



**Cork County Development Plan Review**  
Proposed Amendments to the Draft Cork  
County Development Plan 2013  
**Habitats Directive Assessment**

21 August 2014



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## 1 Introduction

Cork County Council has published (21 August 2014) proposed material amendments to the Draft Cork County Development Plan which was published on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2013. The proposed amendments have been developed following consideration of submissions and observations received from members of the public and the deliberations of the County Council concerning the plan.

In accordance with requirements of Articles 6(3) of the Habitats Directive as transposed into Part XAB of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010 (and subsequent amendments), the impacts of the policies and objectives of all statutory land use plans on certain sites that are designated for the protection of nature (known as Natura 2000 sites or European sites<sup>1</sup>), must be assessed as an integral part of the process of drafting of the plan. This is to determine whether or not the implementation of plan policies could have negative consequences for the habitats or plant and animal species for which these sites are designated. This assessment process is called a Habitats Directive Assessment (HDA) and must be carried out at all stages of the plan making process.

### **Habitats Directive Article 6(3)**

*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.*

Habitats Directive Assessment is an iterative process which is intended to run parallel to and inform the plan making process. It involves analysis and review of draft policies as they emerge during each stage of plan making, to ensure that their implementation will not impact on sites designated for nature conservation, nor on the habitats or species for which they are designated. Within this process, regard is had to the potential for policies to contribute to impacts which on their own may be acceptable, but which could be significant when considered in combination with the impacts arising from the implementation of other plans or policies.

The process may result in the development of new policy areas and/or the modification or removal of certain policies to be presented in the final plan. The results of this analysis and review are presented in reports which are produced for each stage of the plan making process. At the end of the process, a Final Natura Impact Report and Habitats Directive Conclusion Statement will be produced which will contain a statement relating as to the likely consequences of the plan on the Natura 2000 network and a summary of how ecological considerations in relation to Natura 2000

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<sup>1</sup> Natura 2000 sites include Special Areas of Conservation designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas designated under the Birds Directive. Special Areas of Conservation are sites that are protected because they support particular habitats and/or plant and animal species that have been identified to be threatened at EU community level. Special Protection Areas are sites that are protected for the conservation of species of birds that are in danger of extinction, or are rare or vulnerable. Special Protection Areas may also be sites that are particularly important for migratory birds. Such sites include internationally important wetlands.

sites have been integrated into the plan. There are two main stages to the assessment process which are as follows:

*Stage One: Screening*

The process which identifies what might be likely impacts arising from a plan on a Natura 2000 site, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant. No further assessment is required if no significant impacts on Natura 2000 sites are identified during the screening stage. The screening assessment is normally set out in a Habitats Directive Screening Report.

*Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment*

Where the possibility of significant impacts has not been discounted by the screening process, a more detailed assessment is required. This is called an **Appropriate Assessment** and involves the compilation of a **Natura Impact Report** by the Planning Authority which is a report of scientific evidence and data relating to European sites for which significant negative impacts have not been previously screened out. This is used to identify and classify any implications of the plan for these sites in view of their conservation objectives. The appropriate assessment must include a determination as to whether or not the plan or its proposed amendments would adversely affect the integrity of any European site or sites. The plan may be adopted if adverse effects on the integrity of European sites can be ruled out during the appropriate assessment process. The plan may not be adopted on foot of an Appropriate Assessment, if it is found that it will give rise to adverse impacts on one or more European sites, or if uncertainty remains in relation to potential impacts on one or more European sites following appropriate assessment.

Article 6(4) of the Directive sets out procedures to allow the adoption and implementation of plans despite a finding of adverse effects on one or more European sites. In order for such a plan or project to proceed, it must be demonstrated that

- that there are no alternatives;
- there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest for which the plan must proceed; and
- that measures have been put in place that compensate for losses/impacts which will be incurred.

***Habitats Directive Article 6(4)***

*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 a 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.*

Two further assessment stages are required, if it is determined that a plan must proceed for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, despite a finding that it will have adverse effects on

the integrity of one or more European sites. These procedures can only be invoked where it has been shown that there are no alternative ways to implement the plan which avoid adverse effects on the integrity of one or more European sites. These are set out below.

*Stage Three: Assessment of alternative solutions*

In circumstances where the potential for a plan to give rise to adverse effects on the integrity of a European site or sites has not been ruled out during the appropriate assessment process, it can only be considered for authorisation where it is demonstrated that there are no alternative solutions. Stage three of a Habitats Directive Assessment involves the assessment of alternative solutions.

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

In circumstances where it has been demonstrated that a plan must proceed for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, and where it has been shown that there are no alternatives, compensatory measures must be put in place in advance of the implementation of the plan/project which ensure the coherence of the Natura 2000 network. Compensatory measures must compensate for the expected impact on the site. The fourth stage of the habitats directive assessment process involves the assessment of the proposed compensatory measures.

This document represents the second phase of the Habitats Directive Assessment process for the new Cork County Development Plan, being the assessment of impacts of the proposed amendments to the draft plan on European sites.

Section 12 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) obliges the County Council to make the proposed amendments to the draft development plan available for inspection by the public for a period of at least 4 weeks so that written submissions or observations regarding the proposed amendments can be made to the Council. **This period will commence on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2014 and will last until 4.00 p.m. on Thursday the 2nd October 2014.** In order to be taken into consideration by the County Council, written submissions or observations must be received within that period.

**Submissions on this Proposed Amendment document, the Strategic Environmental Assessment and the Habitats Directive Assessment may be made in either of the following two ways:**

Make a formal written submission to:

**The Senior Planner  
Planning Policy Unit  
Cork County Council  
Floor 13  
County Hall  
Cork**

Or

**On-line via [www.corkcoco.ie](http://www.corkcoco.ie) following the instructions provided**

All such submissions lodged within the above period will be taken into consideration prior to the making of the new County Development Plan. Cork County Council cannot accept email submissions. It is important to note that submissions and observations made on foot of this amendment should be concerned with the changes included in the amendment only. Submissions or observations should quote the relevant paragraph / proposed change number referred to in the amendment document(s).

**Please note that the closing date for submissions is 4.00 p.m. on Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014.**

**The policies contained in the Draft Plan particularly relating to the new approach to Housing Density will lead to consequential amendments to the 10 Electoral Area Local Area Plans. This separate amendment process including public consultation will be carried out in parallel with the final stages of the County Development Plan review with a view to adopting the amendments to the Electoral Area Local Area Plans at the same time as the new Cork County Development Plan. The Planning Authority will be inviting submissions from the public on these amendments from the 21<sup>st</sup> August 2014 to the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014.**

**These amendments are not assessed in this document.**

## **2 Habitats Directive Screening of Proposed Amendments**

All Natura 2000 sites within the County, and within 15km of the County, have been screened to determine whether the amendments that have been proposed to be made to the plan, have the potential to give rise to significant negative impacts Natura 2000 sites. It follows on from the Natura Impact Report which was prepared for the Draft Cork County Development Plan 2013. The document should be read in conjunction with the [Cork County Development Plan Review Proposed Amendments to the Draft Cork County Development Plan 2013](#) and the [Addendum to the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Proposed Amendments to the Draft Cork County Development Plan 2013](#). Reference to the [Draft Cork County Development Plan 2013](#), the [Natura Impact Report for the Draft County Development Plan 2013](#), and the [Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Draft County Development Plan 2013](#) may also be useful.

A total of forty Special Areas of Conservation and twelve Special Protection Areas have been screened to determine whether the proposed amendments could have the potential to affect them. These include all Natura 2000 sites within the County boundary, and all Natura 2000 sites within 15km of the County boundary. Summary descriptions of these sites and their qualifying features are included in Appendix I of this document.

The proposed amendments are described in brief in the following tables. Full text of the amendments is included in the [Cork County Council Development Plan Review Proposed Amendments to the Draft Cork County Development Plan 2013](#). Each change has been assessed to determine whether it could have the potential to give rise to negative impacts on any Natura 2000 Site, and where issues have been identified, recommendations are included in the tables.

### **2.1 Issues Relating to Water Sensitive Catchments**

During the Habitats Directive Assessment of the Draft County Development Plan it was identified that there was uncertainty as to whether population targets set for three water catchments associated with Natura 2000 sites could be achieved without having adverse effects on these sites, and that further assessment would be required in relation to these. These are the catchment of the Blackwater River, the catchment of Cork Harbour and the catchment of Clonakilty Bay. Issues were also raised in relation to the Upper Bandon River, and particularly the settlement of Dunmanway where effluent from the Waste Water Treatment Plant is discharged directly into a Special Area of Conservation.

#### *Blackwater River*

Discussions have been ongoing with the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, and with Irish Water in relation to the Blackwater River, however, no further assessment has been completed in relation to this catchment since the publication of the draft Plan. While the population targets for this catchment have not changed, proposed amendments to the plan indicate that development which would have an adverse effect on the SAC will be put on hold until such time as issues relating to impacts on water quality in this catchment are resolved (proposed amendments 2.3, 2.4, 11.6, 11.7 and 11.8). It is understood that these amendments will result in a pause to development which requires connection to existing treatment plants within this catchment, until



- a) it has been established that the river has the assimilative capacity to accept increased treated discharges, without interfering with the achievement of the Conservation Objectives which have been set for the SAC; and
- b) waste water treatment plants can meet treatment standards required to ensure that discharges from these will not interfere with the achievement of the Conservation Objectives which have been set for the SAC.

All settlements within the catchment with deficient waste water infrastructure are included on the priority list of sites requiring urgent infrastructure upgrade, and Irish Water has indicated that it will work with Cork County Council and other stakeholders towards achieving and maintaining the required water quality in the Blackwater and to providing appropriate waste water treatment for the target populations identified in the County Development Plan where practicable.

Full Appropriate Assessment of the population targets set in the draft Plan for the Blackwater River is required *before* development which is provided for in the draft Plan can proceed.

#### *Cork Harbour*

Further work has been completed since the publication of the draft plan to assess whether the population targets for the Cork Harbour catchment area can be achieved without affecting Natura 2000 sites in the Harbour. The results of this work can be accessed on **the Council website [www.corkcoco.ie](http://www.corkcoco.ie)** (Use the Draft Cork County Development Plan 2013 button). The assessment concluded that the population targets which have been set for Metropolitan Cork can be accommodated without giving rise to adverse impacts on Natura 2000 sites provided the proposed upgrades to WWTPs discharging to the Harbour are in place in advance of proposed population increases, provided that the Cork Great Island Channel Pollution Reduction Programme is implemented, and subject to continued implementation of water management practises relating to the enforcement of the Nitrates Directive and the inspection of Septic Tanks by Cork County Council. A programme of monitoring habitats within the Great Island Channel SAC is recommended in the report.

#### *Clonakilty Bay*

A review of water quality data and other information relating to Clonakilty Bay has been completed since the publication of the draft County Development Plan, as uncertainty remained as to whether the population targets for the town could be accommodated without giving rise to adverse effects on Natura 2000 sites within the Bay. At present Clonakilty is served by a Waste Water Treatment Plant which provides secondary treatment and which was designed to cater for a population equivalent of 5,333. However, this becomes overloaded in the summertime when the population of Clonakilty expands significantly. A review of EPA license application documents show that the effluent quality does not meet the standards which are required to meet the Urban Wastewater Treatment regulations for sensitive waters. The estuarine waters at Clonakilty Bay have been classified to be eutrophic and at risk of not achieving good status. The discharge point for the plant is at the estuarine channel of the River Feagle within the Clonakilty Bay Special Area of Conservation and the Clonakilty Bay Special Protection Area. Anoxic conditions have been recorded in the immediate vicinity of the discharge point and the current nutrient loading is likely to be giving rise to negative impacts on the Annex I habitat *Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide*

one of the habitat types for which the SAC is designated. No other habitat types for which the SAC is designated are considered to be vulnerable to impacts relating to water quality.

Work is currently underway to develop a new WWTP for Clonakilty, and it is expected that the plant will be operational by mid 2015. This plant will be capable of treating a population equivalent of 20,500 and will include capacity to reduce remove nitrogen and phosphorous prior to discharge of treated effluent. The population targets for the town are to increase the population to 7,218 by 2022. The WWTP has been designed to take account of an increase in domestic population to 8,802 by 2030, as well as to take account of increased pressure from other sources including industry and tourism, and therefore is designed to meet future longterm needs.

An Appropriate Assessment report was prepared on behalf of Cork County Council in respect of the new WWTP. It concluded that the new WWTP will result in a reduction in organic loading to the bay, and may also reduce the extent of algal mat cover in the bay. The reduction in nutrient loading will be likely to have a positive effect mudflat habitats (one of the qualifying features for which the Clonakilty Bay SAC is designated), a possible return of pollution intolerant fauna. Conversely, the decreased nutrient loading in the estuary may reduce the abundance of pollution tolerant fauna in the inner estuary which provides a food source for winter waders, and therefore improvements in water quality have the potential to give rise to negative impacts on the Clonakilty Bay SPA. However, it is noted in the AA report that the likely reduction in the extent of algal mat cover in the estuary will increase foraging habitat for birds across the estuary and partially mitigate the decrease in invertebrates which will be brought about by a reduction in BOD loading. While the development of the new plant may bring about negative impacts for some of the species of bird for which the SPA is designated, it is acknowledged that the importance of organically enriched areas for birds should not prevent the upgrading of waste water treatment in the interests of the wider environment (Ramsar Convention, 1994).

It is understood that even allowing for the proposed population targets for Clonakilty, improvements in capacity and treatment standards which will be provided when the new WWTP is operational, will mean that there will be a significant reduction in nutrient loading to Clonakilty Bay, and as per the AA report prepared for the Clonakilty WWTP, this will result in an improvement in the quality of the Annex I habitat *Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide* for which the SAC is designated. It is considered that the population targets which have been set for Clonakilty can be accommodated without giving rise to adverse effects on Natura 2000 sites, provided the proposed upgrade to the WWTP discharging to the bay is in place in advance of the proposed population increases.

#### *Dunmanway*

Recent communication which has been received from the National Parks and Wildlife Service indicates that they consider that it cannot be discounted that discharges from the WWTP combined with overflows from the Long Bridge pumping station at Dunmanway are having significant effects on the Freshwater Pearl Mussel population in the Bandon River Special Area of Conservation. They have advised that a full Appropriate Assessment of the proposed increase in population for the town is required. This must be completed and any required upgrades to waste water treatment

infrastructure must be in place *before* development which is provided for in the draft Plan can proceed. This has been provided for by way of proposed amendments to the plan.

## 2.2 Screening of Proposed Amendments

Chapter One: Introduction			
Ref Number	Proposed Change	Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 sites	Recommendation
<i>No material changes</i>			

Chapter Two: Core Strategy			
Ref Number	Proposed Change	Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 sites	Recommendation
2.1	<i>Additional text to be included with paragraph 2.1.3 to include reference to the Dublin Airport Authority</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
2.2	<i>Additional text to be included with paragraphs 2.1.3 and 2.1.7 to state Councils support for the protection of the environment and the maintenance and improvement of biodiversity</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
2.3	<i>Part 1 of this amendment relates to changes to the Core Strategy Table (Table 2-2) and supporting text (replacement of paragraphs 2.2.2-2.2.5) to provide an explanation of calculations included in draft plan relating to population targets and requirements for new housing in each of the Strategic Planning Areas within the County.  Part 2 of this amendment</i>	<i>The proposed amendment does not in itself give rise to potential impacts on any Natura 2000 site.  However, waste water treatment plants in some of the settlements in sensitive catchments which are included in these tables are currently overloaded, and/or some of the plants in particularly sensitive</i>	<i>Progression towards the achievement of the population targets for settlements in sensitive catchments will require the completion of Appropriate Assessments for the settlements in Blackwater Catchment and for Dunmanway, and the upgrade of wastewater infrastructure in relevant settlements. These</i>

<b>Chapter Two: Core Strategy</b>			
<b>Ref Number</b>	<b>Proposed Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<p><i>relates to proposed changes to tables in Appendix A of the plan which identify population targets and infrastructural requirements for individual settlements in the County.</i></p> <p><i>No changes to population targets have been made, however, further detail is provided in the table to show what the current position is in relation to water infrastructure, and what the desired position is for 2022.</i></p> <p><i>Footnotes have been added to the table to identify settlements located in sensitive catchments where development will be put on hold until resolution of issues relating to impact on water quality.</i></p> <p><i>It is important to note that colour coding in the tables is not linked to Appropriate Assessment, and therefore that a green colour coding does not imply that waste water infrastructure for any given settlement is sufficient to ensure compliance with the Habitats Directive.</i></p>	<p><i>catchments may not be designed to treat water to the standard which is required to ensure compliance with the Habitats Directive. Furthermore, it remains uncertain as to whether the population targets which have been set for settlements within the Blackwater Catchment, and which are shown in tables which are the subject of this amendment, can be accommodated without interfering with the Conservation Objectives which have been set for the Blackwater River Special Area of Conservation (see section 2.1 relating to water sensitive catchments above). It is also uncertain whether population targets which have been set for Dunmanway can be accommodated, as current information suggests that it cannot be discounted that current discharges from the plant are having a negative impact on the SAC.</i></p> <p><i>The footnotes to the table set out Councils position</i></p>	<p><i>assessments may result in downward revisions of population targets for the relevant settlements, which will be required to be made to the Plan.</i></p> <p><i>It is recommended that discussions with the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, and Irish Water to continue to resolve issues relating to the Blackwater catchment, and the Bandon catchment and to secure implementation of required upgrades to waste water infrastructure in all sensitive catchments.</i></p>

<b>Chapter Two: Core Strategy</b>			
<b>Ref Number</b>	<b>Proposed Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
		<p><i>that development in particular settlements which could have an adverse effect on any Natura site is on hold until issues relating to impacts on water quality are resolved. This means that there will be a pause to any developments which require connection to treatment plants in settlements within the Blackwater Catchment and in Dunmanway until such time as appropriate assessments have been completed, and any required upgrades to wastewater infrastructure have been put in place.</i></p> <p><i>In settlements in other water sensitive catchments where there are issues with plant design or performance that are resulting in negative impacts on Natura sites, this means that there will be a pause to any development requiring connection to these plants until required upgrades to wastewater infrastructure have been completed.</i></p>	
2.4	<i>Insertion of modified text at paragraphs 2.2.6-2.2.8 to</i>	<i>The proposed amendment does give rise</i>	<i>See above.</i>

<b>Chapter Two: Core Strategy</b>			
<b>Ref Number</b>	<b>Proposed Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>highlight constraints to achievement of population growth targets in sensitive water catchments and to emphasise requirement to prioritise provision of appropriate infrastructure in sensitive catchments.</i>	<i>to potential impacts on any Natura 2000 site (see comments re proposed amendment 2.3).</i>	
2.5	<i>It is proposed to amend objective CS 4-1(d) to provide additional emphasis to environmental resources in Cork Harbour</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
2.6	<i>It is proposed to amend CS 4-1 to state support for the extension of the amenity area between the Lee Fields and Ballincollig Regional Park</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts on Natura 2000 sites identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
2.7	<i>Insert additional text into CS 4-2(a) referencing requirement to provide necessary infrastructure to ensure that population targets for Mallow Hub can be achieved without having adverse impacts on the receiving environment.</i>	<i>As stated in section 2.1, there is no certainty as to whether the population targets set for settlements in the Blackwater Catchment, including those set for Mallow can be implemented without giving rise to adverse effects on the SAC. The population targets for Mallow must be subject to Appropriate Assessment before they can be progressed.</i>	<i>See recommendations for proposed change 2.3</i>
2.8	<i>Insert additional text into CS 4-4(a) referencing</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified (see</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Two: Core Strategy</b>			
<b>Ref Number</b>	<b>Proposed Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>requirement to provide necessary infrastructure to ensure that the establishment of Clonakilty as a Strategic Employment Centre can be achieved while protecting the environmental quality of Clonakilty Bay.</i>	<i>discussion regarding Sensitive Catchments section 2.1 above).</i>	
2.9	<i>Objective CS 4-4 relates to the development of port facilities at Castletownbere. It is proposed to modify the text of the objective to clarify that future growth and development of Port facilities will be subject to the requirements of environmental legislation.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
2.10	<i>Additional text is proposed to be added to paragraph 2.5.16 which describes Figure 2.7 Core Strategy Diagrammatic Map to reference the important role of the national road network and Cork Airport</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
2.11	<i>Additional information is proposed to be provided in objective CS 4-1 regarding the prioritisation of development in the Metropolitan Cork Gateway to locations in Carrigaline (Shannonpark), Midelton (Waterrock), Carrigtwohill (North of the railway), Ballincollig (Maglin), North</i>	<i>Some of these sites are located in close proximity to or have a hydrological connection to Natura 2000 sites in Cork Harbour. Development in these areas will need to have regard to potential for impact on the Great Island Channel SAC, and on the Cork Harbour SPA,</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Two: Core Strategy</b>			
<b>Ref Number</b>	<b>Proposed Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>Environs (Ballyvolane), Glanmire (Dunkettle), Blarney (Stoneview), Monard and Cobh.</i>	<i>as well as on the environment generally. The masterplans for same will be subject to Habitats Directive Assessment and possibly Strategic Environmental Assessment. The sensitivities of these Natura sites are well flagged within objective CS 4-1, and in other parts of the plan. Subject to investment in appropriate infrastructure and sensitive planning, it is considered likely that these sites can be developed without having negative impacts on these Natura sites. It is not considered that the amendment gives rise to any potential for negative impacts on Natura sites.</i>	



<b>Chapter Three: Housing</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
3.1	<i>It is proposed to modify paragraph 3.2.4 to clarify Councils responsibilities to all key stakeholders regarding land supply particularly in the Mallow Hub Town and the Cork Gateway (previously the Construction Industry).</i>	<i>The amendment itself will not give rise to negative impacts on Natura 2000 sites. However, this paragraph includes a reference to the Mallow Hub Town. As previously stated there is no certainty as to whether the population targets set for settlements in the Blackwater Catchment, including those set for Mallow can be implemented without giving rise to adverse effects on the SAC.</i>	<i>It is recommended that the reference to the development of the Hub Town of Mallow in this section of the plan be cross referenced with text to be included in accordance with amendment ref 2.4.</i>
3.2	<i>It is proposed to modify part (c) of objective HOU 3-1 to clarify Council policy in relation to the provision of public lighting and footpaths in urban areas.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
3.3	<i>It is proposed to delete objective ZU 2-3 and to amend objective HOU 5-1 to clarify Council policy in relation to the requirements for provision of social housing.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
3.4	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to paragraph 3.3.5 to provide for the development of traffic calming measures in the public realm.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

