statement of Strategy and Work Programme 2017-2022 | This statement of strategy sets out a clear roadmap to grow the tourism sector in Cavan in the years ahead. | The objectives for the Tourism Strategy are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Tourism Marketing Fund Develop Cavan Tourism Network Rebrand/Remarket the County Build on the Capacity and Engagement of Stakeholders (State, Regional & Community) Development/Investment in Flagship Projects Development of Blueway/Shannon Corridor Maximise potential for transport link including IWAK (Ireland West Airport Knock Support Flagship Festival through Festival Funding | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Connaught Ulster Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021 | These plans give effect to national and EU waste policy, and address waste prevention and management (including generation, collection and treatment) over the period 2015-2021. | To manage wastes in a safe and compliant manner, a clear strategy, policies and actions are required. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Cavan County Council Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 | Under the National Climate Action Plan 2023, Cavan County Council is required to prepare a locally specific climate action plan for their administrative areas. Once adopted, the plan will be valid for five years, and is subject to update at least every five years. Cavan County Council's Climate Action Plan is being prepared and are required to be adopted before 24th February 2024. These plans will contribute towards addressing the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions, climate change adaptation, and strengthening the alignment between national climate policy and the delivery of local climate action. | Through the development and implementation of specific, action-focused, time-bound and measurable actions, local authority climate action plans will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a strong emphasis on a place-based approach to climate action, delivering a better understanding of greenhouse gas emissions and climate-related risks at a local level, while addressing context-specific conditions and support for locally tailored policy making. Deliver and promote evidence-based and integrated climate action by way of adaptation and mitigation measures, centred around a strong understanding of the role and remit of the local authority on climate action. Translate and provide strategic direction at local and community levels on the delivery of the national climate objective which is seeking to curb further global warming and to transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy by no later than the end of 2050. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| Legislation, Plan, etc. | Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective | Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc. | Relevance to the Plan |
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| <p>Fáilte Ireland Tourism plans and strategies, including those relating to the Ireland's Ancient East and Ireland's Hidden Heartlands brands</p> | <p>Fáilte Ireland's work includes preparing various plans and strategies for Ireland's Ancient East and other brands and initiatives. These plans are subject to their own environmental assessment processes and any project arising is required to be consistent with and conform with the provisions of all adopted/approved Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes, including provisions for the protection and management of the environment.</p> | <p>Some of Fáilte Ireland's plans and strategies include various projects relating to land use and infrastructural development, including those relating to development of land on or land and the carrying out of land use activities. Many of these projects exist already while some are not currently in existence.</p> <p>The Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes that provide for different projects undergo a variety of environmental assessments. These assessments ensure that environmental effects are considered, including: those arising from new and intensified uses and activities; and those arising from various sectors such as tourism.</p> | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Various existing, planned and emerging projects provided for by the above plans and programmes</p> | <p>These projects have been provided for by higher-level plans and programmes.</p> | <p>These projects will contribute towards the development of the area to which the Plan relates and/or wider area and will contribute towards environmental protection and management.</p> | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |