

APPENDIX II NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

OF THE

DRAFT WICKLOW COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2010-2016

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT



For: Wicklow County Council

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SEPTEMBER 2009



Table of Contents

Section 1	Introduction and Terms of Reference	1
Section 2	The Draft Development Plan	2
2.1	Structure and Content.....	2
2.2	Vision and Goals.....	2
Section 3	Existing Environment	4
3.1	Introduction	4
3.2	Biodiversity and Flora and Fauna.....	4
3.3	Population and Human Health.....	5
3.4	Soil and Geology.....	6
3.5	Water	7
3.6	Air and Climatic Factors.....	10
3.7	Material Assets	11
3.8	Cultural Heritage	12
3.9	Landscape	14
3.10	Overlay Mapping of Environmental Sensitivities	15
Section 4	Alternative Plan Scenarios	16
4.1	Introduction	16
4.2	Description of Alternative Plan Scenarios	16
4.3	Evaluation of the Alternative Plan Scenarios	19
Section 5	Mitigation and Monitoring Measures	28
5.1	Mitigation.....	28
5.2	Monitoring	28



Section 1 Introduction and Terms of Reference

This is the Non-Technical Summary of the Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The purpose of the Environmental Report is to provide a clear understanding of the likely environmental consequences of decisions regarding the future accommodation of growth in certain areas of Wicklow.

What is an SEA?

SEA is a systematic process of predicting and evaluating the likely environmental effects of implementing a proposed plan, or other strategic action, in order to ensure that these effects are appropriately addressed at the earliest appropriate stage of decision-making on a par with economic and social considerations.

Why is it needed?

The SEA is being carried out in order to comply with the provisions of the SEA Regulations and in order to improve planning and environmental management within Wicklow. The output of the process will be an Environmental Report which should be read in conjunction with the Draft County Development Plan.

How does it work?

All of the main environmental issues in Wicklow are assembled and presented to the team who are preparing the new Plan. This helps them to devise a plan that protects whatever is sensitive in the environment. It also helps to identify wherever there are environmental problems in the area - so that these won't get any worse - and ideally the plan tries to improve these.

To decide how best to make a plan that protects the environment as much as possible the planners examine alternative versions of the plan. This helps to highlight the type of plans that are least likely to harm the environment.

What is included in the Environmental Report which accompanies the Draft Plan?

The Environmental Report contains the following information:

- A description of the environment and the key environmental issues;
- A description and assessment of alternatives for the Plan;
- An assessment of Plan policies and objectives; and,
- Mitigation measures which will aid compliance with important environmental protection legislation - e.g. the Water Framework Directive, the Habitats Directive - and which will avoid/reduce the environmental effects of implementing the Plan.

What happens at the end of the process?

When the Draft Plan is adopted a document must be made public, referred to as the SEA Statement.

The SEA Statement must include information on how environmental considerations have been integrated into the Plan and why the preferred alternative was chosen for the Plan in light of the other alternatives - this introduces accountability, credibility and transparency into the Plan-making process.



Section 2 The Draft Development Plan

2.1 Structure and Content

The Plan consists of a written statement and accompanying maps and appendices. The written statement consists of 18 chapters as follows:

- Chapter 1: Introduction
- Chapter 2: Strategic Context
- Chapter 3: Vision and Strategic Goals
- Chapter 4: Population, Housing and Settlement
- Chapter 5: Urban Development
- Chapter 6: Rural Housing
- Chapter 7: Employment, Enterprise and Economic Development
- Chapter 8: The Rural Economy
- Chapter 9: Tourism
- Chapter 10: Retail
- Chapter 11: Roads and Transportation
- Chapter 12: Water Infrastructure
- Chapter 13: Waste and Environmental Emissions
- Chapter 14: Energy and Communications
- Chapter 15: Social and Community Infrastructure, including open space
- Chapter 16: Built Heritage
- Chapter 17: Natural Environment
- Chapter 18: Coastal Zone Management

2.2 Vision and Goals

The Draft Plan puts forward the following vision for the County:

For County Wicklow to be a cohesive community of people enjoying distinct but interrelated urban and rural environments; where natural surroundings and important resources are protected; where opportunities abound to live and work in a safe atmosphere, allowing people to enjoy the benefits of well paid jobs, a variety of housing choices, excellent public services, ample cultural and leisure opportunities, and a healthy environment

In order to help implement this vision, the Plan sets out a number of strategic goals that underpin all the policies and objectives of the Plan. These strategic goals are as follows:

Goal 1: To implement the overarching guidance offered by the National Spatial Strategy 2002 – 2020, the National Development Plan 2007 – 2013, the Regional Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area 2004 – 2016, and manage the spatial organisation of the County in an efficient sustainable manner.

Goal 2: To facilitate and encourage the growth of employment, enterprise and economic activity in the County, across all economic sectors and in all areas.

Goal 3: To integrate land use planning with transportation planning, with the dual aim of reducing the distance that people need to travel to work, shops, schools and places of recreation and social interaction, and facilitating the delivery of improved public transport.

Goal 4: To enhance existing housing areas and to provide for high quality new housing, at appropriate locations and to ensure the development of a range of house types, sizes and tenures in order to meet the differing needs of all in society and to promote balanced communities.



Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 SEA
Appendix II Non Technical Summary

Goal 5: To maintain and enhance the viability and vibrancy of settlements, to ensure that towns and villages remain at the heart of the community and provide a wide range of retail, employment, social, recreational and infrastructural facilities.

Goal 6: To protect and enhance the County's rural assets and recognise the housing, employment, social and recreational needs of those in rural areas

Goal 7: To protect and improve the County's transport, water, waste, energy and communications infrastructure, whilst having regard to our responsibilities to respect areas protected for their important flora, fauna or other natural features

Goal 8: To promote and facilitate the development of sustainable communities through land use planning, by providing for land uses capable of accommodating community, leisure, recreational and cultural facilities, accessible to and meeting the needs of all individuals and local community groups, in tandem with the delivery of residential and physical infrastructure in order to create a quality built environment in which to live.

Goal 9: To protect and enhance the diversity of the County's natural and built heritage

Goal 10: To address the climate change challenge, as a plan dynamic, throughout the County Plan, directly in the areas of flooding and renewal energy, and indirectly by integrating climate change and sustainable development into statements of plan policy, strategies and objectives.



Section 3 Existing Environment

3.1 Introduction

The environmental baseline of County Wicklow is described in this section. This baseline together with the Strategic Environmental Objectives, which are outlined in Section 4 of the Environmental Report, is used in order to identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant environmental effects of implementing the Draft County Development Plan and in order to determine appropriate monitoring measures.

3.2 Biodiversity and Flora and Fauna

3.2.1 CORINE Land Cover Mapping¹

The CORINE land cover mapping² for Wicklow for the year 2000 which classifies land cover under various headings indicates that land cover in about half of the County is generally made up of *Pastures* interspersed with areas of *Non-Irrigated Arable Land*, *Complex Cultivation Patterns* and *Transitional Woodland Scrub*. The remaining area, covering the Uplands, comprises primarily *Peat Bogs* with *Coniferous Forest*, *Broad Leaved Forest* and *Mixed Forest* occurring throughout. *Sport and Leisure Facilities*, *Beaches*, *Dunes*, *Sand*, *Salt Marches* and *Lagoons* occur along the coastline.

3.2.2 Ecological Networks

Article 10 of the Habitats Directive recognises the importance of ecological networks as corridors and stepping stones for wildlife, including for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of species of flora and fauna. Within and surrounding the County, the ecological networks are made up of components including the Avoca, Vartry, Avonmore, Aughrim, Ow, Liffey, Derry Water, Avonbeg and Slaney Rivers and their tributaries and banks, the various woodlands, parks, gardens and hedgerows within and surrounding the Plan area and lands used for agriculture.

3.2.3 Designations

County Wicklow has one National Park, six³ Special Protection Areas (SPAs), thirteen Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), thirty (proposed) Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) and six Nature Reserves. Site synopses for the SACs and SPAs can be found in Appendix III.

3.2.4 Existing Problems

Generally, development in Wicklow has not significantly impacted upon designated ecological sites however site synopses for these sites identify certain threats to the conservation value of these sites. Such threats include: grazing by sheep and deer in the woodlands of the Wicklow Uplands, disturbance of species and habitats by recreational use of designated sites and agricultural practices.

¹ European Environment Agency Coordination of Information on the Environment (2004) *Ireland's Corine Land Cover 2000 (CLC2000)* Copenhagen: EEA

² CORINE Land Cover (CLC) is a map of the European environmental landscape based on interpretation of satellite images. Land cover is the observed physical cover, as seen from the ground or through remote sensing, including for example natural or planted vegetation, water and human constructions which cover the earth's surface. Because of the scale of the CORINE data and the method by which it was collected there are likely to be a number of inaccuracies at the local level. It is noted, however, that the land cover shown on the maps is generally accurate. The European Environment Agency, in conjunction with the European Space Agency, the European Commission and member countries is currently updating the CORINE land cover database.

³ Awaiting confirmation from NPWS



Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 SEA
Appendix II Non Technical Summary

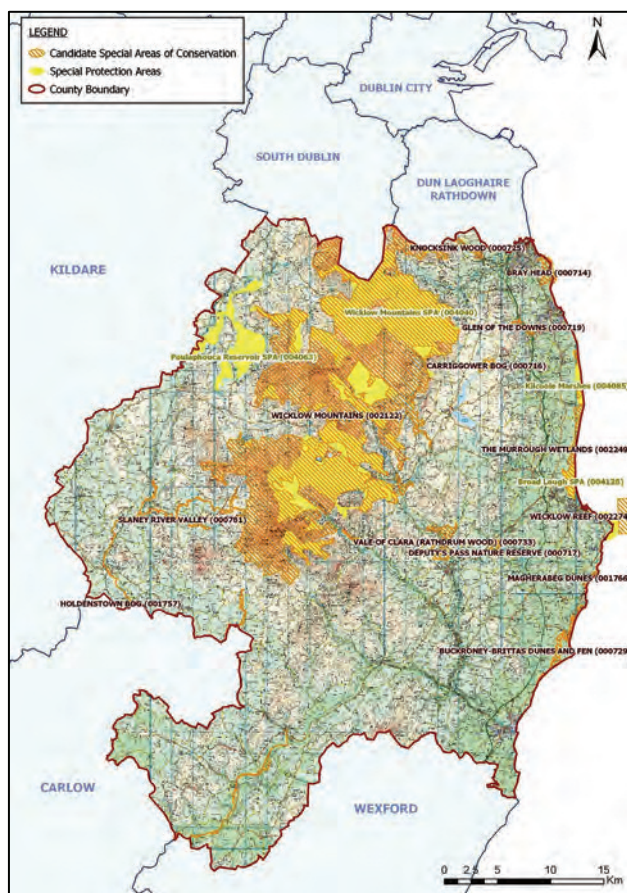


Figure 3.1 Natura 2000 Sites

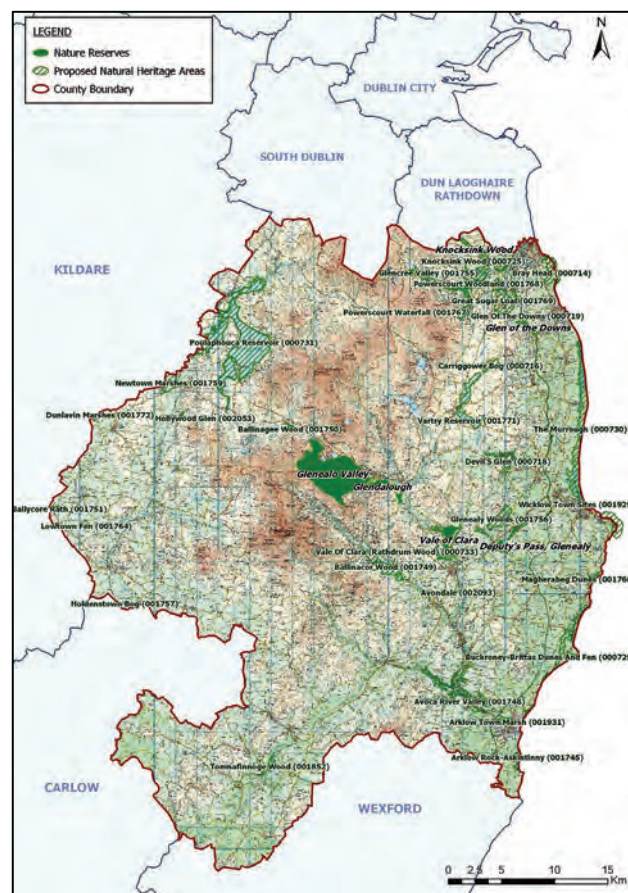


Figure 3.2 Nature Reserves and pNHAs

3.3 Population⁴ and Human Health

County Wicklow has been experiencing an upward trend in population growth since 1991. The most recent Census recorded a growth rate of 10.04% for the period from 2002-2006, higher than the national average of 8.2% for the same period.

Human health has the potential to be impacted upon by environmental vectors (i.e. environmental components such as air, water or soil through which contaminants or pollutants, which have the potential to cause harm, can be transported so that they come into contact with human beings). Hazards or nuisances to human health can arise as a result of exposure to these vectors arising from incompatible adjacent land uses for example. These factors have been considered with regard to the description of: the baseline of each environmental component; and the identification and evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing the Plan and the alternatives.

3.3.1 Existing Problems

Certain environmental vectors within the Plan area - such as air, water or soil - have the potential to transport and deposit contaminants or pollutants, which have the potential to cause harm and adversely impact upon the health of the area's population. IPPC licensed facilities and Seveso sites could be potential polluters to the Plan area if the facilities do not comply with their licenses. Wicklow is vulnerable to adverse effects from small changes in sea level combined with changes in the occurrence of severe rainfall events and associated flooding of the rivers and streams in the Plan area. Flooding is an environmental phenomenon which in certain circumstances could pose a risk to human health.

⁴ CSO (various) *Census 2006 Volume 1 - Population Classified by Area; Census 2002 Volume 1 - Population Classified by Area; Census 1996 Volume 1 - Population Classified by Area* Cork: CSO.



Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 SEA
Appendix II Non Technical Summary

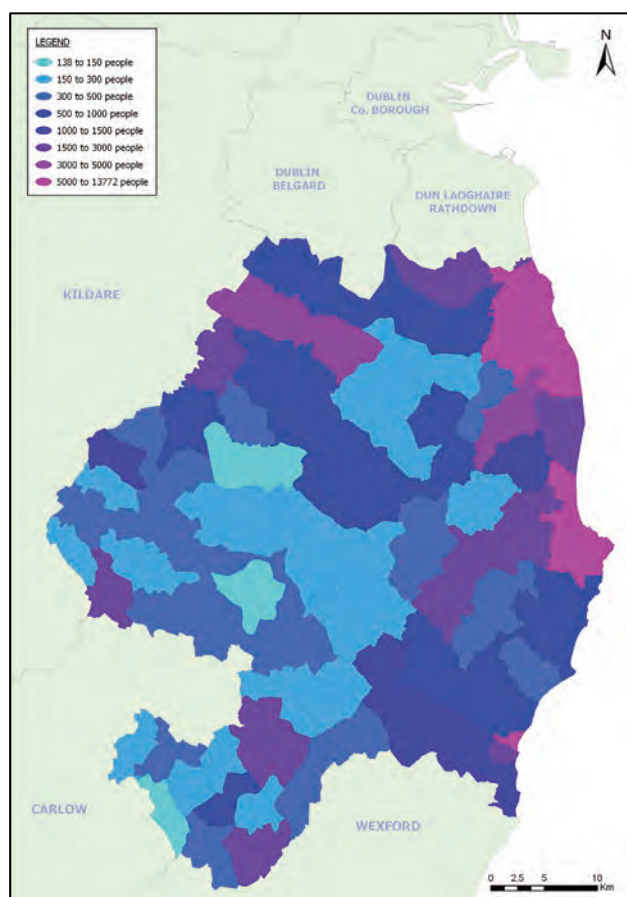


Figure 3.3 Population 2006

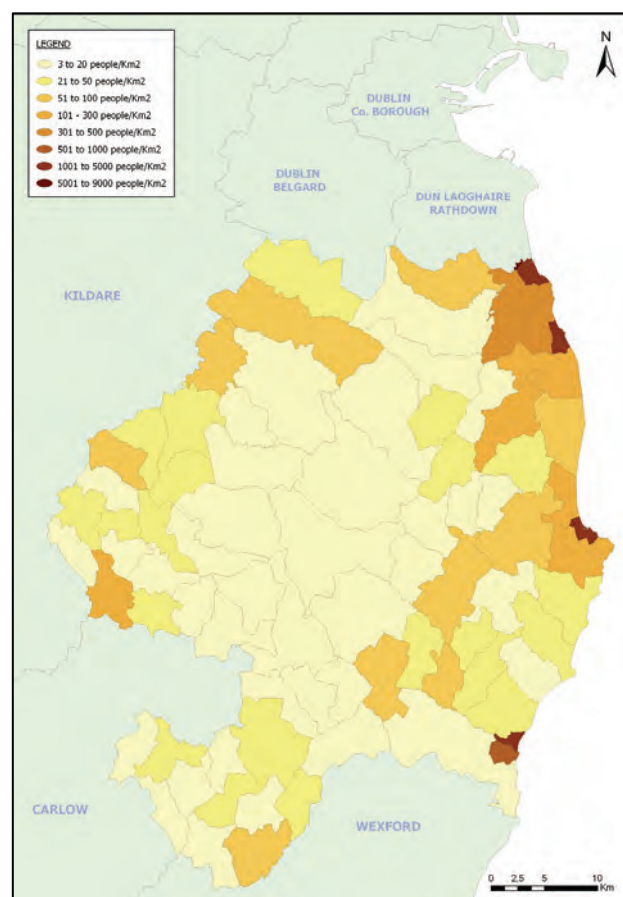


Figure 3.4 Population Density 2006

3.4 Soil and Geology

Soil is the top layer of the earth's crust. It is formed by mineral particles, organic matter, water, air and living organisms. Soil can be considered as a non-renewable natural resource because it develops over very long timescales. It is an extremely complex, variable and living medium and performs many vital functions including: food and other biomass production, storage, filtration and transformation of many substances including water, carbon, and nitrogen. Soil has a role as a habitat and gene pool, serves as a platform for human activities, landscape and heritage and acts as a provider of raw materials. Such functions of soil are worthy of protection because of their socio-economic as well as environmental importance.

The biodiversity, flora and fauna detailed under Section 3.2 in the Environmental Report are facilitated by these soils, as is an extent of agricultural land use. A large part of the Plan area is covered by blanket peat. This occurs mainly in the Uplands. The soils and habitats of Wicklow have been influenced by the area's underlying geology. County Wicklow has a long and rich heritage of mining. The main areas of mining activity were the Avoca Valley, Glendalough and Glendasan Valleys and in Glenmalure.

3.4.1 Existing Problems relating to Soil

Greenfield development involves the building upon and thereby sealing off of soil thus representing an environmental problem.

Soil has the potential to be polluted and contaminated as a result of pollution from development which is not serviced by appropriate waste water infrastructure and from agricultural sources.

Soil erosion due mainly to surface erosion resulting from construction works and agricultural / forestry / quarrying / mining operations has major potential to impact on water quality and fishery resources.



In addition to water quality and fishery impacts, these can impact on infrastructure and can have health and safety implication.

3.5 Water

3.5.1 Potential Pressures on Water Quality

Human activities, if not properly managed, can cause deterioration in water quality. Pressures exerted by human activities include the following:

- sewage and other effluents discharged to waters from point sources, e.g. pipes from treatment plants;
- discharges arising from diffuse or dispersed activities on land;
- abstractions from waters; and
- structural alterations to water bodies.

3.5.2 The Water Framework Directive

3.5.2.1 Introduction and Requirements

Since 2000, Water Management in the EU has been directed by the Water Framework Directive The WFD requires that all Member States implement the necessary measures to prevent deterioration of the status of all waters with the aim of achieving good status by 2015.

3.5.2.2 WFD Risk Assessments

In order to achieve the objectives of the WFD it is necessary:

- to assess the risk that water bodies may not achieve good quality status;
- to identify the pressures from human activities causing this risk; and,
- to develop strategies and management plans to minimise the risk.

In terms of achieving the WFD's objectives by 2015, most of the Counties rivers are currently classified as being *(1a) at significant risk* or *(1b) probably at significant risk* of failing to achieve the WFD's objectives by 2015. Reasons for rivers being *(1a) at significant risk* include: Section 4 (Local Authority licensed discharges) and Water treatment plants and other pressures, EPA Biological Q rating and intensive landuse.

Four lakes are classified as being *(1a) at significant risk*, four lakes are classified as *(1b) probably at significant risk* and one each is classified as being *(2a) probably not at significant risk* and *(2b) not at significant risk*.

The coastal waters stretching from the north of the County (Southwestern Irish Sea - Killiney Bay, code: IE_EA_100_0000) are classified as being *(1a) at significant risk* as far as Brittas Bay (Southwestern Irish Sea - Brittas Bay, code: IE_EA_140_0000) where the catagorisation changes to *(1b) probably at significant risk*.

The majority of the Plan area is underlain by groundwater classified as *(2a) probably not at significant risk*. A large area in the central and south eastern part of the Plan area is classified as being *(1a) at significant risk*. Some smaller areas classified as being *(1b) probably at significant risk* exist in the south east, north east, north west and west of the County.

3.5.2.3 WFD Registers of Protected Areas

In addition to the these assessments, the WFD requires that Registers of Protected Areas (RPAs) are compiled for a number water bodies or part of water bodies which must have extra controls on their quality by virtue of how their waters are used by people and by wildlife. Stretches of various rivers in the County are listed on the RPA for Drinking Water. Ground water underlying the County is also listed on the RPA for Drinking Water. Water bodies in the uplands are on the RPA for Water Dependent Habitats. The Slaney, Vartry and Dargle are also listed on the RPA for Water Dependent Species and Habitats.



3.5.3 Water Quality

Water quality of rivers is monitored by the EPA at a number of locations throughout the County. The EPA's water quality data identifies thirty-six locations throughout the County achieving Q4-5 or Q5⁵ "high status". Twenty-nine locations achieved Q4 "good status", sixteen achieved "moderate status", eleven are of Q2-3, Q3 "poor status" and at one location, water quality is of Q2, Q1-2, Q1 "bad status".

The Vartry and Pollaphuca Reservoirs and the Dan and Bray Lower Lakes are the lakes in the Plan area which are monitored by the EPA. Bathing water quality at Bray, Greystones and Silver Strand is compliant with Guide Values. Bathing water at Clogga Beach in south Wicklow is compliant with Mandatory Values. Bathing water at Brittas Bay North and Brittas Bay South is non-compliant with Mandatory Values.

3.5.4 Groundwater Vulnerability

The Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) rates aquifers according to their vulnerability to pollution. Aquifer vulnerability refers to the ease with which pollutants of various kinds can enter underground water.

Groundwater underlying County Wicklow is mainly classed as Extreme with much of that area being rock surface/karst. The eastern boundary, particularly in the south east and the mid west at the boundary are classified as low or moderate. The remainder of the Plan area is classified as being of high vulnerability.

3.5.5 Ground Productivity

The GSI rates aquifers based on the hydrogeological characteristics and on the value of the groundwater resource. Ireland's entire land surface is divided into nine aquifer categories.

The Plan area is generally underlain by poorly productive bedrock aquifers, which are generally unproductive except for local zones. Some small areas are underlain by gravel, mainly in the north of the County.

3.5.6 Flooding

Flooding is an environmental phenomenon which, as well as having causing economic and social impacts, could in certain circumstances pose a risk to human health. Wicklow is vulnerable to adverse effects from changes in the occurrence of severe rainfall events and associated flooding of the County's rivers combined with small changes in sea level.

Flood events in the County, as identified by the Office of Public Works, occur along the Slaney, Grece and Avonbeg Rivers and at estuarine locations on the Vartry, Avoca and Dargle Rivers.

3.5.7 Existing Problems

The above descriptions identify a number of sensitivities with regard to the status of water bodies within the Wicklow Plan area. By virtue of how they are used by people and by wildlife, a number of beaches, rivers and all underlying groundwater are listed on the Registers of Protected Areas under the Water Framework Directive. Most rivers, all transitional and coastal waters, most lakes and some underlying groundwater within and surrounding the County are "at significant risk" or "probably at significant risk" with regard to meeting legislative water quality objectives under the Water Framework Directive.

⁵ The Biotic Index Values, or Q values, are assigned to rivers in accordance with biological monitoring of surface waters - low Q ratings, as low as Q1, are indicative of low biodiversity and polluted waters, and high Q ratings, as high as Q5, are indicative of high biodiversity and unpolluted waters. Good status as defined by the Water Framework Directive equates to approximately Q4 in the national scheme of biological classification of rivers as set out by the EPA.



Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 SEA
Appendix II Non Technical Summary



Figure 3.5 Q Values

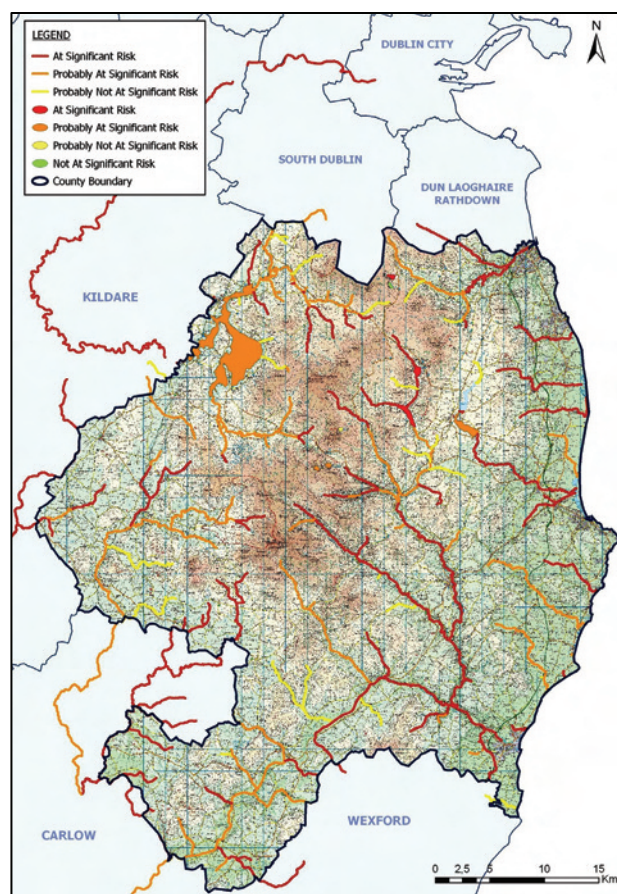


Figure 3.6 WFDRA of Surface Waters

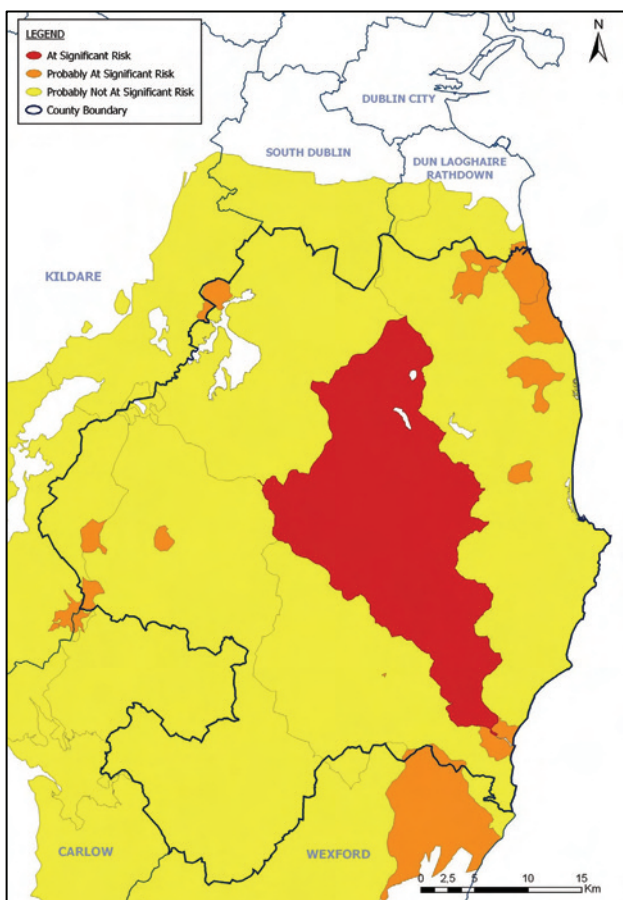


Figure 3.7 WFDRA of Ground Waters

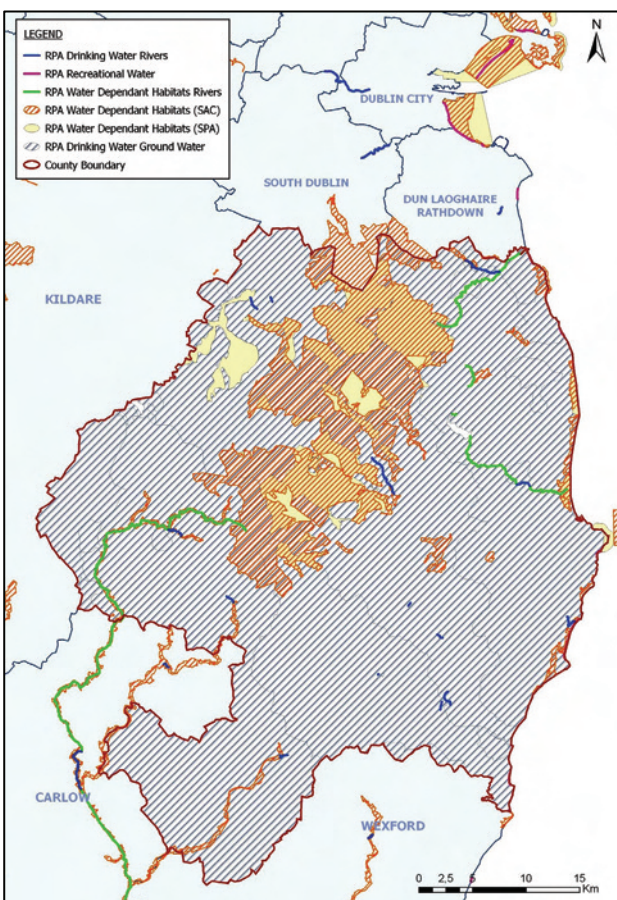


Figure 3.8 WFD RPAs



3.6 Air and Climatic Factors

In order to protect human health, vegetation and ecosystems, EU Directives set down air quality standards in Ireland and the other Member States for a wide variety of pollutants. These pollutants are generated through fuel combustion, in space heating, traffic, electricity generation and industry and, in sufficient amounts, could affect the well being of the areas inhabitants. The EU Directives include details regarding how ambient air quality should be monitored, assessed and managed.

Four daughter Directives lay down limits or thresholds for specific pollutants. In order to comply with these directives, the EPA measures the levels of a number of atmospheric pollutants. For the purposes of monitoring in Ireland, four zones are defined in the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2002 (SI No. 271 of 2002).

The majority of the County falls into Zone D. Bray falls under Zone C. Current air quality in Zones C and D is "good". The index is calculated based on the latest available measurements of PM10, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and ozone in Zones C and D.

3.6.1 Potential Point Sources of Emissions

3.6.1.1 IPPC Licensed Facilities

There are nineteen IPPC licensed facilities in the Plan area. Three of these are located at Bray, two each at Wicklow and near the village of Ballyconnell, six at Arklow and one each at Aughrim, Carnew, Dunlavin, Rathdrum, Shilleagh and Blessington.

3.6.1.2 Waste Licensed Facilities

In 1996 the EPA began licensing certain activities in the waste sector. These include landfills, transfer stations, hazardous waste disposal and other significant waste disposal and recovery activities. There are ten licensed waste facilities in the County. Eight of these are landfill facilities while there is one composting facility at Glenealy and one integrated waste management facility at Bray.

3.6.1.3 Seveso Sites

The control of major accident hazards involving dangerous substances Directive, also referred to as the Seveso II or COMAH Directive, aims to ensure that, at locations where dangerous substances are handled in quantities above specified thresholds; there will be a high level of protection for people, property and the environment. This is to be achieved by: preventing or minimising the risk of a major accident; and, taking all the necessary measures to limit the consequences of such an accident, should it occur. There are two designated Seveso sites located within the Plan. One is located at Rathdrum with the other at Arklow.

3.6.2 Noise

In County Wicklow areas commonly affected by noise are urban areas and areas along roadsides. Noise is unwanted sound. It can seriously harm human health and interfere with daily activities at school, at work, at home and during leisure time. The over-riding noise source in Wicklow is from traffic. In addition, there are localised noise sources which include air conditioning equipment, marine traffic, port activities, train movements and night clubs.

3.6.3 Existing Problems

Traffic hotspots within the urban parts of the Plan area are likely to have elevated levels of air pollution and noise due to traffic congestion.

Localised air pollution incidences with regard to PM10 and PM2.5 and noise pollution are both likely to occur when demolition/construction takes place - especially in relation to PM10 if suppression techniques are not introduced - and when traffic is queuing for long periods of time.



Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 SEA
Appendix II Non Technical Summary

Ireland's current emissions are exceeding targets agreed in the peer review of Ireland's 2006 submission to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. It is unlikely that Ireland will meet these targets and it is likely therefore that financial penalties will be incurred. Transport related emissions continue to be the dominant growth sector.

Changes in sea level and/or changes in the occurrence of severe rainfall events as a result of climate change could adversely impact upon the County's human beings, its biodiversity and its economy (see also Section 3.5.5 *Flooding*).

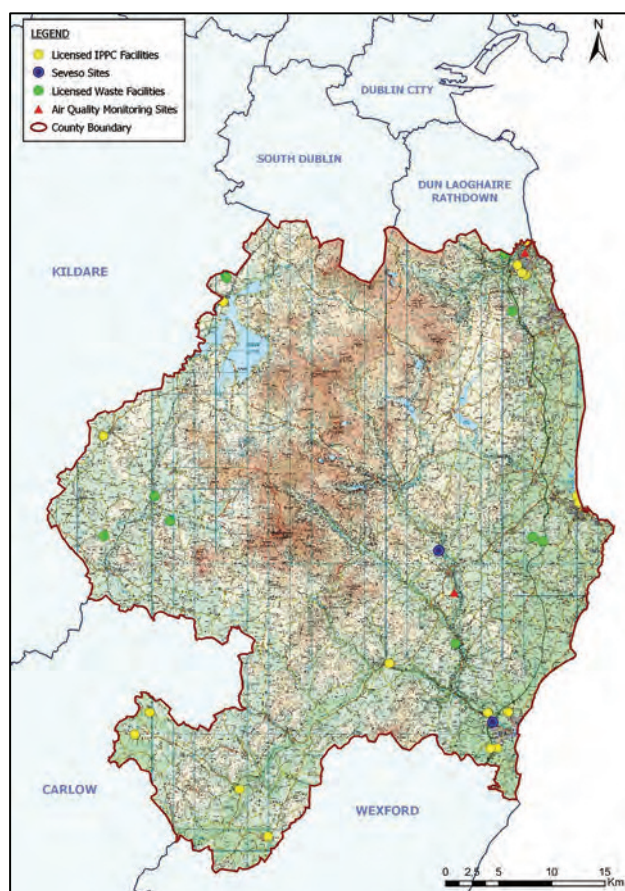


Figure 3.9 Licensed Facilities

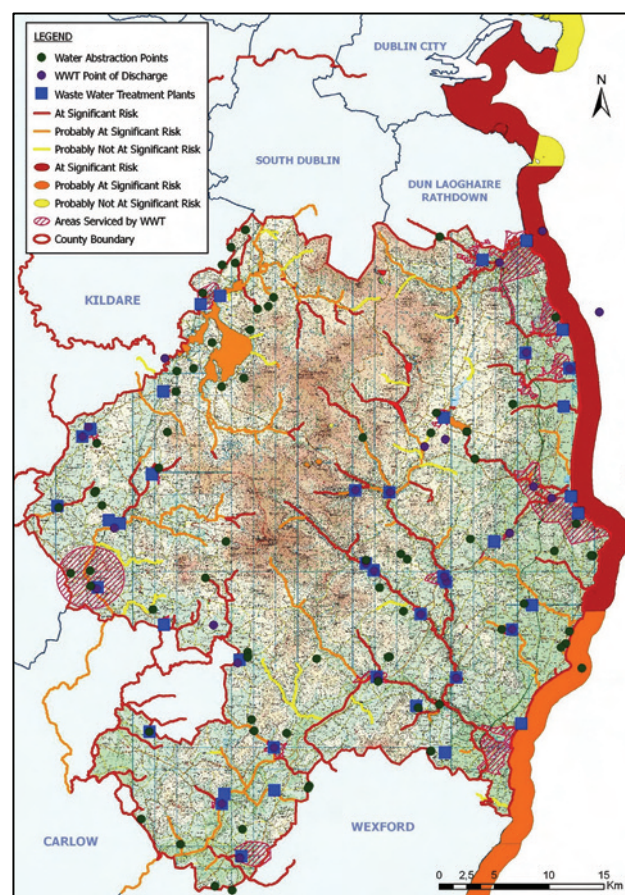


Figure 3.10 Water Infrastructure and WFDRA

3.7 Material Assets

3.7.1 Waste Water

There are 39 waste water schemes in operation in the County of which twelve are larger waste water treatment plants serving urban areas and 27 are smaller local schemes. The larger schemes include Wicklow, Greystones, Arklow, Tinahely, Roundwood, Blessington and Rathdrum. The general breakdown of 85% domestic demand to 15% non-domestic demand applies to the County.

Shortfalls exist at the Blessington Plant and overloading from surface water is a problem at Roundwood and Tinahely. There is no waste water treatment plant at Arklow which serves a PE of 16,997.

Shortfalls also exist at plants in Avoca, Ballyconnell, Barndarrig, Coolboy, Donard, Dunlavin (both plants), Grangecon, Kiltegan, Kilpedder, Kirikee Lower, Knockananna, Rathdangan, Redcross and Shilleagh.



3.7.2 Drinking Water

There are approximately 69 water abstraction points in County Wicklow. These abstraction points can be seen on Figure 3.10 above. There are 29 water supply schemes in the County. There are 7 supplies from Dublin, these are Bray, Enniskerry, Greystones, Kilmacanogue, Kilpedder, Wicklow Regional and Newtownmountkennedy/Kilcoole/Newcastle.

Generally, current demand for water in the County is being met. Where there are any shortfalls in capacity, this is being addressed under the Assessment of Needs Programme.

3.7.3 Existing Problems

Certain regions of the Plan area are not within the catchment of the waste water treatment network and consequently development in these areas use septic tanks to treat waste water arising.

Figure 3.10 maps the risk assessment categorisation of surface water bodies in the Plan area. Some of the poor risk scores assigned to the water bodies are as a result of point source pressures or abstraction pressures on the water body. This is apparent from the overlaying of abstraction points and points of discharge on the risk assessments of the water bodies.

For example, the Vartry River has a score of (1a) *at significant risk*. The abstraction of water is one of the reasons for this score.

3.8 Cultural Heritage

Heritage, by definition, means inherited properties, inherited characteristics and anything transmitted by past ages and ancestors. It covers everything, from objects and buildings to the environment. Cultural heritage includes physical buildings, structures and objects, complete or in part, which have been left on the landscape by previous and indeed current generations.

3.8.1 Archaeological Heritage

Wicklow contains various types of archaeological heritage which are protected as monuments. Of note on a national scale are the Baltinglass Hillfort complex and Rathgall hillfort in south Wicklow. Glendalough Monastic Settlement has been proposed for the tentative list as a UNESCO World Heritage Site due to its international significance.

3.8.1.1 Record of Monuments and Places

Wicklow's archaeological heritage is protected under the National Monuments Acts (1930-2004), Natural Cultural Institutions Act 1997 and the Planning Acts.

These are largely concentrated along the western boundary of the County. There is an even distribution throughout the remainder of the County with less Monuments in the Upland areas.

3.8.1.2 Zones of Archaeological Potential

Areas of Archaeological Potential or Significance were identified in the Wicklow County Development Plan (2004-2010). These areas are Hollywood, Borage in Blessington, Mulsoes Court at Powerscourt, Newcastle, Ennidboyne at Brittas, Macreddin at Caryfot, Dunlavin, Donoughmore and Killickabawn at Kilpedder. Zones of Archaeological Potential or Significance exist at Glendalough and Baltinglass Hills.

3.8.2 Architectural Heritage

The County's Military Heritage is evident from the sites and structures of historical and heritage value, including castles, protective structures and military infrastructure, particularly Military Road which runs from Rathfarnham to Aghavannagh.



Wicklows Industrial and Mining Heritage manifest itself in the many mines, mills, roads, harbours and bridges in the County.

3.8.2.1 Architectural Conservation Areas

There are six Architectural Conservation Areas adopted in County Wicklow, these are Enniskerry, Delgany, Greystones, Tinahely, Dunlavin and Rathdrum.

3.8.3 Existing Environmental Problems

The cumulative accommodation of large scale development in County Wicklow has the potential to cumulatively impact upon cultural heritage of the Plan area.

Archaeology can be previously unknown but can be damaged through development causing ground disturbance.

Development which involves material alteration or additions to protected structures can detract from the special character of the structure and its setting and have the potential to result in the loss of features of architectural or historic interest and the historic form and structural integrity of the structure are retained. Development on sites adjoining protected monuments, places or structures can also impact upon the setting of these cultural heritage items.

Encouraging and facilitating the accommodation of growth on brownfield sites will contribute to mitigating a number of the adverse impacts associated with greenfield development, however, brownfield development has the potential to significantly adversely impact upon cultural heritage - both archaeological and architectural - if unmitigated against.

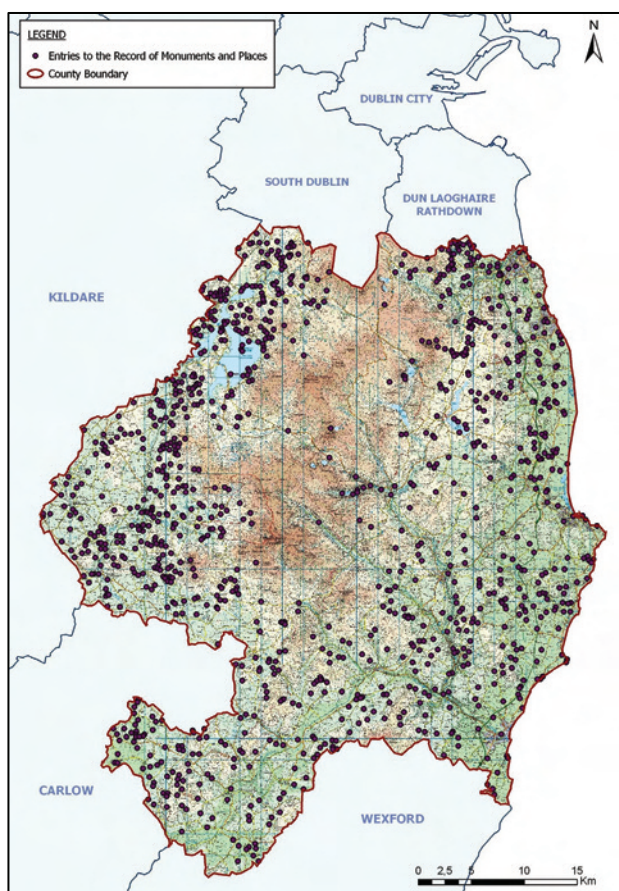


Figure 3.8 Record of Monuments and Places



Figure 3.11 Archaeological Potential



3.9 Landscape

Landscapes are areas which are perceived by people and are made up of a number of layers: landform, which results from geological and geomorphological history; land cover, which includes vegetation, water, human settlements, and; human values which are a result of historical, cultural, religious and other understandings and interactions with landform and land cover.

3.9.1 Landscape Classification

Wicklow County Council's Landscape Characterisation (2004) classifies landscapes in Wicklow according to their sensitivity – their ability to accommodate change or intervention without suffering unacceptable effects to character and values. The most sensitive landscapes are Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty - which are of a very high sensitivity - and Areas of Special Amenity - which are of a high sensitivity. Landscapes of lesser sensitivity are Rural and Corridor Areas which are both of medium sensitivity. Urban Areas are considered low sensitivity areas.

3.9.2 Special Amenity Area Orders

A Special Amenity Area Order (SAAO) is designed to protect areas that are of particularly high amenity value, which are sensitive to intense development pressure and which cannot be adequately protected by existing planning controls. An SAAO for Bray Head was drawn up in 2007. Areas Considered for an SAAO include the Dargle Glen, The Little Sugar Loaf, The Great Sugar Loaf. The SAAO at Bray Head is mapped on Figure 3.12.

3.9.3 Views and Prospects

The County contains many sites, areas and vantage points from which views over areas of great natural beauty, local landmarks, historic landscapes, adjoining Counties and the City of Dublin may be obtained. In addition to scenic views, the County also contains important prospects i.e. prominent landscapes or areas of special amenity value or special interest which are visible from the surrounding area.

There are forty listed views in the County with three proposed views included in the Draft Plan. There are sixty-five listed prospects in the draft Plan and there are four proposed additions to Listed Prospects.

3.9.4 Existing Environmental Problems

A problem with regard to the environmental component of landscape is the cumulative visual impact which occurs as a result of developments such as one off houses. Such developments, which individually often do not have significant adverse impacts, have the potential to cumulatively and adversely significantly impact upon sensitive landscapes.



Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 SEA
Appendix II Non Technical Summary

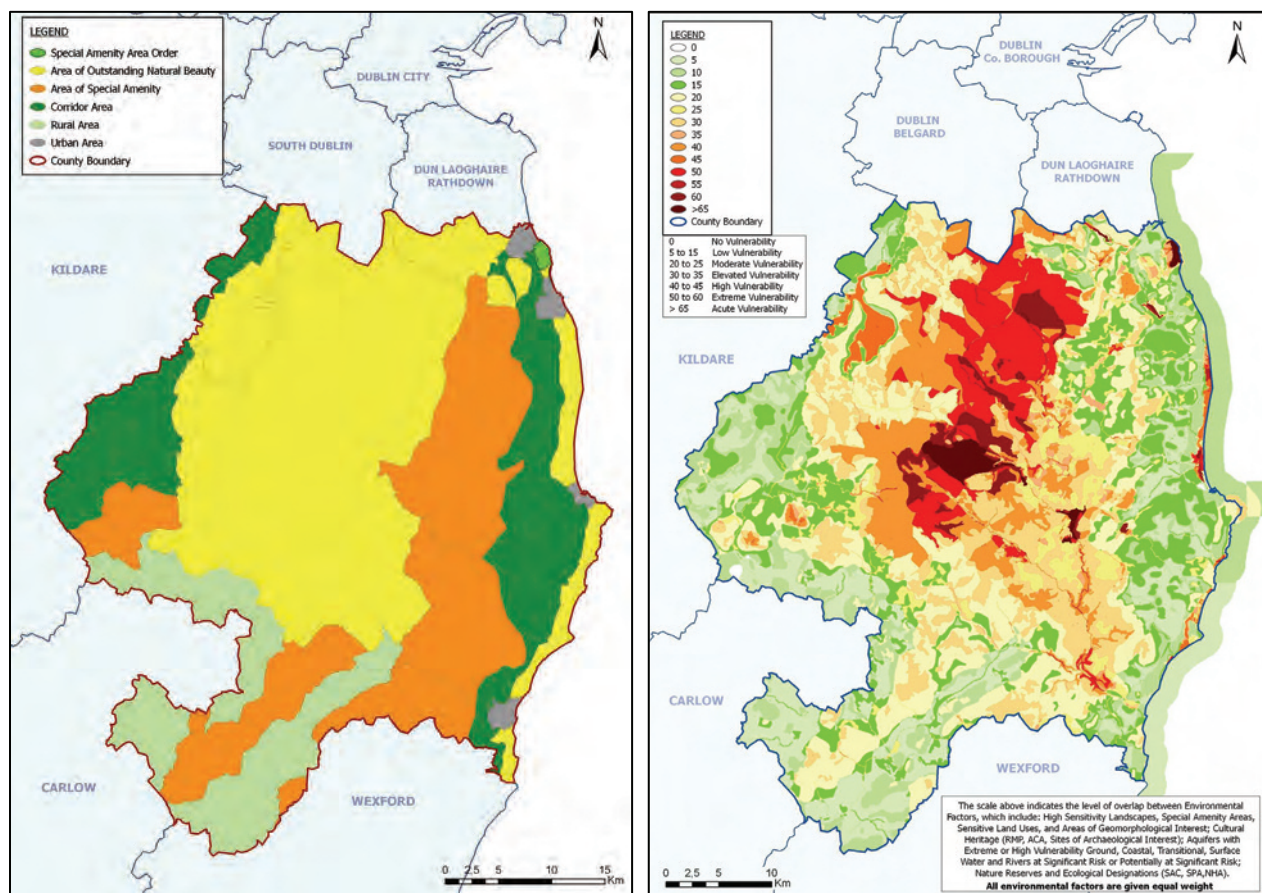


Figure 3.12 Landscape Character Areas Figure 3.13 Environmental Overlay

3.10 Overlay Mapping of Environmental Sensitivities

In order to identify where most sensitivities within the County occur, a number of the environmental sensitivities described above were weighted and mapped overlapping each other.

Environmental sensitivities are indicated by colours which range from extreme vulnerability (red) to high vulnerability (orange) to moderate vulnerability (yellow) and low vulnerability (green). Where the mapping shows a concentration of environmental sensitivities there is an increased likelihood that development will conflict with these sensitivities and cause environmental deterioration. This is particularly the case where the cumulative development of small-scale projects, such as rural housing, gradually causes a slow deterioration of a resource, such as water quality.

Figure 3.13 quantifies the area of the County which falls under each of the vulnerability area classifications when all selected factors are given equal weighting. It is noted that the majority of the County's area (62.2%) is classified, under this weighting system, as being of a low or moderate vulnerability with a relatively smaller area (36.7%) classified as being elevated, high or extreme. 1.1% of the County is classified as being of acute vulnerability.

Most of the Plan area is identified as being of Low to Moderate Vulnerability. The central part of the County from north to south is classified as being elevated to high and extreme with areas of acute vulnerability occurring in the Uplands. Bray Head is also classified as being of acute vulnerability. Areas along the western and eastern boundaries are classified as being low except for some coastal areas.



Section 4 Alternative Plan Scenarios

4.1 Introduction

One of the critical roles of the SEA is to facilitate an evaluation of the likely environmental consequences of a range of alternative strategies for accommodating future development in Wicklow.

These alternative strategies must be realistic, capable of implementation, and should represent a range of different approaches within statutory and operational requirements of the particular plan. In some cases the preferred strategy will combine elements from the various alternatives considered.

This section identifies and describes different plan scenarios, taking into account higher level strategic actions as well as the geographical scope of the County Development Plan.

The alternative scenarios are evaluated in Section 4.3 resulting in the identification of potential impacts and informing the selection of an alternative scenario for the Draft Development Plan. The policies and objectives which are required to realise the selected scenario are evaluated in Section 8 of the Environmental Report.

Mitigation measures which attempt to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the selected scenario and which have been integrated into the draft Plan are identified in Section 9 of the Environmental Report.

Scenarios are evaluated in a succinct and focused way for both planning and environmental impacts against both the existing environment and Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs). In order to comply with the SEA Directive Strategic Environmental Objectives have been grouped under relevant parent components such as *water* and *landscape*.

4.2 Description of Alternative Plan Scenarios

4.2.1 Introduction

The following summarises a series of 'Scenarios' which provide alternative visions of how the future development of Wicklow might occur. These are neither predictions nor preferences - instead they offer a range of plausible and internally consistent narratives of the outcome of different planning and development strategies. These provide the basis for the comparative evaluation of the likely environmental effects of each plan, which in turn serves the purpose of identifying which features of plans and policies are likely to be sensitive or robust over the widest range of circumstances.

4.2.2 Alternative Scenario 1: *Dispersed Scenario*

Rural Dispersed growth with limited Growth in urban centres (Laissez Faire Approach)

The characteristics of this Scenario are as follows:

- Laissez Faire Approach to Planning
- Extensive rural development throughout the County with little or no growth in Urban Areas.
- Social cohesion and fabric of urban areas are diminished
- Limited development on Brownfield sites
- Increased demands on provision of Water/Infrastructure in the rural area
- Conflict with infrastructural provision, new roads/road improvements, EIR Grid and Bord Gas Networks
- Negative Impact on Landscape
- Negative Impact on Environmental Designations (no regard)
- Weak Social Infrastructure



Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 SEA
Appendix II Non Technical Summary

- Travel Demands unsustainable
- Natural resources such as forestry, wind energy and mineral extraction will be interspersed with large areas of rural housing
- Proliferation of individual effluent disposal system and associated pollution risks
- Proliferation of individual wells and associated impacts on the ground water
- Increased pressure on public services to remain economic leading to decline in service provision

4.2.3 Alternative Scenario 2: *Neutral Scenario-Strict application of RPGs/ Protectionist*

Emphasis on growth in both rural and urban areas (Planned approach for growth in both rural and urban areas throughout the County).

The characteristics of this Scenario are as follows:

- Development concentrated into the Regional Planning Guidelines designated towns
- Development in remainder of the County limited to "local need" only
- Reduced options for settlement, leading to social dissatisfaction
- Emphasis in growth in both rural and urban areas, but source of growth of these areas differ from area to area
- Increased Demands on Public services/Infrastructure across all areas
- Impact on landscape with some regard to environmental designations
- Investment in social infrastructure spread leading to uneven provision
- Poor provision of public transport due to lack of concentrated population

4.2.4 Alternative Scenario 3: *Structured Scenario*

Well Developed Urban Structure supporting diverse rural growth

The characteristics of this Scenario are as follows:

- Balanced sustainable Approach to Planning
- Concentration of growth in Urban Centres and appropriate growth in rural areas
- Rural Areas supported by larger urban centres and control of sporadic rural housing
- More sustainable modes of transport
- Increased use of public transport
- Reduced commuting distances to employment opportunities and greater accessibility
- Increased provision of Social Infrastructure
- Protection of landscape and environmental designations
- Reduced impact on water resources
- Infrastructural networks protected

4.2.5 Alternative Scenario 4: *Centred Scenario*

Development concentrated along existing Rail line with limited regard for environmental designation along the coastline, population loading along east coast

The characteristics of this Scenario are as follows:

- Concentration of development along rail line
- Population loading in Bray, Greystones, Kilcoole, Newcastle, Wicklow, Glenealy, Rathdrum, Avoca and Arklow. Densification of these settlements
- Restricted growth in all other parts of the County
- Little regard to Environmental Designations along the East Coast in place of Growth
- Strong regard to Environmental Designations within the rest of the County
- Demand for Increased Social Infrastructure in growth towns
- Population Decline in areas without public transport.



Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 SEA
Appendix II Non Technical Summary

- Investment in other forms of transport diverted
- Investment in remainder of County diverted
- Economic strength and attractiveness of remainder of the County significantly reduced as an indirect effect there would be lack of employment
- Increased Loading on Water Services, Demands on Rivers Systems along settlement concentrations and flooding

4.2.6 Alternative Scenario 5: *Prescriptive Scenario*

Strict application of all environmental designations throughout the County

The characteristics of this Scenario are as follows:

- Strong and Robust Environmental protection
- Development limited to settlements remote from designated areas
- Limited Rural Development
- Increased demands on a small number of existing settlements and infrastructure in those settlements
- Social networks in rural areas or locations near protected sites will be curtailed
- Lack of infrastructure at locations at or near designated sites
- Reduced Recreational and tourism use of the County and associated economic impacts
- The potential to exploit natural resources reduced



4.3 Evaluation of the Alternative Plan Scenarios

4.3.1 Methodology

4.3.1.1 Existing Environment and Overlay Mapping

Scenarios are evaluated in a succinct and focused way for both planning and environmental impacts against both the existing environment (provided within Section 3 and including the Overlay of Environmental Sensitivities shown on Figure 3.13) and the Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) (see below).

4.3.1.2 Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs)

Based on an understanding of the existing and emerging environmental conditions in the County a series of SEOs were identified and developed in order to assess the likely environmental effects which would be caused by implementation of each of the 5 alternative scenarios described in Section 4.2. The alternatives are evaluated using compatibility criteria (see Table 4.1) in order to determine how they are likely to affect the status of these SEOs.

Table 4.2 brings together all the SEOs which have been developed from international, national and regional policies which generally govern environmental protection objectives.

The SEOs and the alternative scenarios are arrayed against each other to identify which interactions - if any - would cause impacts on specific components of the environment.

Where the appraisal identifies a likely conflict with the status of an SEO the relevant SEO code is entered into the conflict column - e.g. B1 which stands for SEO likely to be affected - in this instance 'to avoid loss of relevant habitats, geological features, species or their sustaining resources in designated ecological sites'.



Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 SEA
Appendix II Non Technical Summary

Likely to Improve status of SEOs	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs- unlikely to be mitigated	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs- likely to be mitigated	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral Interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs
---	--	---	--	--	--

Table 4.1 Criteria for appraising the effect of Plan provisions on Strategic Environmental Objectives

SEO Code	SEO
B1	To avoid loss of relevant habitats, geological features, species or their sustaining resources in designated ecological sites
B2	To avoid significant adverse impacts, including direct, cumulative and indirect impacts, to relevant habitats, geological features, species or their sustaining resources in designated ecological sites by development within or adjacent to these sites
B3	To sustain, enhance or - where relevant - prevent the loss of ecological networks or parts thereof which provide significant connectivity between areas of local biodiversity
HH1	To protect human health from hazards or nuisances arising from exposure to incompatible landuses
S1	Maximise the sustainable re-use of brownfield lands, and maximise the use of the existing built environment rather than developing greenfield lands
W1	To maintain and improve, where possible, the quality of surface waters
W2	To prevent pollution and contamination of ground water
W3	To prevent development on lands which pose - or are likely to pose in the future - a significant flood risk
C1	To minimise increases in travel related greenhouse emissions to air
C2	To reduce car dependency within the County by way of, inter alia, encouraging modal change from car to more sustainable forms of public transport and encouraging development which will not be dependent on private transport
M1	To serve new development with appropriate waste water treatment
M2	To serve development within the County with drinking water that is both wholesome and clean
CH1	To protect the archaeological heritage of County Wicklow with regard to entries to the Record of Monuments and Places - including Zones of Archaeological Potential - and the context of the above within the surrounding landscape where relevant
CH2	To preserve and protect the special interest and character of County Wicklow's architectural heritage with regard to entries to the Record of Protected Structures and their context within the surrounding landscape where relevant
L1	To avoid significant adverse impacts on the landscape, especially with regard to Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and views and prospects of special amenity

Table 4.2 Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs)⁶

⁶ Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) are methodological measures which are developed from international, national and regional policies which generally govern environmental protection objectives and against which the environmental effects of the Draft Plan can be tested. The SEOs are used as standards against which the provisions of the Draft Plan can be evaluated in order to help identify areas in which significant adverse impacts are likely to occur, if unmitigated against.



4.3.2 Evaluation of Alternative Scenarios

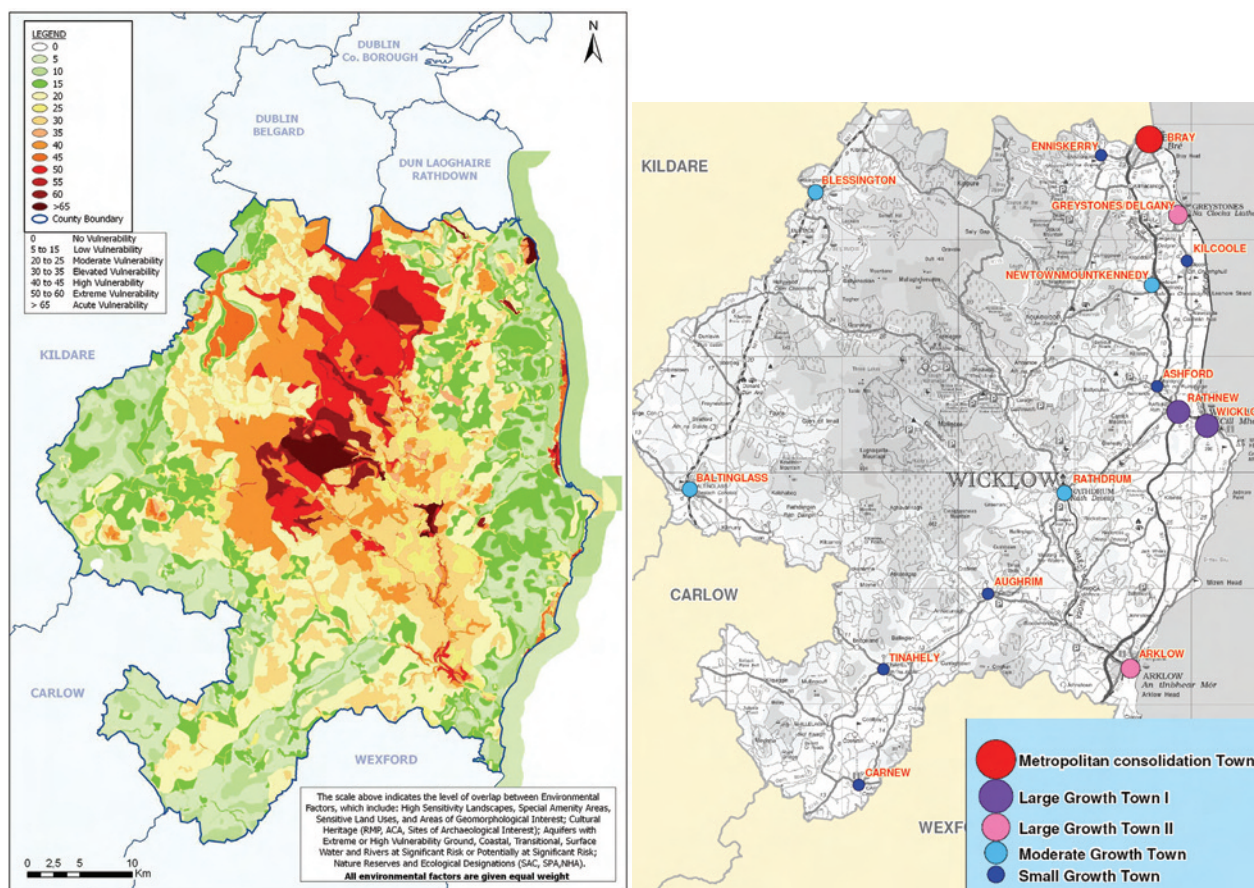


Figure 4.1 Environmental Sensitivity mapping compared to locations of Main Settlement Centres

4.3.2.1 Introduction

This section summarises where each development scenario is likely to give rise to concentrations of settlement. Such settlement will also give rise to associated economic activity that is likely to give rise to additional environmental pressures.

In general, the most environmentally robust parts of the County are in the East, South and West. Most of the main settlement areas are in the East which is generally robust, except for the coastline. Apart from any occurring along rivers or on the coast most settlement is unlikely to cause adverse effects. The South and West are less developed but each have sizeable robust areas.

The central and Northern upland areas are however highly sensitive and while they are generally sparsely populated, some parts are subject to considerable pressure for settlement and development, including wind energy and forestry projects.

Notwithstanding the generally robust nature of the existing environment, most of the main settlement centres have their discharge points located on rivers that are classified as being at 'significant risk' of not meeting Water Framework Directive Standards by 2015.

Having described where development might occur under Section 4.2, the following sections provide a more detailed analysis of the likely effects of each scenario.



4.3.2.2 Alternative Scenario 1: *Dispersed Scenario*

Likely Environmental Effects include -

- *Flora & Fauna*

High potential for conflicts between developments and ecologically designated sites and other key habitats – particularly those dependant on water quality as a sustaining resource. The most pronounced conflicts are likely to occur in upland areas, along coastline and along river corridors.

- *Water*

Dispersed rural settlement will continue to significantly threaten groundwater and surface water quality.

- *Landscape*

Widespread rural housing, especially that sited for amenity reasons, will give rise to continued change of rural character from being classified as 'agricultural' to 'settled' – with strong associated perception of loss of amenity to areas that are valued for scenery and tourism.

- *Air [Mobility]*

Highly dispersed settlement patterns will lead to very high levels of private vehicle movements with associated effects on air, including noise, air emissions and climate change effects.

4.3.2.3 Alternative Scenario 2: **Neutral Scenario-Strict application of RPGs/ Protectionist**

Likely Environmental Effects include -

- *Flora & Fauna*

Some habitat fragmentation and disturbance – mostly in the vicinity of main settlement centres with little potential to affect designated sites.

- *Water*

Future threats to water quality of rivers serving principal towns.

- *Landscape*

Little effect except in the vicinity of main settlement centres with limited potential to affect designated landscapes.

- *Air [Mobility]*

Concentrated settlement patterns will lead to lower levels of private vehicle movements with associated minimisation of effects on air, including noise, air emissions and climate change effects.

4.3.2.4 Alternative Scenario 3: **Structured Scenario Alternative**

Likely Environmental Effects include -

- *Flora & Fauna*

Potential adverse effects on water quality, together with some potential for habitat fragmentation and disturbance.



Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 SEA
Appendix II Non Technical Summary

- *Water*

Future threats to water quality of rivers serving principal towns. Potential exacerbation of water quality status of other waters.

- *Landscape*

Little effect except in the vicinity of main settlement centres with some limited potential to affect designated landscapes

- *Air [Mobility]*

Concentrated settlement patterns will generally lead to lower levels of private vehicle movements with associated minimisation of effects on air, including noise, air emissions and climate change effects.

4.3.2.5 Alternative Scenario 4: Centred Scenario Alternative

Likely Environmental Effects include -

- *Flora & Fauna*

High potential for conflicts between developments and ecologically designated sites and other key habitats – particularly those dependant on water quality as a sustaining resource and coastal habitats that are vulnerable to disturbance.

- *Water*

Future threats to water quality of rivers serving main settlement centres and to quality of bathing waters.

- *Landscape*

High potential for adverse effects on Coastal Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and on protected prospects and views close to coastline.

- *Air [Mobility]*

Concentrated settlement patterns will tend to lead to lower levels of private vehicle movements with associated minimisation of effects on air, including noise, air emissions and climate change effects. Higher utilisation of rail transport likely.

4.3.2.6 Alternative Scenario 5: Prescriptive Scenario

Likely Environmental Effects include -

- *Flora & Fauna*

Low potential for effects on designated sites.

- *Water*

Potential for deterioration of water quality.

- *Landscape*

Strong control of potential adverse landscape impacts.



Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 SEA
Appendix II Non Technical Summary

- *Air [Mobility]*

Settlement patterns will continue to lead to high levels of private vehicle movements with associated effects on air, including noise, air emissions and climate change effects.

4.3.2.7 Qualitative Summary of Relative Likely Environmental Effects

The table below provides a qualitative summary of the relative environmental effects of implementing each of the alternative scenarios for the Draft Development Plan.

Scenario 5, would give rise to the least environmental effects. Scenario 3, the selected scenario, and scenario 2 both have increased potential to cause adverse effects. Scenarios 1 and 4 have the highest potential to cause adverse effects

Scenario	Main Potential Environmental Effects			
	Flora & Fauna	Water	Landscape	Air [Mobility]
Alternative Scenario 1: <i>Dispersed Scenario</i>	Significant, widespread	Significant, widespread	Significant, widespread	Significant, widespread
Alternative Scenario 2: <i>Neutral Scenario-Strict application of RPGs/ Protectionist</i>	Some localised significant	Significant	Slight localised	Minimal
Alternative Scenario 3: <i>Structured Scenario</i>	Some localised significant	Significant	Slight localised	Minimal
Alternative Scenario 4: <i>Centred Scenario</i>	Significant	Significant	Significant	Slight
Alternative Scenario 5 - <i>Prescriptive Scenario</i>	Minimal	Significant	Minimal	Significant

Table 4.3 Qualitative Summary of the Relative Environmental Effects of each of the Alternative Development Plan Scenarios



Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 SEA
Appendix II Non Technical Summary

4.3.2.8 Evaluation against SEOs

The table below provides an evaluation of each of the alternative scenarios for the Draft Development Plan against the Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs).

Scenario 3, the selected scenario, creates significantly less effects – including none on designated habitats.

	Likely to Improve status of SEOs	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs - unlikely to be mitigated	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs - would be mitigated	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral Interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs
Alternative Scenario 1: <i>Dispersed Scenario</i>		HH1 S1 W1 W2 W3 C1 C2 M1 M2 CH1 CH2 L1	B1 B2 B3			
Alternative Scenario 2: <i>Neutral Scenario- Strict application of RPGs/ Protectionist</i>	HH1 S1 W2 L1		B1 B2 B3 W1 W3 M1 M2 CH1 CH2		C1 C2	
Alternative Scenario 3: <i>Structured Scenario</i>	HH1 S1 W2 C1 C2 M2 L1		B1 B2 B3 W1 W3 M1 CH1 CH2			
Alternative Scenario 4: <i>Centred Scenario</i>	S1 W2 W3 C1 C2 CH1 CH2	HH1 L1	B1 B2 B3 W1 M1 M2			
Alternative Scenario 5: <i>Prescriptive Scenario</i>	HH1 S1 W1 W2 CH1 CH2 L1		B1 B2 B3 W3 M1 M2		C1 C2	

Table 4.4 Evaluation of Alternative Scenarios against SEOs



4.3.2.9 The Selected Alternative Scenario

The Alternatives that were examined were produced and evaluated at an earlier - more embryonic - stage to facilitate the evaluation and selection of a plan - having regard, *inter alia* to environmental consequences.

The Alternative Scenario that was selected for the Draft Development Plan is Scenario 3 – this Scenario achieves a good balance between potential environmental impact and conformance with relevant National and Regional planning objectives. The Settlement Hierarchy Map for the top main towns within the County (Levels 1 to 5) from the Draft Development Plan (Scenario 4) is shown on Figure 4.2.

The assessment has shown that the **Dispersed** and **Centred** Scenarios (1 and 4 respectively) have the potential to give rise to the most adverse environmental effects and these scenarios should be regarded as the least environmentally compatible versions. The **Neutral Scenario-Strict application of RPGs/Protectionist** and **Structured** Scenarios (2 and 3 respectively) have more potential to cause adverse environmental effects but achieve better balance with development needs and conformance with planning objectives. The Prescriptive Scenario (5) would be likely to cause the least adverse environmental effects but has poor conformance with planning objectives.

4.3.2.10 Evaluation of Plan Provisions prepared to realise the Selected Scenario

Section 8 of the main Environmental Report document evaluates the individual policies and specific objectives which have been prepared to realise Scenario 4 (the selected Scenario).

Some of these Plan provisions are likely to have a range of beneficial effects with regard to the protection of the environment while some are likely to have a range of potential adverse effects which will be mitigated by other provisions within the Plan (including the measures integrated into the Plan as part of the SEA/Draft Plan preparation process). Some provisions are likely to have a range of both beneficial effects and potential adverse effects which will be mitigated by other provisions within the Plan (including the measures integrated into the Plan as part of the SEA/Draft Plan preparation process).



Environmental Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016 SEA
Appendix II Non Technical Summary

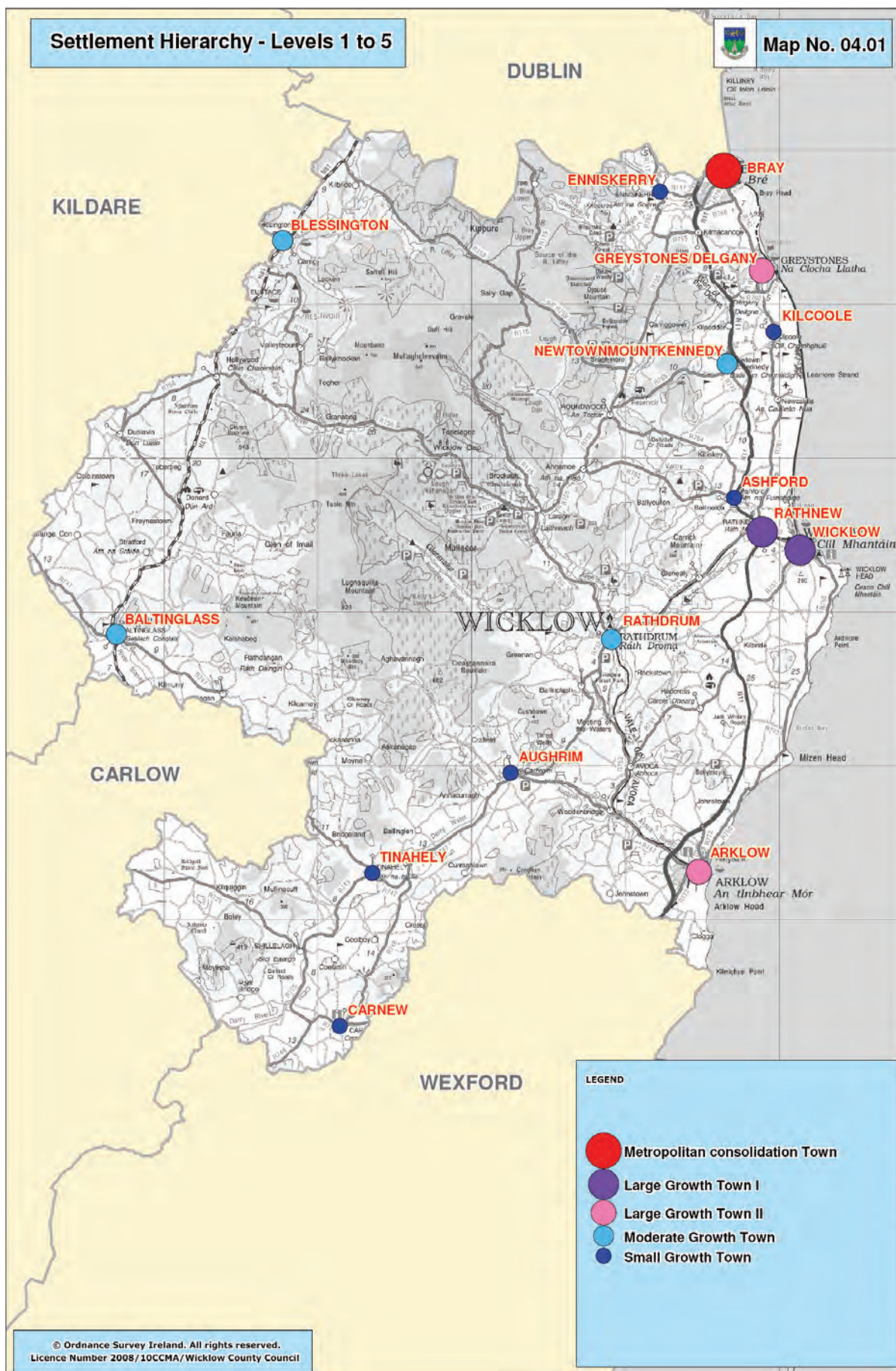


Figure 4.2 Settlement Hierarchy Map (Levels 1 to 5) from Draft Development Plan



Section 5 Mitigation and Monitoring Measures

5.1 Mitigation

Mitigation measures are measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and, as fully as possible, offset any significant adverse impacts on the environment of implementing the Draft County Development Plan. Mitigation involves ameliorating significant negative effects. Where there are significant negative effects, consideration is given in the first instance to preventing such effects or, where this is not possible for stated reasons, to lessening or offsetting those effects. Mitigation measures can be roughly divided into those that: *avoid* effects; *reduce* the magnitude or extent, probability and/or severity of effects; *repair* effects after they have occurred, and; *compensate* for effects, balancing out negative impacts with other positive ones.

Mitigation measures have been incorporated into the draft Plan through the early consideration of environmental sensitivities, through the selection of the Structured Alternative Scenario for the draft Plan and through objectives for the following topics:

- Biodiversity and Flora and Fauna
- Water Protection
- Waste Management
- Landscape
- Waste Water
- Drinking Water
- Bathing Water
- Air & Noise
- Energy & Transportation
- Flooding
- Extractive Industry
- Archaeological Heritage
- Architectural Heritage

5.2 Monitoring

The SEA Directive requires that the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans and programmes are monitored. The Environmental Report puts forward proposals for monitoring the likely significant environmental effects of implementing the Plan. Monitoring enables, at an early stage, the identification of unforeseen adverse effects and the undertaking of appropriate remedial action. In addition to this, monitoring can also play an important role in assessing whether the Plan is achieving its environmental objectives and targets - measures which the Plan can help work towards - whether these need to be re-examined and whether the proposed mitigation measures are being implemented.

The Environmental Report identifies indicators - which allow quantitative measures of trends and progress in the environment over time. Measurements for indicators should come from existing monitoring sources and no new monitoring should be required to take place. A preliminary monitoring evaluation report on the effects of implementing the Plan will be prepared within two years of the making of the Plan. The Council is responsible for collating existing relevant monitored data, the preparation of a monitoring report, the publication of this report and, if necessary, the carrying out of corrective action.

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT - DRAFT SCREENING REPORT -

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

FOR THE

DRAFT WICKLOW COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2010-2016

for: Wicklow County Council

County Hall
Station Road
Wicklow Town
County Wicklow



by: CAAS (Environmental Services)

4th Floor, Red Cow Lane
Smithfield
Dublin 7



SEPTEMBER 2009



Table of Contents

Section 1	Preamble	1
Section 2	The Draft Plan.....	2
2.1	Format	2
2.2	Brief Description of the Draft Plan	2
2.3	Is the Draft Plan Necessary to Management of Natura 2000 Sites?.....	2
2.4	Mitigating Measures in Draft Plan	2
2.5	Other Instruments	4
2.6	Cumulative Effects	4
Section 3	Natura 2000 Sites.....	5
3.1	Special Areas of Conservation.....	5
3.2	Special Protection Areas.....	12
Section 4	Assessment Criteria.....	15
4.1	Elements of the Plan with Potential to Give Rise to Significant Effects.....	15
4.2	Elements of Plan Likely to Cause Impacts	15
Section 5	Conclusions	16
5.1	Criteria for Assessment	16
5.2	Conclusion	16



Section 1 Preamble

This is the Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan (CDP) 2010-2016 - in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC).