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3.5	<i>It is proposed to modify Objective HOU 3-2 to require developers to take account of the most up to date guidelines in relation to street design (Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets).</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
3.6	<i>It is proposed to modify paragraph 3.5.2 of the draft plan which relates to Council policy on Social Housing.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Four: Rural, Coastal And Islands</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
4.1	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to paragraph 4.1.2 to state Councils policy in relation to strengthening and sustaining vibrant rural communities</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
4.2	<i>It is proposed to delete text in paragraph 4.3.10 which describes North West Cork to be generally of low environmental sensitivity and to clarify that parts of this area have high environmental sensitivity. This amends the description of Structurally Weaker Areas which was contained in the draft plan to acknowledge that parts of this zone are environmentally sensitive.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
4.3	<i>It is proposed to modify section 4.4 to clarify Councils policy in relation to rural settlement.</i>	<i>The changes that are proposed may increase the number of people eligible to apply for permission to build houses in rural areas, and may increase the number of one off rural houses being built in the countryside. This may increase pressure on environmental resources particularly water, thereby giving rise to indirect impacts on Natura 2000 sites. However, section 4.6 of</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Four: Rural, Coastal And Islands</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
		<i>this chapter sets out a list of the planning considerations which will be taken account of when the Council considers applications for permission for the development of houses in rural areas. This list includes consideration of impacts on sites designated for nature conservation, as well as impacts on water resources. Assuming that these principles will be adhered to, it is considered that changes that are being proposed to be made to this amendment will be unlikely to give rise to significant impacts on any Natura 2000 site.</i>	
4.4	<i>It is proposed to amend RCI 4-7 to clarify Council policy in relation to full time home based businesses in rural areas.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
4.5	<i>It is proposed to include additional text in paragraph 4.6.2 which sets out the criteria which will be taken into consideration in the assessment of planning applications in rural areas, to include some new criteria and to provide crosslinks to other relevant parts of the</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Four: Rural, Coastal And Islands</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>plan.</i>		
4.6	<i>It is proposed to amend paragraph 4.6.7 which relates to the definition of ribbon development.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
4.7	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text after objective RCI 7-3 which relates to the replacement and refurbishment of derelict dwellings in the countryside, and to insert additional text to objective RCI 7-4 to clarify that Council must be satisfied that refurbishment of derelict dwellings will not cause damage to strictly protected wildlife before it will grant permission for such works.</i>	<i>Potential for positive impacts on bats identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
4.8	<i>It is proposed to include coastal flooding and coastal erosion to paragraph 4.8.4 identifying these as key issues of concern in the coastal zone of the County.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
4.9	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text after paragraph 4.8.17 to highlight environmental sensitivities around Cork Harbour.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
4.10	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to paragraph 4.8.19 relating to coastal protection. It identifies that new coastal protection</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Four: Rural, Coastal And Islands</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>schemes will be necessary to protect coastal areas vulnerable to erosion. It also states that it will be important to ensure that the development of coastal protection schemes is justified economically and environmentally.</i>		
4.11	<i>It is proposed insert additional text after paragraph 4.9.7 and to Objectives RCI 9-2 and RCI 9-3 to acknowledge the heritage and environmental resources associated with the Islands, and to ensure that Council supports further economic development of the Islands in a manner that is compatible with these resources.</i>	<i>Potential for positive impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
4.12	<i>It is proposed to modify text in paragraph 4.9.8 relating to the islands of Cork Harbour to clarify that all of the islands (as opposed to Spike and Haulbowline only) have a significant role to play in its future development of the Harbour, and references economic and tourism chapters in particular.</i>	<i>Some of the Islands in Metropolitan Cork support European sites designated for nature conservation. These areas may not be compatible with economic or tourism objectives as cited in this paragraph.</i>	<i>It is recommended that this paragraph be crosslinked to EE 6-2 and to HE 2.1 and paragraph 12.2.1.</i>
4.13	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to Objective RCI 5-7 'strategic and exceptional development' which relates to an objective</i>	<i>This site is not located within or close to any Natura 2000 sites. No potential for negative impacts have been</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Four: Rural, Coastal And Islands</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>to establish showgrounds and ancillary facilities on the Munster Agricultural Society grounds at Curaheen.</i>	<i>identified.</i>	
<i>4.14</i>	<i>It is proposed to insert a reference to Cork Harbour into objective RCI 8-2(a) which relates to the development of an integrated approach to Coastal Zone Management in the County.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Five: Social and Community</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
5.1	<i>It is proposed to insert new text after paragraph 5.7.3 relating to the national age friendly cities and counties programme.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
5.2	<i>It is proposed to modify objective SC 6-1 relating to the provision of Healthcare Facilities.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
5.3	<i>It is proposed to modify the text of objective SC 5-2(b) to promote the linking of new open spaces with existing spaces to form a green infrastructure network.</i>	<i>This change may help to support the preservation of existing or development of new ecological linkages in the countryside as advocated in Article 10 of the Habitats Directive. May provide for positive impacts to the Natura 2000 network.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
5.4	<i>It is proposed to modify objective SC 5-5 to cross reference policy relating to the provision of recreation and amenity spaces with policy relating to Green Infrastructure (HE2-3, GI 2-1 and GI 3-1).</i>	<i>This change may help to support the preservation of existing or development of new ecological linkages in the countryside as advocated in Article 10 of the Habitats Directive. May provide for positive impacts to the Natura 2000 network.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
5.5	<i>It is proposed to modify the text relating to the provision of ancillary family accommodation (Granny Flats).</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>



<b>Chapter Five: Social and Community</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
5.6	<i>It is proposed to modify the text of paragraph 5.3.2 relating to childcare facilities guidelines.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Six: Economy And Employment</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
6.1	<i>It is proposed to amend table 6.1 'employment hierarchy' to include towns that were previously left out in error.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
6.2	<i>Strategic Employment Areas are primarily located around Cork Harbour in areas that are close to European sites. It is proposed to modify objective EE 4-1 Strategic Employment Areas to clarify that development in these areas can only proceed in a manner that is compatible with environmental legislation, including the Habitats Directive.</i>	<i>This amendment may reduce pressure for inappropriate development in sensitive areas within or close to Natura 2000 sites.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
6.3	<i>It is proposed to insert a new paragraph after 6.4.11 to reference the Bottlehill landfill site and outline scope for development of integrated waste management or waste to energy facilities.</i>	<i>Bottlehill is located within a sensitive catchment and in an area that is known to be of importance for a population of the Annexed I species Hen Harrier. New proposals for development of the Bottlehill site will need to take account of these environmental resources during the planning assessment stage.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
6.4	<i>It is proposed to make a change to paragraph 6.4.12 which states that Council will support the establishment and expansion of large scale industries to locations outside town centres, in areas that are not zoned for industrial</i>	<i>It is understood that this amendment relates only to the relocation of <b>existing</b> large scale industries, <b>only</b> where this will bring social / environmental benefits to towns, <b>only</b> where there</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Six: Economy And Employment</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>use, where a relocation out of town centres could bring benefits. Any such establishment and expansion to be subject to normal planning considerations.</i>	<i>is no suitable zoned land and <b>only</b> subject to normal planning considerations, which include considerations relating to impacts on Natura 2000 sites as well as impacts on the environment generally.</i>	
6.5	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to objective EE 4-4 Industry to clarify that industry should be located in areas of low environmental sensitivity.</i>	<i>Potential to reduce pressure for development in areas of environmental sensitivity.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
6.6	<i>It is proposed to make a modification to paragraph 6.6.4 to clarify that the movement of containers from Ringaskiddy will be by road. The original iteration of this paragraph implied that other modes for movement of containers could be possible, although it is not clear what these other modes were.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
6.7	<i>It is proposed to make a modification to paragraph 6.6.5 relating to the relocation of port facilities to Ringaskiddy and Marino point, to clarify that any such relocation must be in a manner that is compatible with environmental legislation and complies with the Habitats Directive.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Six: Economy And Employment</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
6.8	<i>It is proposed to modify section 6.6.9 to include reference to the environmental, heritage and ecological value of Cork Harbour.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
6.9	<i>It is proposed to reword objective EE 9-1 business development will be encouraged where it is to be located in areas of low environmental sensitivity.</i>	<i>Potential to reduce pressure for development in areas of environmental sensitivity.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
6.10	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to objective EE 6-2 to clarify that policy in relation to development in the Cork Harbour area will take account of residential, tourism and recreational amenities.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Seven: Town Centres And Retail</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
7.1	<i>It is proposed to modify Table 7.1 retail network/hierarchy.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
7.2	<i>It is proposed to modify Table 7.2 – retail floorspace distribution</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
7.3	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to paragraph 7.7.6 which relates to comparison retailing distribution.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
7.4	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to paragraph 7.10.3 to clarify Council policy which supports occupancy of vacant retail warehousing in preference to the provision of new floorspace.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
7.5	<i>It is proposed to modify paragraph 7.2.4 which states the aims of the plan as they relate to the development of town centres.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Eight: Tourism</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
8.1	<i>It is proposed to modify paragraph 8.2.2 which concerns the development of tourism opportunities relating to sites and features of natural and other heritage value, to clarify that any such development should only be to areas that have been identified to have capacity to absorb increased visitor activity without harming the heritage resources upon which they are focused.</i>	<i>Potential to reduce pressure for development in areas of environmental sensitivity.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
8.2	<i>It is proposed to modify objective TO 4-1 to clarify that the development of the marine leisure sector will be encouraged in a manner that is compatible with environmental sensitivities, and has regard to the Habitats Directive.</i>	<i>Potential to reduce pressure for development in areas of environmental sensitivity including European sites.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
8.3	<i>It is proposed to modify the text of paragraph 8.7.9 relating to the development of greenways to include a reference to the disused Mallow-Fermoy-Lismore rail line.  It is also proposed to modify the text of objective TO 7-1 to clarify that the encouragement of development of walking and cycling routes will be in a manner that is compatible with nature conservation and</i>	<i>The disused Mallow-Fermoy-Lismore rail line includes a number of crossings of the River Blackwater within the Blackwater River Special Area of Conservation, and close to the Blackwater Callows Special Protection Area. Reconstruction or redevelopment of parts of the route within the SAC and adjacent to the SPA will require sensitive planning and development to prevent</i>	<i>No changes required.</i>