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive states:

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

Furthermore, Article 6(4) states:

If, in spite of a negative assessment of the implications for the site and in the absence of alternative solutions, a plan or project must nevertheless be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of social or economic nature, the Member State shall take all compensatory measures necessary to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. It shall inform the Commission of the compensatory measures adopted. Where the site concerned hosts a priority natural habitat type and/or a priority species the only considerations which may be raised are those relating to human health or public safety, to beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment or, further to an opinion from the Commission, to other imperative reasons of overriding public interest.

In Ireland, Natura 2000 comprises sites that are designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and/or Special Protection Areas (SPAs)¹.

AA comprises four stages²:

Stage One: Screening

The process which identifies the likely impacts upon a Natura 2000 site of a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant.

Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment

The consideration of the impact on the integrity of the Natura 2000 site of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's structure and function and its conservation objectives. Additionally, where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts.

Stage Three: Assessment of Alternative Solutions

The process which examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoid adverse impacts on the integrity of the Natura 2000 site.

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

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

This report documents the first of these stages. It's conclusion that significant impacts on Natura 2000 sites are unlikely means that further AA stages are not required.

¹ including Ramsar sites (classified under the Ramsar Convention 1971)

² *Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites (Methodological guidance on the provision of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC)*, European Commission, 2002



Section 2 The Draft Plan

2.1 Format

The headings in this and the following sections are derived from the European Commission's guidance document: *"Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites (Methodological guidance on the provision of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC)"*³

2.2 Brief Description of the Draft Plan

Under Section 9 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, every planning authority must make a development plan every six years, setting the framework for all future development in their functional area for the stated period. Development Plans are required to set out an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in question. It is in this context that Wicklow County Council has prepared the Draft CDP.

When adopted, the draft Plan will replace the current (2004-2010) Plan and it is intended to provide for the proper planning and sustainable development for the administrative area of Wicklow County Council for a duration of six years from the date on which it is adopted, unless amended.

The draft Plan consists of a written statement made up of 18 chapters and accompanying maps and appendices. It puts forward the following vision:

"For County Wicklow to be a cohesive community of people enjoying distinct but interrelated urban and rural environments; where natural surroundings and important resources are protected; where opportunities abound to live and work in a safe atmosphere, allowing people to enjoy the benefits of well paid jobs, a variety of housing choices, excellent public services, ample cultural and leisure opportunities, and a healthy environment."

In order to help implement this vision, the draft Plan sets out a number of strategic goals that underpin all of its policies and objectives.

2.3 Is the Draft Plan Necessary to Management of Natura 2000 Sites?

The draft Plan is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the Natura 2000 sites in the Plan area. However, it does include, inter alia, measures to protect, conserve and manage in a prudent and sustainable manner Wicklow's natural heritage, including Natura 2000 sites and to seek its enhancement where appropriate and feasible.

2.4 Mitigating Measures in Draft Plan

The CDP contains numerous measures which will contribute to the conservation of Natura 2000 sites in accordance with the requirements of the Habitats Directive. Chapter 3 Vision and Strategic Goals contains the following overriding policy under *Goal 9 - To protect and enhance the diversity of the County's natural and built heritage*.

³ European Commission 2002



Policy

To ensure the conservation, wise management of areas of natural heritage value, and of features of natural interest and value such as woodlands, wetlands, watercourses and areas of unspoilt uplands. To protect plant animal species and habitats which have been identified in the Habitats Directive, Birds Directive, Wildlife Act (1976) and the Flora Protection Order 1999.

Chapter 17 *Natural Environment* contains the following provisions:

Strategies

- To avoid negative impacts upon the natural environment;
- To promote appropriate enhancement of the natural environment as an integral part of any development;
- To mitigate the effects of harm where it cannot be avoided;
- To promote a reasonable balance between conservation measures and development needs in the interests of promoting the orderly and sustainable development of Wicklow.

Pertinent Objectives

- BD1** To produce a Local Biodiversity Action Plan (in accordance with the objectives of National Biodiversity Plan 2002), identifying species and habitats of importance at a County level, and identifying and promoting appropriate action for the conservation and management of these.
- BD2** To ensure that the impact of new developments on bio-diversity is minimised and require measures for the protection and enhancement of bio-diversity in all proposals for large developments
- BD3** To maintain the conservation value of existing and future Natura 2000 sites (SACs and SPA's) in the County
- BD4** Any project with the potential to impact upon a Natura 2000 site(s) shall be subject to an Appropriate Assessment in accordance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive.
- BD7** To protect non-designated sites from inappropriate development, where it is considered that such development would unduly impact on locally important natural habitats or wildlife corridors.
- BD8** To facilitate, in co-operation with the relevant statutory authorities and other groups, the identification of valuable or vulnerable habitats of local or regional importance, not otherwise protected by legislation
- BD9** The National Parks and Wildlife Service will be invited to prioritise the preparation of Management Plans for Natura 2000 Sites which are located within the County. This will facilitate the identification of Conservation Objectives for use in screening and scoping that would be necessary for any Appropriate Assessment that might be required for plans and projects within the County.
- WH5** To encourage the preservation and enhancement of native and semi-natural woodlands, groups of trees and individual trees, as part of the development control process, and require the planting of native, and appropriate local characteristic species, in all new developments
- WH6** To encourage the retention, wherever possible, of hedgerows and other distinctive boundary treatment in the County. Where removal of a hedgerow, stone wall or other distinctive boundary treatment is unavoidable, provision of the same type of boundary will be required of similar length and set back within the site.
- WT1** To implement the *EU Water Framework Directive* to ensure the protection, improvement and sustainable use of all waters in the County, including rivers, lakes, ground water, coastal and estuarine waters, and to restrict development likely to lead to a deterioration in water quality.
- WT2** To resist development that would interfere with the natural water cycle to a degree that would interfere with the survival and stability of natural habitats.
- WT5** To promote the development of riverine walks and parks, subject to the sensitivity and / or designation of the riverside habitat.



Other relevant measures include the following:

General Coastal Zone Objective GCZ2

To ensure that no reclamation of estuary land or coastal marshland occurs which would damage coastal habitats.

Pertinent Policies

- CZ5 2 To control and limit residential development to that shown to be strictly necessary (in accordance with the County settlement and rural development strategies) and to require the highest standards of siting and design for any new dwellings and regard to environmental designations.
- CZ5 3 To prohibit the development of new dwellings within 100m of the shoreline.
- CZ5 6 To facilitate the development of a coastal walk (having due regard to environmental designations and compliance with the EU Habitats Directive) and to restrict development that interferes with the achievement of this objective.

2.5 Other Instruments

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

- **The Habitats Directive (HD):** The European Council Directive on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (92/43/EEC) (Habitats Directive)
- **The Water Framework Directive (WFD):** The Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC
- **The National Biodiversity Plan (NBP):** UN Convention on Biological Diversity 1992 - National Biodiversity Plan 2002 is as a result of this.
- **The Wildlife Act (WA):** Wildlife Act 1976 and Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 (Wildlife Act)
- **The Birds Directive (BD):** The 1979 European Council Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC) (Birds Directive)
- **The Ramsar Convention (R):** Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar)
- **The Bathing Water Directive (BW):** Bathing Water Directive (76/160/EEC)
- **The Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (WW):** (91/271/EEC) (amended by Directive 98/15/EEC)

2.6 Cumulative Effects

The National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020 and the National Development Plan 2007-2013 set the planning framework within which the draft Wicklow CDP has been prepared with the objective of achieving an optimal balance of social, economic and physical development across the County. The effects of the higher level Strategy and Plan are considered insofar as they inform the CDP.



Section 3 Natura 2000 Sites

County Wicklow has four Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and thirteen candidate Special Areas of Conservation (SACs). There are twelve Natura 2000 sites outside of County Wicklow but within the 15km boundary. These and surrounding sites are all mapped on Figure 1. There are no Ramsar sites in the Plan area.

3.1 Special Areas of Conservation

Candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSACs) have been selected for protection under the European Council Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC), referred to as the Habitats Directive, by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government due to their conservation value for habitats and species of importance in the European Union. The sites are candidate sites because they are currently under consideration by the Commission of the European Union.

There are thirteen cSACs within the Plan area which are detailed in Section 3.1.1 below. The ten cSACs which fall within 15km of the Plan boundary are set out in Section 3.1.2 of this report. Conservation Objectives for all cSACs are listed.

3.1.1 cSACs within the Plan Area

Ballyman Glen cSAC (Site Code 000713): Ballyman Glen is situated approximately 3 km north of Enniskerry. It is orientated in an east-west direction with a stream running through the centre. The presence of alkaline fen and of petrifying spring/seepage areas on the site is particularly notable, as these habitats are listed, the latter with priority status, on Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion); Alkaline fens.
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Bray Head cSAC (Site Code 000714): This coastal site is situated in the north-east of Co. Wicklow between the towns of Bray and Greystones. Bray Head is of high conservation importance as it has good examples of two habitats (sea cliffs and dry heath) listed on Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive. It also supports a number of rare plant species and has ornithological importance.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts; European dry heaths
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Buckroneys-Brittass Dunes and Fen cSAC (Site Code 000729): This site is a complex of coastal habitats located about 10 km south of Wicklow Town. It comprises two main sand dune systems, Brittass Bay and Buckroneys Dunes, connected on the coast by the rocky headland of Mizen Head. Several coastal habitats listed on the EU Habitats Directive, including two priority habitats - fixed dune and decalcified dune heath - are present. Little Tern, a species listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive, has bred or attempted to breed at Buckroneys strand in recent years.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Annual vegetation of drift lines; Perennial vegetation of stony banks; Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*); Embryonic shifting dunes; Shifting dunes



along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes); Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes); Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (*Calluno-Ulicetea*); Dunes with *Salix repens* ssp. *argentea* (*Salix arenariae*); Humid dune slacks; Alkaline fens

2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Carriggower Bog cSAC (Site Code 000716): Carriggower Bog is situated on Calary plateau at the eastern edge of the Wicklow Mountains. The site is an area of wet bog and poor fen, flanked by the Vartry River on the south-western side. This site is a candidate SAC selected for transition mire, a habitat listed on Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitat for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Transition mires and quaking bogs.
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Deputy's Pass Nature Reserve cSAC (Site Code 000717): Deputy's Pass woodland is located on the northern spur of the Deputy's Pass near Glenealy, Co. Wicklow. Deputy's Pass is managed as a Nature Reserve and is part of an internationally important series of Oak woods in County Wicklow (Glendalough, Clara Vale, Ballinacor, amongst others), which are almost certainly natural in origin and which retain much of their original character and species composition.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitat for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in British Isles
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Glen of the Downs cSAC (Site Code 000719): This site is a semi-natural Oak wood situated within an impressive glacial overflow channel. It is located on the Dublin-Wexford road about 7 km south of Bray, Co. Wicklow. The site supports Oak woodland of a type that is listed on Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitat for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in British Isles.
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Holdenstown Bog cSAC (Site Code 001757): Holdenstown bog is situated about 3 km south-east of Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow. It is a small raised bog surrounded by transition mire which has developed in a kettle hole. Holdenstown Bog is a candidate SAC selected for transition mire, a habitat listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive. Holdenstown Bog is of conservation importance as an intact example of transition mire, a habitat listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive, and for a range of plant species typical of incipient raised bog development.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitat for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Transition mires and quaking bogs.
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Knocksink Wood cSAC (Site Code 000725): Knocksink Wood is situated in the valley of the Glencullen River north-west of Enniskerry. The importance of this site lies in the diversity of woodland habitats which occur. The presence of rare or threatened plants and invertebrates adds to the interest. Much of



this site has been designated a Statutory Nature Reserve and there is presently an educational centre within the site.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion); Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae).
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Magherabeg Dunes cSAC (Site Code 001766): This sand dune system is situated at Ardmore Point, about 5 km south of Wicklow Head. The site is of importance in that it is a fine example of a dune system which is fairly intact and which has a well-developed flora. The lack of easy public access to this site as undoubtedly been responsible in preventing damage and erosion from amenity activities. The presence of wetland vegetation on the site is of additional interest.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Annual vegetation of drift lines; Embryonic shifting dunes; Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes); Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes); Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea); Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion).
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site
To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

The Murrough Wetlands cSAC (Site Code 002249): See also of The Murrough SPA (Site Code: 004186): The Murrough is a coastal wetland complex which stretches for 15 km from Ballygannon to north of Wicklow town, and in parts, extends inland for up to 1 km. A shingle ridge stretches the length of the site and carries the mainline Dublin-Wexford railway. The site supports a number of habitats listed on Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive and a number of bird species listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive, as well as a wide range of important migratory birds. There are also many rare plants in the site. This site is of importance as it is the largest coastal wetland complex on the east coast of Ireland. Although much affected by drainage, it still contains a wide range of coastal and freshwater habitats including five listed on Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive, some of which contain threatened plants. Areas on the site contain a rich invertebrate fauna, including several rarities. It is an important site for both wintering and breeding birds and supports a wide variety of species listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Annual vegetation of drift lines; Perennial vegetation of stony banks; Atlantic salt meadows (*Glaucopuccinellietalia maritima*); Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*); Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davalliana*; Alkaline fens.
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Vale of Clara (Rathdrum Wood) cSAC (Site Code 000733): The Vale of Clara woodland, situated mostly on the east side of the Avonmore River, immediately north of Rathdrum, between 107 and 244 m above sea level, forms an integral part of one of the most scenic valleys in Wicklow. The Oak woods are good examples of the species-poor *Blechno-Quercetum* vegetation community, a habitat listed on Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive and are best developed in the Cronybyrne area.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitat for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in British Isles
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site



3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Wicklow Mountains cSAC (Site Code 002122): The vegetation provides examples of the typical upland habitats with heath, blanket bog and upland grassland covering large, relatively undisturbed areas. In all ten habitats listed on Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive are found within the site. Several rare, protected plant and animal species occur. This site is a complex of upland areas in Counties Wicklow and Dublin, flanked by Blessington Reservoir to the west and Vartry Reservoir in the east, Cruagh Mt. in the north and Lybagh Mt. in the south.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the *Littorelletea uniflorae* and/or of the *Isoëto-Nanojuncetea*; Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds; Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix*; European dry heaths; Alpine and Boreal heaths; Species-rich *Nardus* grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe); Blanket bog; Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (*Androsacetalia alpinae* and *Galeopsietalia ladani*); Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation; Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation; Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in British Isles.
2. To maintain the Annex II species for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: *Lutra lutra*.
3. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
4. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Wicklow Reef cSAC (Site Code 002274): Wicklow Reef is of high conservation value as it is the only documented example in Ireland of a biogenic reef. Reefs are listed under Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive. Wicklow Reef is situated just to the north of Wicklow Head on the east coast of County Wicklow.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitat for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Reefs.
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

3.1.2 cSACs within 15km of the Plan Area

Blackstairs Mountains (Site Code 000770): The Blackstairs Mountains are located along the border of the counties Wexford and Carlow, forming a mountain chain that runs in a north-east/south-west direction for approximately 22 km and including six peaks over 520 m. The range has a core of granite, and on the Carlow side, erosion has cut deeply into the dome exposing successive layers of granite, giving a steeply stepped slope. On the east side some overlying Ordovician slates and sandstones are evident. The site is important for extensive areas of dry heath - a habitat listed under Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive. The Blackstairs Mountains cSAC is the only example of moorland above 300 m in counties Wexford and Carlow. It includes good examples of dry heath, a habitat that is listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive. The plant and animal communities are typical of the uplands and the growth of Heather is particularly profuse, rivalling some of the larger areas of Heather cover in Co. Wicklow.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix*; European dry heaths.
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.



Glenasmole Valley (Site Code 001209): Glenasmole Valley in south Co. Dublin lies on the edge of the Wicklow uplands, approximately 5 km from Tallaght. The River Dodder flows through the valley and has been impounded here to form two reservoirs which supply water to south Dublin. The site provides excellent habitat for bat species, with at least four species recorded: Pipistrelle, Leisler's, Daubenton's and Brown Long-eared Bat. Otter occurs along the river and reservoirs. These habitats also support Kingfisher, an Annex I species under the EU Birds Directive. Glenasmole Valley contains a high diversity of habitats and plant communities, including three habitats listed on Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive. The presence of four Red Data Book plant species further enhances the value of the site as does the presence of populations of several mammal and bird species of conservation interest.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco Brometalia*); *Molinia* meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*); Petrifying springs with tufa formation (*Cratoneurion*).
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Kilpatrick Sandhills (Site Code 001742): Kilpatrick Sandhills are located about 8km south of Arklow town, and just south of the Wicklow/Wexford county border. The site is comprised of a mosaic of coastal habitats but primarily a mature sand dune system which extends along 2 km of coastline. The site is ecologically important as a good example of a mature and fairly intact sand dune system which shows the developmental stages of dunes from fore dunes to mature grey dunes. A good diversity of habitats and species are present. Fixed dunes and dune heath are priority habitats under Annex I of the European Habitats Directive.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Annual vegetation of drift lines; Embryonic shifting dunes; Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes); Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes); Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (*Calluno-Ulicetea*).
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

North Dublin Bay (Site Code 000206): This site covers the inner part of north Dublin Bay, the seaward boundary extending from the Bull Wall lighthouse across to the Martello Tower at Howth Head. The North Bull Island is the focal point of this site. The island is a sandy spit which formed after the building of the South Wall and Bull Wall in the 18th and 19th centuries. It now extends for about 5 km in length and is up to 1 km wide in places. This site is an excellent example of a coastal site with all the main habitats represented. The holds good examples of ten habitats that are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive; one of these is listed with priority status. Several of the wintering bird species have populations of international importance, while some of the invertebrates are of national importance. The site contains a numbers of rare and scarce plants including some which are legally protected. Its proximity to the capital city makes North Dublin Bay an excellent site for educational studies and research.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Annual vegetation of drift lines; *Salicornia* and other annuals colonizing mud and sand; Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*); Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*); Embryonic shifting dunes; Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes); Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes); Humid dune slacks.
2. To maintain the Annex II species for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: *Petalophyllum ralfsii*.
3. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site
4. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.



Pollardstown Fen (Site Code 000396): Pollardstown Fen is situated on the northern margin of the Curragh of Kildare, approximately 3km west-north-west of Newbridge. It lies in a shallow depression, running in a north-west/south-east direction. About 40 springs provide a continuous supply of water to the fen. These rise chiefly at its margins, along distinct seepage areas of mineral ground above the fen level. The continual inflow of calcium-rich water from the Curragh, and from the limestone ground to the north, creates waterlogged conditions which lead to peat formation. There are layers of calcareous marl in this peat, reflecting inundation by calcium-rich water. This peat-marl deposit reaches some 6 m at its deepest point and is underlain by clay. Pollardstown fen is the largest spring-fed fen in Ireland and has a well developed flora and fauna. Owing to the rarity of this habitat and the numbers of rare organisms found there, the site is rated as of international importance.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the Caricion *davallianae*; Petrifying springs with tufa formation (*Cratoneurion*); Alkaline fens.
2. To maintain the Annex II species for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: *Vertigo geyeri*, *Vertigo angustior*, *Vertigo moulinsiana*.
3. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
4. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Red Bog, Kildare (Site Code 000397): Red Bog, Kildare is located 3 km north of the village of Blessington in east Co. Kildare, close to the boundary with Co. Wicklow. It comprises a wetland complex of lake, fen and bog situated in a hollow between ridges of glacially-deposited material and underlain by rocks of Ordovician age. The site is a candidate SAC selected for transition mire, a habitat listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive. Red Bog, Kildare is a site of particular conservation significance, supporting as it does, a good example of a transition mire, a habitat that is listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Transition mires and quaking bogs.
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

River Barrow and River Nore (Site Code 002162): This site consists of the freshwater stretches of the Barrow/Nore River catchments as far upstream as the Slieve Bloom Mountains and it also includes the tidal elements and estuary as far downstream as Creadun Head in Waterford. The site passes through eight counties – Offaly, Kildare, Laois, Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Wexford and Waterford. The site is a candidate SAC selected for alluvial wet woodlands and petrifying springs, priority habitats on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive. The site is also selected as a candidate SAC for old oak woodlands, floating river vegetation, estuary, tidal mudflats, *Salicornia* mudflats, Atlantic salt meadows, Mediterranean salt meadows, dry heath and eutrophic tall herbs, all habitats listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive. The site is also selected for the following species listed on Annex II of the same directive – Sea Lamprey, River Lamprey, Brook Lamprey, Freshwater Pearl Mussel, Nore Freshwater Pearl Mussel, Crayfish, Twaite Shad, Atlantic Salmon, Otter, *Vertigo moulinsiana* and the plant Killarney Fern. Overall, the site is of considerable conservation significance for the occurrence of good examples of habitats and of populations of plant and animal species that are listed on Annexes I and II of the E.U. Habitats Directive respectively. Furthermore it is of high conservation value for the populations of bird species that use it. The occurrence of several Red Data Book plant species including three rare plants in the salt meadows and the population of the hard water form of the Pearl Mussel which is limited to a 10 km stretch of the Nore, add further interest to this site.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Estuaries; Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; *Salicornia* and other annuals colonising mud and sand; Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima*); Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*); Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitriche-Batrachion* vegetation;



European dry heaths; Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels; Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion); Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in British Isles; Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)

2. To maintain the Annex II species for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: *Vertigo moulinsiana*; *Margaritifera margaritifera*; *Austropotamobius pallipes*; *Petromyzon marinus*; *Lampetra planeri*; *Lampetra fluviatilis*; *Alosa fallax*; *Salmo salar*; *Lutra lutra*; *Trichomanes speciosum*; *Margaritifera durrovensis*
3. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site
4. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Rye Water Valley/Carlton (Site Code 001398): This site is located between Leixlip and Maynooth. It extends along the Rye Water, a tributary of the R. Liffey. Within the woods, Blackcap, Woodcock and Long-eared Owl have been recorded. Little Grebe, Coot, Moorhen, Tufted Duck, Teal and Kingfisher, the latter a species listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive, occur on and about the lake. The Rye Water is a spawning ground for Trout and Salmon, and the rare, White-clawed Crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*) has been recorded at Leixlip. The latter two species are listed on Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive. The semi-aquatic snails *Vertigo angustior* and *V. moulinsiana* occur in marsh vegetation near Louisa Bridge; both are rare in Ireland and Europe and are listed on Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive. The scarce Dragonfly, *Orthetrum coerulescens*, has been recorded at Louisa Bridge. The main importance of the site lies in the presence of several rare and threatened plant and animal species, and of a rare habitat, thermal, mineral, petrifying spring. The woods found on Carlton Estate and their birdlife are of additional interest.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitat for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion).
2. To maintain the Annex II species for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: *Vertigo angustior*, *Vertigo moulinsiana*.
3. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
4. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

Slaney River Valley cSAC (Site Code 00781): This site comprises the freshwater stretches of the Slaney as far as the Wicklow Mountains; a number of tributaries the larger of which include the Bann, Boro, Glasha, Clody, Derry, Derreen, Douglas and Carrigower Rivers; the estuary at Ferrycarrig and Wexford Harbour. The site flows through the counties of Wicklow, Wexford and Carlow. Towns along the site but not in it are Baltinglass, Hacketstown, Tinahely, Tullow, Bunclody, Camolin, Enniscorthy and Wexford. The river is up to 100 m wide in places and is tidal at the southern end from Edermine Bridge below Enniscorthy. The site supports populations of several species listed on Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive, and habitats listed on Annex I of this directive, as well as important numbers of wintering wildfowl including some species listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive. The presence of wet and broad-leaved woodlands increases the overall habitat diversity and the occurrence of a number of Red Data Book plant and animal species adds further importance to the Slaney River site.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in British Isles; Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae); Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation; Estuaries; Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide
2. To maintain the Annex II species for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: *Alosa fallax*, *Lampetra fluviatilis*, *Lampetra planeri*, *Petromyzon marinus*, *Salmo salar*, *Margaritifera margaritifera*, *Lutra lutra*
3. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the
4. entire site
5. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.



South Dublin Bay (Site Code 000210): This site lies south of the River Liffey and extends from the South Wall to the west pier at Dun Laoghaire. It is an intertidal site with extensive areas of sand and mudflats, a habitat listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive. The sediments are predominantly sands but grade to sandy muds near the shore at Merrion gates. The main channel which drains the area is Cockle Lake. This site is a fine example of a coastal system with extensive sand and mudflats, a habitat listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive. South Dublin Bay is also an internationally important bird site.

Draft Conservation Objectives:

1. To maintain the Annex I habitat for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide.
2. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
3. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

3.2 Special Protection Areas

Special Protection Areas (SPAs) have been selected for protection under the 1979 European Council Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC) - referred to as the Birds Directive - by the DEHLG due to their conservation value for birds of importance in the European Union.

There are four SPAs within the Plan area which are detailed in Section 3.2.1 below. The two SPAs which fall within 15km of the Plan boundary are set out in Section 3.2.2 of this report. Conservation Objectives for all SPAs are listed.

3.2.1 SPAs within the Plan Area

Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA (Site Code 004063): Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA, located in the western foothills of the Wicklow Mountains, was created in 1944 by damming of the River Liffey for the purpose of generating electricity from hydropower. The reservoir covers an area of approximately 20 km² and is the largest inland water body in the Mideast and south-east regions. The principal interest of the site is the Greylag Goose population, which is of international importance. A range of other wildfowl species also occurs, including Whooper Swan, a species that is listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive. The site is also notable as a winter roost for gulls, especially Lesser Black-backed Gull.

Main conservation objective: To maintain the special conservation interests for this SPA at favourable conservation status: Greylag Goose, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Wetland & Waterbirds.

The Murrough SPA (Site Code 004186): The Murrough SPA comprises a coastal wetland complex that stretches for 13km from Kilcoole Station, east of Kilcoole village in the north to Wicklow Town in the south, and extends inland for up to 1 km in places. The regular occurrence of Red-throated Diver, Little Egret, Whooper Swan, Greenland White-fronted Goose, Golden Plover, Little Tern, Sandwich Tern, Short-eared Owl and Kingfisher is of note as these species are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive. The site also supports a typical diversity of birds associated with reed swamp, including Reed Warbler, a very localised species in Ireland. The site is also of considerable importance for the wide range of coastal and freshwater habitats that it supports, including several that are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive.

Main conservation objective: To maintain the special conservation interests for this SPA at favourable conservation status: Light-bellied Brent Goose, Little Tern, Red-throated Diver, Greylag Goose, Wigeon, Teal, Black-headed Gull, Herring Gull.

Wicklow Head SPA (Site Code 004127)⁴: Wicklow Head is a rocky headland with extensive exposures of mica-schist. It is situated approximately 3km south of Wicklow Town. The Kittiwake and Black Guillemot populations are of National Importance. The site also supports a pair of breeding Peregrines, a species listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive. Ravens nest annually on the cliffs, and the heath

⁴ This site is currently under review with regard to its designated status. Conservation objectives are not available at time of preparation of this draft assessment.



supports such species as Stonechat, Whitethroat and Linnet. This site is important as it has a well-documented seabird colony, with two species having populations of national importance.

Wicklow Mountains SPA (Site Code 004040): This is an extensive upland site, comprising a substantial part of the Wicklow Mountains. This site is of high ornithological importance as it supports very good examples of upland and woodland bird communities. Several of the species which occur are very rare at a national level. Two species, Ring Ouzel and Red Grouse, are Red-listed and their status is of high conservation concern. Also of note is that Merlin and Peregrine are both listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive.

Main conservation objective: To maintain the special conservation interests for this SPA at favourable conservation status: Merlin, Peregrine.

3.2.2 SPAs within 15km of the Plan Area

North Bull Island SPA (Site Code 004006): This site covers all of the inner part of north Dublin Bay, with the seaward boundary extending from the Bull Wall lighthouse across to Drumleck Point at Howth Head. The North Bull Island sand spit is a relatively recent depositional feature, formed as a result of improvements to Dublin Port during the 18th and 19th centuries. It is almost 5 km long and 1 km wide and runs parallel to the coast between Clontarf and Sutton. Part of the interior of the island has been converted to golf courses. The North Bull Island SPA is an excellent example of an estuarine complex and is one of the top sites in Ireland for wintering waterfowl. It is of international importance on account of both the total number of waterfowl and the individual populations of Lightbellied Brent Goose, Black-tailed Godwit and Bar-tailed Godwit that use it. Also of significance is the regular presence of several species that are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive, notably Golden Plover and Bar-tailed Godwit, but also Ruff and Short-eared Owl.

Main conservation objective: To maintain the special conservation interests for this SPA at favourable conservation status: Light-bellied Brent Goose, Shelduck, Pintail, Shoveler, Oystercatcher, Grey Plover, Knot, Dunlin, Black-tailed Godwit, Bar-tailed Godwit, Redshank, Turnstone, 20,000 wintering waterbirds, Teal, Ringed Plover, Golden Plover, Sanderling, Curlew, Black-headed Gull, Wetland & Waterbirds.

South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (Site Code 004024): The South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA comprises a substantial part of Dublin Bay. It includes the intertidal area between the River Liffey and Dun Laoghaire, and the estuary of the River Tolka to the north of the River Liffey, as well as Booterstown Marsh. A portion of the shallow marine waters of the bay is also included. The South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA is of international importance for Light-bellied Brent Goose and of national importance for nine other waterfowl species. As an autumn tern roost, it is also of international importance. Furthermore, the site supports a nationally important colony of Common Tern. All of the tern species using the site are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive, as are Bartailed Godwit and Mediterranean Gull.

Main conservation objective: To maintain the special conservation interests for this SPA at favourable conservation status: Light-bellied Brent Goose, Knot, Sanderling, Bar-tailed Godwit, Redshank, Roseate Tern, Common Tern, Arctic Tern, Oystercatcher, Ringed Plover, Golden Plover, Grey Plover, Dunlin, Black-headed Gull, Wetland & Waterbirds.