<b>Chapter Eight: Tourism</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>other policies.</i>	<i>impacts on these sites. Expert ecological input will be required at the planning stage. It is considered that the proposed amendments to TO 7-1 make this requirement clear.</i>	
8.4	<i>It is proposed to modify objective TO 9-1 which relates to the development of tourist facilities to clarify that where these are to be developed outside existing settlements, regard will be had to environmental sensitivities, and they will be developed in a manner that is compatible with environmental legislation.</i>	<i>Potential to reduce pressure for development in areas of environmental sensitivity including European sites.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
8.5	<i>It is proposed to include additional text in paragraph 8.9.7 which relates to the improvement of access and the provision of signage for tourist destinations.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Nine: Energy And Digital Economy</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
9.1	<i>It is proposed to amend policy ED 3-2 to ensure consistent use of terminology within the plan.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
9.2	<i>It is proposed to amend paragraph 9.3.12 to clarify the definition of wind energy development which is the subject of policies ED 3-4 – ED 3-6 in the plan from large scale to commercial.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
9.3	<i>It is proposed to amend objective 3-4 of the plan which relates to zones where commercial wind energy developments will be acceptable in principle to clarify that this policy is subject to compliance with environmental legislation.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
9.4	<i>It is proposed to amend paragraph 9.3.14 and objective ED 3-5 which relates to wind energy policy in Open to Consideration areas, to clarify that Natura 2000 sites are not included within this zone, and to clarify policy in relation to sensitive water catchments within this zone.</i>	<i>Should reduce pressure for development within Natura 2000 sites. Should encourage high environmental standards in terms of project design within sensitive catchments.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
9.5	<i>It is proposed to amend paragraph 9.3.15 and objective ED 3-6 to replace references to large scale wind energy with references to commercial wind energy development.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>



<b>Chapter Nine: Energy And Digital Economy</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
9.6	<i>It is proposed to amend objective ED 3-7 to clarify that Council policy in relation to non-commercial wind energy development and the considerations which will be taken account of in assessing proposals.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
9.7	<i>It is proposed to amend Figure 9-3 Wind Energy Strategy Map to include all Natura 2000 sites within the zone where wind energy will be Normally Discouraged. This aligns the maps with policy ED 3-6.</i>	<i>This amendment aligns the wind energy maps with policy ED 3-6 which states that Natura 2000 sites are within areas where wind energy development will be normally discouraged. This may ease pressure for development within Natura 2000 sites, particularly in areas that are otherwise highly suitable for the development of wind energy.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
9.8	<i>It is proposed to include a new paragraph after objective ED 3-6 to clarify that the areas identified in Figure 9-3 where wind energy development proposals will be normally discouraged include buffer areas around a number of SPAs.</i>	<i>This amendment may ease pressure for development around Special Protection Areas where wind energy development could give rise to negative impacts on birds.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
9.9	<i>It is proposed to amend objective ED 4-1 to clarify Councils policy which is to encourage sustainable development of hydro-electric</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Nine: Energy And Digital Economy</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>power generation projects in a manner that is compliant with environmental legislation.</i>		
9.10	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text in paragraph 9.6.2 to clarify that proposals for grid connections to renewable energy developments should where practical be fully assessed as part of the renewable energy application.</i>	<i>This amendment should provide for consideration of the siting of supporting infrastructure for renewable energy projects at the initial planning application stage. It may give rise to more complete assessment of all of likely environmental impacts of commercial wind energy developments at the initial planning assessment stage and may reduce potential for impact on Natura 2000 sites.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
9.11	<i>It is proposed to amend objective ED 6-2 which relates to the siting of Transmission Networks and provides for consideration of impacts on landscape as well as impacts on the natural and built environment..</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Ten: Transport And Mobility</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
10.1	<i>It is proposed to amend paragraph 10.1.1 which describes patterns of commuter movement in the County.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
10.2	<i>It is proposed to amend objective TM 1-1(b) to omit reference to the North and West Cork Strategic Plan. It is also proposed to insert text after paragraph 10.1.3 which states that the focus of transport infrastructure and investment will be on the network of settlements broadly in line with the Atlantic Gateway Initiative, the South West Regional Planning Guidelines and the North and West Cork Strategic Plans.</i>	<i>The purpose of this amendment is to remove the reference to the North and West Cork Strategic Plan from this objective as it has not been subject to Appropriate Assessment, although reference to this plan is retained in supporting text to the objective.</i>	<i>It is recommended that a cross link be provided from TM 1-1 to HE 2-1 and 12.2.1.</i>
10.3	<i>It is proposed to amend objective TM 2-2(d) which relates to cycling to state that cycling routes will be promoted which generally seek to avoid or minimise impacts on the environment and on EU designated sites.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
10.4	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to paragraph 10.2.21 to include a reference to Monkstown-Passage West bus routes and to update figure 10-1 to reflect service changes.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
10.5	<i>It is proposed to insert</i>	<i>No potential for negative</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Ten: Transport And Mobility</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>additional text into objective TM 2-4(a) and (b) which relates to the provision of a public transport service.</i>	<i>impacts identified.</i>	
10.6	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to paragraph 10.3.3 to include a reference to the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
10.7	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text after section 10.3.3 relating to the demand management study of the N40 to ensure that its use is optimised over the lifetime of the plan.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
10.8	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text after section 10.3.3 which outlines the provisions of the National Roads Authority draft policy as it relates to Motorway Service Areas.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
10.9	<i>It is proposed to modify TM 3-1(f) which relates to the provision of service and rest areas on the National Road Network. This removes a commitment to implement the NRA policy in relation to Service and Rest Areas and instead includes a commitment to consider the most up to date guidance in relation to same.</i>  <i>It is proposed to modify TM3-1(i) which relates to the</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Ten: Transport And Mobility</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>control of signage on roads.</i>		
10.10	<p><i>It is proposed to amend objective TM 3-2(c) to remove references to the upgrading of the R624-N25 – Cobh and replace this with a commitment to improve road access between the N25 and Cobh subject to full ecological assessment.</i></p> <p><i>It is proposed to include new text after paragraph 10.3.4 which identifies the need to upgrade road access between the town of Cobh and the national road network and identifies the need to carefully consider the ‘balance between the need for improved road access and the need to ensure that any proposals do not adversely affect Natura Sites’.</i></p>	<p><i>This amendment has arisen to address issues identified during the Habitats Directive Assessment of the draft plan relating to proposals to seek funding for the upgrade of the R624 which connects the N25 to Cobh. A previously identified preferred route is known to be likely to give rise to adverse impacts on the Great Island Channel SAC, and possibly on the Cork Harbour SPA, and it would be necessary to complete Appropriate Assessment in relation to this route before it could be included in the plan.</i></p> <p><i>It is the intention of the Council to initiate a new study which will explore alternative routes/solutions to provide improved access from Cobh to the national road network which avoids adverse effects on the Great Island Channel and the Cork Harbour Special Protection Area. This will be the first step must be in place before this project can proceed.</i></p>	<i>This objective requires a cross link to Objective 2-1 and section 12.2.1.</i>

<b>Chapter Ten: Transport And Mobility</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
10.11	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to TM3-2 to state Council policy in relation to control of traffic noise on regional and local roads.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
10.12	<i>It is proposed to insert a new paragraph into the section relating to further development of the Port of Cork, after 10.5.17, which states that the sustainable development of Cork Harbour requires the safeguarding of its key environmental and heritage resources.</i>	<i>This amendment provides better balance to this section by acknowledging that there is a need to ensure the protection of the environmental and heritage resources of Cork Harbour while planning for the future development of the Port. No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
10.13	<i>This proposal relates to amendments to be made to Table 1a (Appendix C) which relates to carparking requirements for new development.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
10.14	<i>This proposal relates to amendments to be made to Table 1a (Appendix C) which related to carparking requirements for new development.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
10.15	<i>This proposal relates to amendments to be made to the list of Key Regional Projects included in objective TM 3-1(a) to be prioritised to include the N73 Mallow to Mitchelstown as a separate project.</i>	<i>The N73 Mallow to Mitchelstown project was included in the original draft plan which was published, to be included as part of the N72 Mallow to Fermoy project. The proposed amendment</i>	<i>It will be the responsibility of the NRA to carry out Environmental Impact Assessment and (where necessary) Appropriate Assessment to ensure that these routes can</i>

<b>Chapter Ten: Transport And Mobility</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
		<i>does not give rise to potential for negative impacts.</i>	<i>progress and without having significant negative impacts on the environment, or on Natura 2000 sites.</i>
10.16	<i>It is proposed to insert new text to paragraph 10.5.20 to include reference to quay walls as well as ports and harbours.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Eleven: Water Services And Waste</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
11.1	<i>It is proposed to retitle the chapter Water Services, Surface Water and Waste</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
11.2	<i>It is proposed to amend paragraph 11.1.2 to bring the plan up to date in relation to the establishment of Irish Water which has taken place since the draft plan was produced.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
11.3	<i>It is proposed to insert new text to paragraph 11.2.2 which is explanatory text relating to Table 11.1 which sets out the County Water Services Capacity for planned Population Growth during the plan period.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
11.4	<i>It is proposed to modify paragraphs 11.2.3 and 11.2.4 which sets out Irish Waters position in relation to the prioritisation of investment and how Council will align its Capital Investment Programme to meet the objectives and priorities of the Irish Water strategy.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
11.5	<i>It is proposed to modify paragraph 11.2.5 to bring the plan up to date with recent changes relating to the establishment of Irish Water.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
11.6	<i>It is proposed to include new text after paragraph 11.2.10 which sets out Councils position in relation to the</i>	<i>See discussion in section 2.1 and comments in relation to proposed</i>	<i>See recommendations in relation to proposed change 2.3.</i>



<b>Chapter Eleven: Water Services And Waste</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>management of sensitive catchments, particularly the River Blackwater, Cork Harbour and the Upper Bandon River.</i>	<i>change 2.3.</i>	
11.7	<i>It is proposed to modify objective WS 2-1 to clarify Councils objectives relating to the provision of water infrastructure.</i>	<i>The amendments to this objective clarifies that development requiring connection to public wastewater infrastructure may only proceed in where appropriate wastewater treatment is available which meets the requirements of environmental legislation including the Water Framework Directive and the Habitats Directive. No potential for negative impacts is identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
11.8	<i>It is proposed to amend Table 11.1 – Capacity of Current Water Services Infrastructure to accommodate Planned Population Growth and to include additional text relating to the Cork Gateway. The proposed change to table 11.1 includes the provision of an extra column to show locations where water services investment needs to be prioritised in order to achieve planned population targets.  Footnotes have been added to the table to identify</i>	<i>No potential for impacts arise.</i>	<i>See recommendations relating to proposed change 2.3.</i>

<b>Chapter Eleven: Water Services And Waste</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<p><i>settlements located in sensitive catchments where development will be put on hold until resolution of issues relating to impact on water quality.</i></p> <p><i>It is important to note that colour coding in this table is not linked to Appropriate Assessment, and therefore that a green colour coding does not imply that waste water infrastructure for any given settlement is sufficient to ensure compliance with the Habitats Directive.</i></p>		
11.9	<p><i>It is proposed to amend objective WS 3-1 Wastewater Disposal to clarify Council policy in relation to the progression of new development in areas with issues relating to the disposal of waste water.</i></p>	<p><i>The amendments to this objective clarifies that development requiring connection to public wastewater infrastructure may only proceed in where appropriate wastewater treatment is available which meets the requirements of environmental legislation including the Water Framework Directive and the Habitats Directive. No potential for negative impacts is identified.</i></p>	<p><i>No issues arise.</i></p>
11.10	<p><i>It is proposed to amend objective WS 5-2 in relation to river channel protection.</i></p>	<p><i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i></p>	<p><i>No issues arise.</i></p>
11.11	<p><i>It is proposed to insert text after paragraph 11.6.16 to</i></p>	<p><i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i></p>	<p><i>No issues arise.</i></p>

<b>Chapter Eleven: Water Services And Waste</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>reference the Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines.</i>		
11.12	<i>It is proposed to modify WS 6-2 to reference the need to consider potential for impacts on Natura 2000 sites when assessing proposals for development within areas at risk of flooding.</i>	<i>Potential to reduce risk of impacts on inappropriate development within Flood Risk Zones.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
11.13	<i>It is proposed to modify paragraph 11.7.5 to include a reference to Western European trends towards development of an integrated waste management systems and waste to energy facilities, in the context of the Bottlehill Landfill site and to modify objective WS 7-1 to provide support to the sustainable development of the Bottlehill facility for uses associated with integrated waste management.</i>	<i>Bottlehill is located within a sensitive catchment and in an area that is known to be of importance for a population of the Annexed I species Hen Harrier. Proposals for redevelopment of the Bottlehill site will need to take account of these environmental resources. Proposals for a change of use at this site will require assessment in relation to environmental impacts and potential for impacts to Natura 2000 sites as part of the procedure for giving consent.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Twelve: Heritage</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
12.1	<i>It is proposed to amend Objective HE 1-1 which relates to the County Biodiversity Action Plan.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
12.2	<i>It is proposed to modify paragraph 12.3.5 which relates to the protection of National Monuments.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
12.3	<i>It is proposed to include a new Architectural Conservation Area to the plan located in Blarney.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
12.4 - 12.26	<i>These amendments relate to proposed additions, deletions and amendments to the Record of Protected Structures.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
12.27	<i>It is proposed to include a new Architectural Conservation Area to the plan located in Mitchelstown.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Thirteen: Green Infrastructure And Environment</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
13.1	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to paragraph 13.2.3 to add Flood Risk/Alleviation to the list of key themes to be addressed in the Green Infrastructure Strategy.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
13.2	<i>It is proposed to make a minor modification to paragraph 13.10.12 which relates to Irish Water.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
13.3	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text and a new objective after objective GI 10-1 relating to the Surface Water Regulations and a new objective to the protection of surface waters.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
13.4	<i>It is proposed to modify text in paragraphs 13.13.1 and 13.13.2 which relates to noise and Noise Action Plans.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Fourteen: Zoning And Land Use</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
14.1	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to objective ZU 3-4 to include a reference to Article 10 of the Habitats Directive which relates to the protection of ecological connectivity in the greater countryside.</i>	<i>Potential to have positive benefits for biodiversity generally.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
14.2	<i>It is proposed to modify Objective ZU 3-7 which relates to types of uses considered appropriate in industrial areas, to clarify that waste to energy recovery facilities will be considered in Industrial Areas designated as Strategic Employment Areas in LAPS.</i>	<i>Most of the areas identified as Strategic Employment Areas are located in areas of relatively high environmental sensitivity around Cork Harbour within close proximity to Natura 2000 sites. Development of waste to energy recovery facilities in these locations could have the potential to have negative impacts on these sites and proposed projects relating to such facilities will require assessment of any such impacts.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Fifteen: Putting This Plan Into Practice</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
15.1	<i>It is proposed to insert two new paragraphs before paragraph 15.1.1 that set the context and state Councils intention to implement the plan.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
15.2	<i>It is proposed to insert additional text to paragraph 15.1.4 and delete paragraph 15.1.5 to reflect the establishment of Irish Water since the draft plan was published.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
15.3	<i>It is proposed to insert new text to paragraph 15.1.7 which relates to mechanisms to ensure implementation of the plan.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
15.4	<i>It is proposed to modify paragraph 15.2.2 to include a cross references to objective TM 3-1 in chapter 10, and to Table 11.1 water infrastructure listed in chapter 11.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
15.5	<i>It is proposed to revise Table 15-1 which sets out major housing and employment infrastructure priorities within the Cork Gateway. The change prioritises development in terms of tranches 1-3. There have been some changes to the priorities as originally published.</i>	<i>It is not considered that the adjustments to priorities which have been made have the potential to give rise to negative impacts to any European sites, as in accordance with proposed revised objective WS 2-1, development may only proceed where appropriate wastewater</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Fifteen: Putting This Plan Into Practice</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
		<i>treatment is available which meets the requirements of environmental legislation.</i>	
15.6	<i>It is proposed to modify paragraphs 15.2.8, 15.2.9 and 15.2.10 to reflect changes made to Table 15-1.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
15.7	<i>It is proposed to revise Table 15.2 which summarises priorities for delivery of critical infrastructure in the main towns of the County. It has resulted in the inclusion of additional new short term and long term priorities to the list, including the inclusion of waste water infrastructure upgrades in settlements within sensitive water catchments on the short term priority list.</i>	<i>The inclusion of waste water infrastructure upgrades in settlements within sensitive water catchments on the short term priority list, may help to secure the delivery of critical infrastructure to allow for the resolution of issues relating to compliance with environmental legislation, as well as the implementation of the Cork Strategy. Potential for positive impacts for Natura 2000 sites.</i>	<i>It is recommended that discussions with the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, and Irish Water continue to resolve issues relating to the Blackwater catchment, and the Bandon catchment and to secure implementation of required upgrades to waste water infrastructure in all sensitive catchments.</i>
15.8	<i>It is proposed to modify paragraph 15.3.4 to reflect the establishment of Irish Water since the draft plan was published.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
15.9	<i>It is proposed to insert new paragraphs after 15.4.4 and to insert a new Appendix to the plan which sets out the proposed approach to</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>  <i>Consideration should be given to including provision for a review of</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>