Appropriate Assessment - Draft Screening Report - for the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2010-2016

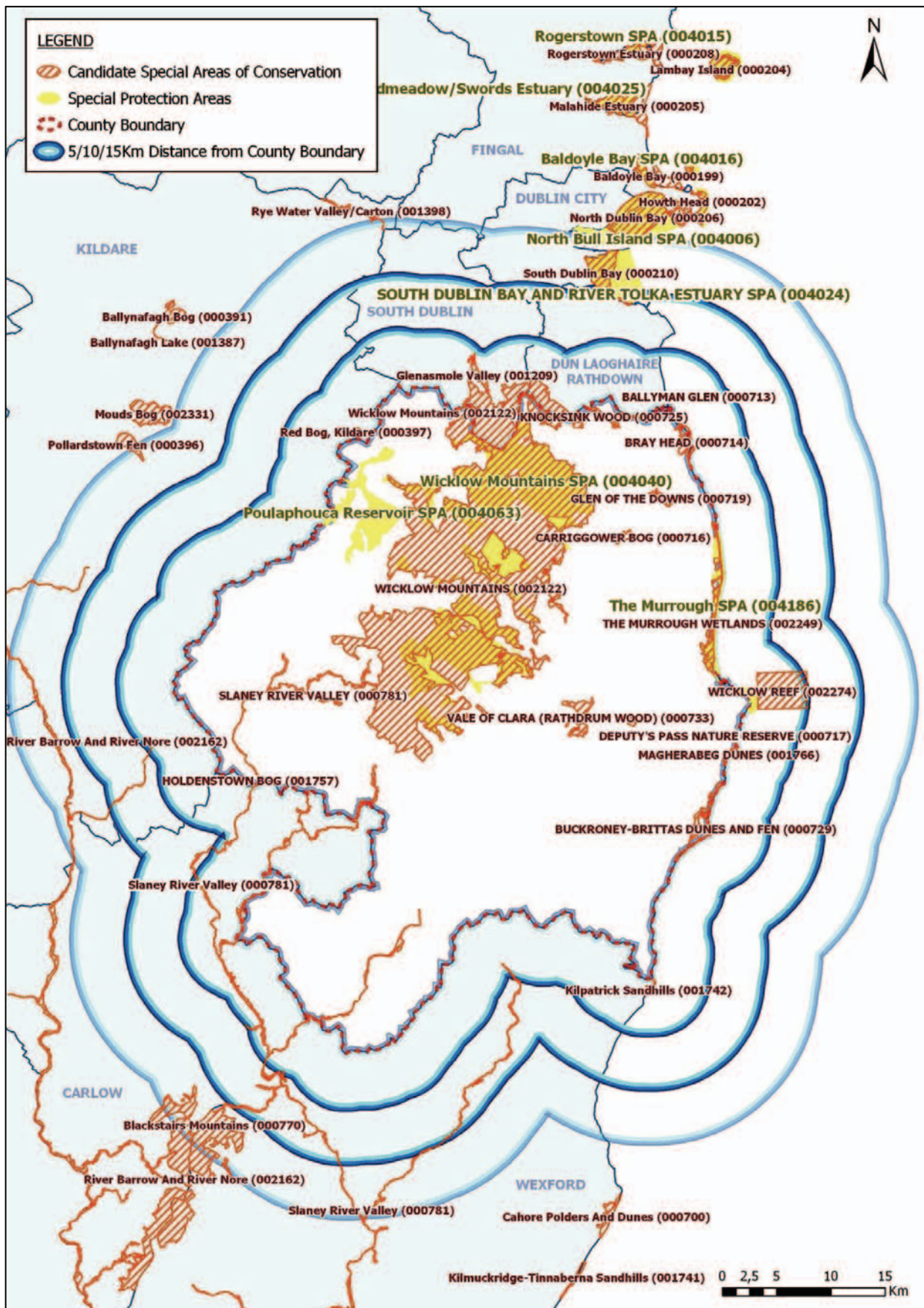


Figure 1 Natura 2000 Sites within the Plan area and within 5, 10 and 15km of the Plan Boundary



Section 4 Assessment Criteria

4.1 Elements of the Plan with Potential to Give Rise to Significant Effects

A list of the individual policies and objectives of the draft Plan (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) with potential to give rise to impacts on the Natura 2000 sites is included in the left hand column of Table 1.

These have been taken from Section 8 - *Evaluation of Draft Plan Provisions* - of the Environmental Report which has been prepared as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment process. In that evaluation each of the draft Plan's policies and objectives were evaluated against the Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) listed below:

SEO B1: To avoid loss of relevant habitats, geological features, species or their sustaining resources in designated ecological sites.

SEO B2: To avoid significant adverse impacts, including direct, cumulative and indirect impacts, to relevant habitats, geological features, species or their sustaining resources in designated ecological sites by development within or adjacent to these sites.

SEO B3: To sustain, enhance or - where relevant - prevent the loss of ecological networks or parts thereof which provide significant connectivity between areas of local biodiversity.

4.2 Elements of Plan Likely to Cause Impacts

The tables in the accompanying Appendix identify whether these policies and objectives are likely to cause any direct, indirect or secondary impacts (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) on the sites by assessing them against the sites' conservation objectives.

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



Section 5 Conclusions

5.1 Criteria for Assessment

On the basis of the above analysis it can be concluded that no projects that will cause significant adverse direct, indirect or secondary impacts on the integrity of any Natura 2000 sites shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan⁵ (either individually or in combination with other plans or projects), considering the following factors⁶:

- size and scale
- land-take
- distance from the Natura 2000 site or key features of the site
- resource requirements (water abstraction etc.)
- emissions (disposal to land, water or air)
- excavation requirements
- transportation requirements
- duration of construction, operation, decommissioning, etc.
- habitat area
- disturbance to key species
- habitat or species fragmentation
- species density
- changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.)
- climate change
- key relationships that define the structure of the sites
- key relationships that define the function of the site

Furthermore, such developments as will be permitted on foot of the provisions of this Plan shall be required to conform with the relevant regulatory provisions for the prevention of pollution, nuisance or other environmental effects.

5.2 Conclusion

The trigger for a Stage Two⁷ AA would be if the draft Plan were likely to have significant effects on a Natura 2000 site. This screening report evaluates the draft Plan to see if it needs to be the subject of a Stage Two AA. It finds that the draft Plan has been formulated to ensure that uses, developments and effects arising from permissions based upon the draft Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans or projects) shall not give rise to significant effects on the integrity of any Natura 2000 sites⁵. Therefore, in accordance with the *Methodological guidance on the provision of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC*, it is concluded that the draft Plan does not require any further assessment to demonstrate compliance with the Directive.

⁵ 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 to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000

⁶ These factors have been taken from *Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites (Methodological guidance on the provision of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC)*, EC, 2002

⁷ ref. Section 1

APPENDIX TO

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT
- DRAFT SCREENING REPORT -

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

FOR THE

**DRAFT WICKLOW COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN
2010-2016**

TABLES SHOWING:
**ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL AND RESIDUAL
IMPACTS OF POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES**

for: Wicklow County Council

County Hall
Station Road
Wicklow Town
County Wicklow



by: CAAS (Environmental Services)

4th Floor, Red Cow Lane
Smithfield
Dublin 7



SEPTEMBER 2009

Table of Contents

Table 1	Natura 2000 Sites within the Plan Area (part 1 of 2)	1
Table 2	Natura 2000 Sites within the Plan Area (part 2 of 2)	7
Table 3	Natura 2000 Sites within 15km of the Plan Area.....	14

Table 1 Natura 2000 Sites within the Plan Area (part 1 of 2)

Policy/Objective found to have the potential to affect Natura 2000 sites. (Full wording is set out in Sect. 8 of the Environmental Report)	Ballyman Glen cSAC (000713)			Bray Head cSAC (000714)			Buckrone-y-Brittias Dunes&Fen cSAC (000729)			Carriggower Bog cSAC (000716)			Deputy's Pass Nature Reserve cSAC (000707)			Glen of the Downs cSAC (000719)			Holdenstown Bog cSAC (001757)			Knocksink Wood cSAC (000725)			Magherabeg Dunes cSAC (001766)			Avoidance / Mitigation Measures		Residual Impacts	
	Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Policies / Objectives contained in draft CDP	Other Instruments					
	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative			Direct	Indirect	Cumulative		
Ch3: Vision and Strategic Goals																															
Key Strategic Goals and accompanying Strategic Policies	2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	As set out in Section 2.4 of the main body of this report	As set out in Section 2.5 of the main body of this report	None	
	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			None	
	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	None
	6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	None
	7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	None
	8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	None
	10	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	None
Ch4: Population, Housing and Settlement																															
Population Objectives	POP1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None			
	POP2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None		
Housing Objectives	HS1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None			
	HS2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None			
	HS3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None			
	HS5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None			
Settlement Objectives	SS1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None			
	SS3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None			
Chapter 5: Urban Development																															
Objectives	UD1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None			
	UD2	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None			

Table 2 Natura 2000 Sites within the Plan Area (part 2 of 2)

Policy/Objective found to have the potential to affect Natura 2000 sites. (Full wording is set out in Sect. 8 of the Environmental Report)	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA (004063)			The Morrough SPA (004186)			The Morrough Wetlands cSAC (002249)			Slaney River Valley cSAC (000781)			Vale of Clara cSAC (000733)			Wicklow Head SPA (004127)			Wicklow Mountains SPA (004040)			Wicklow Mountains cSAC (002122)			Wicklow Reef cSAC(002274)			Avoidance / Mitigation Measures				
	Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Policies / Objectives contained in draft CDP	Other Instruments	Residual Impacts					
	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Direct	Indirect				Cumulative	Direct	Indirect		
Ch3: Vision and Strategic Goals																																
Key Strategic Goals and accompanying Strategic Policies	2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	As set out in Section 2.4 if the main body of this report	As set out in Section 2.5 of the main body of this report	None	
	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			None	
	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	None
	6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	None
	7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	None
	8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	None
	10	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	None
Ch4: Population, Housing and Settlement																																
Population Objectives	POP 1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	As set out in Section 2.4 if the main body of this report	As set out in Section 2.5 of the main body of this report	None	
	POP 2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			None	
Housing Objectives	HS1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	As set out in Section 2.4 if the main body of this report	As set out in Section 2.5 of the main body of this report	None	
	HS2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			None	
	HS3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			None	
	HS5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			None	
Settlement Objectives	SS1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	As set out in Section 2.4 if the main body of this report	As set out in Section 2.5 of the main body of this report	None	
	SS3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			None	
Chapter 5: Urban Development																																
Objectives	UD1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	As set out in Section 2.4 if the main body of this report	As set out in Section 2.5 of the main body of this report	None	
	UD2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			None	

Appendix to Draft Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the Draft Wicklow County Dev. Plan 2010-2016

	PT3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None		
	PT5																									None		
	PT7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None		
Cycling & Walking Objectives	CW3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None		
	CW5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None		
Parking objectives	PP1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None		
	PP2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None		
	PP3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None		
Ports, Harbours & Marinas Objectives	PHM 1				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X							X	X	X	None
	PHM 2		X	X							X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X
Chapter 12: Water Infrastructure																												
Water Infrastructure: Objectives	WS1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Chapter 14: Energy and Communications																												
Strategy		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Wind Energy Objectives	WE2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	WE4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Hydro Energy Objectives	HE1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	HE2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Small-scale renewable objective	SR1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Transmission & Distribution Objectives	GE1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	GE3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Telecommunications Objectives	ICT1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	ICT3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Chapter 15: Social and Community Infrastructure, including open space																												
Social and Community Infrastructure, including open space: Strategy		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Community Development Objectives	CD2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	CD3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	CD5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None

Table 3 Natura 2000 Sites within 15km of the Plan Area

Policy/Objective found to have the potential to affect Natura 2000 sites. (Full wording is set out in Sect. 8 of the Environmental Report)	Blackstairs Mountains cSAC (00770)			Glensmole Valley cSAC (001209)			Kilpatrick Sandhills cSAC (001742)			North Bull Island SPA (004006)			North Dublin Bay cSAC (000206)			Pollardstown Fen cSAC (000396)			Red Bog, Kildare cSAC (000397)			River Barrow And River Nore cSAC (002162)			Rye Water Valley/Cartron Valley cSAC (001398)			South Dublin Bay cSAC (000210)			South Dublin Bay&River Tolka SPA (004024)			Avoidance / Mitigation Measures				
	Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Potential Impacts			Policies / Objectives contained in draft CDP	Other Instruments	Residual Impacts					
	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative								
Ch3: Vision and Strategic Goals																																	As set out in Section 2.4 of the main body of this report	As set out in Section 2.5 of the main body of this report				
Key Strategic Goals and accompanying Strategic Policies	2		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X				X	X	None	
	4		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X				X	X	None	
	5		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X				X	X	None	
	6		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X				X	X	None	
	7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	None
	8		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X				X	X	None	
	10																																			None		
Ch4: Population, Housing and Settlement																																						
Population Objectives	POP1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None			
	POP2		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None			
Housing Objectives	HS1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None			
	HS2		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None			
	HS3		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None			
	HS5		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None			
Settlement Objectives	SS1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None			
	SS3		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None			
Chapter 5: Urban Development																																						
Objectives	UD1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None			
	UD2		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None			
	UD3		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None			

Appendix to Draft Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the Draft Wicklow County Dev. Plan 2010-2016

	UD4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	UD5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	UD6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Chapter 6: Rural Development																		
	RH1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RH2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RH4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RH5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RH6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RH9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RH11	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RH12	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RH13	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RH14	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Chapter 7: Employment, Enterprise and Economic Development																		
	Strategy	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	Strategic Objectives	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Objectives for employment, enterprise and economic development	EMP2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	EMP3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	EMP7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	EMP14	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	EMP15	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	EMP17	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	EMP18	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	EMP19	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	EMP21																	None
	EMP22	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Chapter 8: The Rural Economy																		
Commercial & Industrial Development in a Rural Area	RUR4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Agriculture	Strategic Objective	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	AGR2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None

Appendix to Draft Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the Draft Wicklow County Dev. Plan 2010-2016

	AGR6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Forestry	FTY4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	FTY6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	FTY7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Fisheries	FSH2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Extractive Industry	EX2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	EX3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Chapter 9: Tourism																				
General Objectives	TR3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	TR5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	TR8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	TR9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Accommodation	TA1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	TA2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	TA3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Integrated Tourism/Leisure/Recreational Complexes	ITLR1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	ITLR2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Other visitor facilities	TO1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Tourism & recreation infrastructure	TF3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Tourism & Recreation Themes & Products	TTP2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	TTP3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	TTP4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	TTP5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	TTP7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Chapter 10: Retail																				
Strategy		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
General Retail Objectives	RT3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RT4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RT5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RT6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
District centres	DC1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Large foodstores	LF1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None

Appendix to Draft Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the Draft Wicklow County Dev. Plan 2010-2016

	LF2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Neighbourhood centres	NC1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Village retail	VR1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Rural retail	RR1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Tourism retail	TR1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Retail warehousing	RW1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RW2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RW3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	RW4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Discount foodstores	DF1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Outlet centres	OC1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Factory shops	FS1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Garden centres / nurseries	GC1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Petrol filling stations	PF1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Chapter 11: Roads and Transportation																				
Public Transport Objectives	PT1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	PT2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	PT3			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	None
	PT5			X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	None
	PT7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Cycling & Walking Objectives	CW3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	CW5					X	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	None
Parking objectives	PP1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	PP2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	PP3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Ports, Harbours & Marinas Objectives	PHM1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	PHM2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Chapter 12: Water Infrastructure																				
Water Infrastructure: Objectives	WS1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Chapter 14: Energy and Communications																				
Strategy		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Wind Energy Objectives	WE2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	WE4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None

Appendix to Draft Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the Draft Wicklow County Dev. Plan 2010-2016

Hydro Energy Objectives	HE1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	HE2		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Small-scale renewable objective	SR1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Transmission & Distribution Objectives	GE1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	GE3		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Telecommunications Objectives	ICT1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	ICT3		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Chapter 15: Social and Community Infrastructure, including open space																																			
Social&Community Infrastructure, including open space: Strategy			X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Community Development Objectives	CD2		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	CD3		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	CD5		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Education objectives	ED1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	ED3		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	ED4		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	ED6		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Health Objectives	HC1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	HC2		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Residential & day care Objectives	NH1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	NH2		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	NH3		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	NH4		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Childcare Objectives	CC2		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	CC3		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	CC4		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Facilities for teenagers & young adults Objectives	TY1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	TY2		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Community centres Objectives	CC1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Sport facilities Objectives	SR1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
	SR2		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Arts Objectives	CA1		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	None
Chapter 17: Natural Environment																																			

Appendix to Draft Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the Draft Wicklow County Dev. Plan 2010-2016

Water systems Objectives	WT5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Geology Objectives	GY3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Recreation use of natural resources Objectives	AW2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	AW5																			None
Chapter 18: Coastal Zone Management																				
General coastal zone management objectives	CZ2																			None
	CZ3																			None
	CZ4																			None
	CZ8																			None
	CZ9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	CZ10	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
	CZ12	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Town Plans																				
Newcastle		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Roundwood		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Aughrim		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Tinahely		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Shillelagh		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Baltinglass		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None
Carnew		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None