<b>Chapter Fifteen: Putting This Plan Into Practice</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<i>monitoring of the implementation of the plan.</i>	<i>environmental data such as water quality data, and habitats and species data, as part of the process of monitoring the effectiveness of policies relating to the protection of the environment which are included in the plan; and to monitor the influence of the implementation of plan policies relating to economic, industrial and tourism development etc on the environment. This can be done when the list of monitoring indicators is being finalised.</i>	
15.10	<i>It is proposed to insert a new section after section 15.4 to update the plan concerning the preparation of Local Economic And Community Plans (LECPs) for Cork County.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>
15.11	<i>It is proposed to make amendments to section 15.5 which presents information in relation to the preparation of the next round of Local Area Plans, and sets out how administrative boundaries in the County have been realigned on foot of the enactment of the Local Government (Reform) Act 2014.</i>	<i>This change does not change policy or objectives of the plan. No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

<b>Chapter Fifteen: Putting This Plan Into Practice</b>			
<b>Reference number</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Potential for Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
15.12	<i>It is proposed to insert a new section relating to Master plans after section 15.5.</i>	<i>No potential for negative impacts identified.</i>	<i>No issues arise.</i>

### **3 Further Recommendations**

A number of issues were identified through submissions and in the Natura Impact Report which relate to the policies of the draft plan where it is considered that these require cross links to nature conservation policies, as they relate to sensitive parts of the County and to proposals which have the potential to impact on such sites. These are as follows:

<b>Reference</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
<i>Chapter 4 RCI 8-3 (c)</i>	<i>This objective relates to the implementation of coastal protection works.</i>	<i>This objective would benefit from a cross linking to objective TM 12.1 and section 12.2.1</i>
<i>Chapter 10 TM 5-2</i>	<i>This objective relates to the relocation of Cork Harbour Port facilities to Ringaskiddy.</i>	<i>This objective would benefit from a cross linking to objective EE 6-2.</i>

#### **4 Habitats Directive Screening Conclusion – Proposed Amendments To Draft Plan**

It is considered that none of the proposed amendments to the plan have the potential to give rise to significant negative impacts on any Natura 2000 site, and accordingly it is determined that there is no requirement for the proposed amendments to be subject to Appropriate Assessment.

However, it is recognised that additional assessment work is required in relation to the Blackwater Special Area of Conservation and the Bandon River Special Area of Conservation to determine whether population targets which have been set for settlements within the catchments of these sensitive rivers can be achieved. It is stated in the plan that development in these catchments, which would have an adverse impact, will be put on hold until issues relating to the protection of water quality are resolved in these catchments. The completion of the Appropriate Assessments for these catchments and the provision of any required upgrades to waste water infrastructure will require support from other key stakeholders. It is recommended that discussions with the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, and Irish Water continue, to resolve issues relating to the Blackwater catchment, and the Bandon catchment and to secure implementation of required upgrades to waste water infrastructure in all sensitive catchments.

**Appendix I Natura 2000 Sites Subject to Habitats Directive Assessment**

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
0077	Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pillmore) SAC	Estuaries; Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand; Atlantic salt meadows	This site is also designated as a Special Protection Area. It is an important site for wintering wetland bird species.  <a href="#">Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pillmore) SAC Site Data</a>	Maintain a high standard of water quality in discharging rivers and transitional coastal zones in bay area;  Prevent direct loss of estuarine habitats within the SAC;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;  Prevent contamination or deterioration of estuarine habitats.
0090	Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC	Old sessile Oak Woodlands with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> ; Alluvial forest with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> . Kerry slug; Lesser horseshoe bat; Otter; Common (Harbour) seal	This is a diverse site which supports woodland, upland, freshwater and coastal habitats and species.  <a href="#">Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC Site Data</a>	Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in discharging rivers and transitional coastal zones in harbour area;  Prevent direct loss of estuarine, woodland and upland habitats within SAC;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;  Prevent contamination or deterioration of estuarine habitats;

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
				<i>Protect marine mammals from disturbance in particular at haul outs and breeding sites.</i>
0091	Clonakilty Bay SAC	<i>Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Annual vegetation of drift lines, Embryonic shifting dunes; Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes); Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes); Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (<i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i>)</i>	<i>This site is also designated as an SPA. It is an important site for wintering wetland bird species.</i>  <a href="#">Clonakilty Bay SAC Site Data</a>	<i>Maintain / restore a high standard of water quality in discharging rivers and transitional coastal zones in bay area;</i>  <i>Prevent direct loss of terrestrial and estuarine habitats within the SAC;</i>  <i>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</i>  <i>Prevent contamination or deterioration of estuarine habitats.</i>
0093	Caha Mountains SAC	<i>Blanket Bog and Active Blanket Bog; Northern Atlantic wet heath with <i>Erica tetralix</i>; Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation; Alpine and Boreal heath; Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of</i>	<i>This upland site supports rare plant species and number of upland bird species of conservation value.</i>  <a href="#">Caha Mountains SAC Site Data</a>	<i>Prevent direct loss of upland habitats within the SAC;</i>  <i>Prevent drainage of upland habitats within SAC;</i>  <i>Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on upland habitats within SAC.</i>

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
		<i>the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoëto-Nanojuncetea; Killarney fern; Kerry slug</i>		
0097	Lough Hyne Nature Reserve & Environs SAC	Large shallow inlets and bays; Reefs; Submerged sea caves	This coastal marine site supports a range of rare marine plant and animal species. The terrestrial portion of the site is also diverse with woodland, marsh and heath habitats and associated plant and animal species.  <a href="#">Lough Hyne Nature Reserve &amp; Environs SAC Site Data</a>	Maintain / restore a high standard of water quality in discharging rivers and streams and transitional coastal zones in bay area;  Prevent direct loss marine habitats within the SAC;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;  Prevent contamination or deterioration of marine habitats.
0101	Roaringwater Bay & Islands SAC	Large shallow inlets and bays; Reefs; Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts; European dry heaths; Submerged or partially submerged sea caves; Harbour porpoise; Otter; Grey seal	This coastal marine site supports a diversity of marine and terrestrial habitats. It is notable for the presence of a number of rare plant species and also supports important sea bird colonies.  <a href="#">Roaringwater Bay &amp; Islands SAC Site Data</a>	Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in discharging rivers and transitional coastal zones in harbour area;  Prevent direct loss of terrestrial and estuarine habitats within the SAC;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
				<p><i>Prevent contamination or deterioration of marine habitats;</i></p> <p><i>Protect marine mammals from disturbance in particular at haul outs and breeding sites;</i></p> <p><i>Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on upland habitats within SAC.</i></p>
0102	<i>Sheep's Head to Toe Head SAC</i>	<i>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix; European dry heaths; Kerry slug</i>	<p><i>This coastal heathy headland supports the rare and legally protected plant species Pale Dog-violet and Spotted Rock-rose. It also has a small sea breeding seabird population and is designated as an SPA for Chough and Fulmar.</i></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Sheep's Head to Toe Head SAC Site Data</u></a></p>	<p><i>Prevent direct loss of terrestrial habitats within the SAC;</i></p> <p><i>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</i></p> <p><i>Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on heathland habitats within SAC.</i></p>
0106	<i>St. Gobnet's Wood SAC</i>	<i>Old Sessile Oak Woodlands with Ilex and Blechnum; Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae,</i>	<i>This woodland is a good example of a native woodland typical of the south-west. It contains old oak woodlands and supports rich herb and bryophyte</i>	<p><i>Prevent direct loss of woodland habitats within the SAC;</i></p> <p><i>Maintain open channels to allow the free passage of fish in freshwater habitats;</i></p>

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
		<i>Salicion albae)</i>	<p>communities. The Sullane River which runs through the woodland supports a population of Salmon and a population of Freshwater Pearl Mussel.</p> <p><a href="#">St. Gobnet's Wood SAC Site Data</a></p>	<p>Maintain a high standard of water of water quality Sullane River.</p>
0108	The Gearagh SAC	<p>Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation; Old sessile oak woodlands with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i>; Alluvial forest with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>; Otter</p>	<p>This is an internationally important wetland site which is designated as a RAMSAR site as well as an SPA. It is the only extensive alluvial woodland in Ireland or Britain, and supports rare plants as well as internationally important numbers of a variety of species of wetland birds.</p> <p><a href="#">The Gearagh SAC Site Data</a></p>	<p>Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in watercourses;</p> <p>Prevent direct loss of terrestrial and freshwater habitats within the SAC;</p> <p>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</p> <p>Prevent disturbance to Otter or Otter habitat;</p> <p>Prevent contamination or deterioration of terrestrial and freshwater habitats.</p>
0109	Three Castle Head to Mizen Head SAC	<p>Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts; European dry heaths</p>	<p>This SAC has two coastal headlands which supports heathy habitats and sea cliffs. It supports two vascular plant species listed in the</p>	<p>Prevent direct loss of terrestrial habitats within the SAC;</p> <p>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</p>



<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
			<p>Red Data Book, Spotted Rock-rose and Pale Dog-violet. The site also supports wetland habitats and is designated as an SPA for its population of Chough.</p> <p><a href="#">Three Castle Head to Mizen Head SAC Site Data</a></p>	<p>Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on heathland habitats within SAC.</p>
0353	Old Domestic Buildings, Dromore SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat	<p>This SAC is in Co. Kerry. It consists of a large stone building situated in Dromore Wood. It is an important hibernation site of the Lesser Horeshoe Bat.</p> <p><a href="#">Old Domestic Buildings, Dromore SAC Site Data</a></p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to roost site;</p> <p>Protect surrounding woodland habitat.</p>
0364	Kilgarvan Ice House SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat	<p>This SAC is in Co. Kerry. The site contains three buildings and also covers an area of woodland which is designated Lesser Horseshoe Bats. The ice-house is one of the largest hibernating sites for this species in Europe, while the two other buildings within the SAC serve as</p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to roost site;</p> <p>Protect surrounding woodland habitat.</p>

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
			<p>summer maternity roosts for this species.</p> <p><a href="#">Kilgarvan Ice House SAC Site Data</a></p>	
0365	Killarney National Park, Magillicuddy Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC	<p>Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion; Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>); Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the; Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation; European dry heaths; <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands; Calaminarian grasslands of <i>Violetalia calaminariae</i>;</p>	<p>This is a very large SAC, most of which is located in Co. Kerry. The eastern most portion of this SAC in the Paps Mountain range is within Co. Cork. This portion of the site supports the largest mountain Blanket Bog site in the South West at Caherbarnagh, and supports upland peatland and freshwater habitats including upland streams and rivers as well as a number of lakes including Lough Murtagh, Gortavehy Lough and Kippagh Lough.</p> <p><a href="#">Killarney National Park, Magillicuddy Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC Site Data</a></p>	<p>Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in surface waters in SAC;</p> <p>Maintain stable hydrological regime in surface waters in SAC;</p> <p>Maintain open channels to allow the free passage of fish in freshwater habitats;</p> <p>Prevent direct loss of peatland, woodland and freshwater habitats within SAC;</p> <p>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</p> <p>Prevent contamination or deterioration of freshwater habitats in SAC;</p> <p>Prevent disturbance to Otter or Otter habitat.</p> <p>Prevent disturbance to bat roosts.</p>

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
		<p><i>Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt laden soils; Blanket bog (*Active only); Old sessile oak woodlands with Ilex and Blechnum; Alpine and Boreal heaths; Northern Atlantic wet heath with Erica tetralix; Twaite shad; Killarney fern; Slender naiad; Kerry slug; Marsh Fritillary; Lesser horseshoe bat; Sea lamprey; Salmon; River lamprey; Freshwater pearl mussel; Otter.</i></p>		
0646	Galtee Mountains SAC	<p><i>European dry heaths, Alpine and Boreal heaths, Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas, Blanket bog (*active only), Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation, Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</i></p>	<p><i>This SAC is in Co's Limerick and Tipperary. This is a large upland site which supports heath and other upland habitats, as well as arctic-alpine plant communities including some rare and protected plant species. The site is also important for a number of upland bird species including Peregrine Falcon.</i></p>	<p><i>Prevent direct loss of upland habitats within the SAC;</i></p> <p><i>Prevent drainage of upland habitats within SAC;</i></p> <p><i>Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on upland habitats within SAC.</i></p>

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
			<a href="#">Galtee Mountains SAC Site Data</a>	
1040	Barley Cove to Ballyrisode Point SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Perennial vegetation of stony banks; <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand; Atlantic salt meadows; Mediterranean salt meadows; Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes). Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes); European dry heaths	This site is situated on the Mizen Peninsula. It is a coastal site, important for estuarine habitats, dune and heathy habitats. It supports rare plants including Sea Kale, Hairy Bird's-foot-trefoil, Lanceolate Spleenwort, Pale Dog-violet, Green-winged Orchid, Bird's-foot and Spotted Rock-rose. It is also an important site for Chough, and overlaps with the Sheeps Head to Toe Head SPA.  <a href="#">Barley Cove to Ballyrisode Point SAC Site Data</a>	Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in discharging rivers and transitional coastal zones in harbour area;  Prevent direct loss of terrestrial and estuarine habitats within the SAC;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;  Prevent contamination or deterioration of marine habitats which could be caused by certain activities permitted in intertidal/ marine or coastal areas;  Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on heathland habitats within SAC.
1043	Cleanderry Wood SAC	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> ; European dry heaths; Old sessile oak woodlands with <i>Ilex</i> and	This site is located on the western side of the Beara peninsula. It supports woodland and heath habitats, and also includes Derryvegal Lough.	Prevent direct loss of woodland habitat within the SAC;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
		<i>Blechnum; Killarney fern</i>	<p><i>The site also supports the protected species Killarney Fern. It is of exceptional value as it contains no introduced species, and for the proliferation of moisture loving plant species that occur in the woodland.</i></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Cleanderry Wood SAC Site Data</u></a></p>	<i>Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on heathland habitats within SAC.</i>
1058	<i>Great Island Channel SAC</i>	<i>Estuaries; Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Spartina swards; Atlantic salt meadows.</i>	<p><i>This site centres on the North Channel of Cork Harbour. It is of conservation importance for its estuarine habitats. It overlaps with the Cork Harbour SPA, and is a site of international importance based on the large numbers and variety of wintering birds which are dependent upon it.</i></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Great Island Channel SAC Site Data</u></a></p>	<p><i>Maintain a high standard of water quality in discharging rivers and transitional coastal zones within Cork Harbour;</i></p> <p><i>Prevent direct loss of estuarine habitats within the SAC;</i></p> <p><i>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</i></p> <p><i>Protect estuarine habitats from risk of toxic contamination arising from industrial and port related activities common in the harbour area.</i></p>

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
1061	Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes SAC	Coastal lagoons; Embryonic shifting dunes; Shifting dunes along with shorelines with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes); Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes).	This site which is west of Clonakilty, supports good examples of a variety of dune habitat types. It also supports wetland habitats including freshwater marsh, fen and swamp, as well as Kilkeran Lake itself which is a natural sedimentary lagoon. It has rare plants including Sharp-leaved Fluellen. The lake supports low numbers of waterfowl as well as breeding ducks and swans.  <a href="#">Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes SAC Site Data</a>	Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in lagoon and in waters discharging to lagoon;  Prevent direct loss of coastal and wetland habitats within the SAC;  Prevent contamination of wetland habitats;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;  Prevent disturbance to birds;  Regulate visitor use/human access to coastal habitats.
1070	Myross Wood SAC	Killarney fern	This is a small site near Leap, comprising mixed woodland habitat. It has a diverse ground flora, and is of particular importance for its presence of the Annex II species Killarney Fern.  <a href="#">Myross Wood SAC Site Data</a>	Prevent direct loss of woodland habitat within the SAC;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;  Regulate visitor access / human use within SAC.

**Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork**

<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
1230	Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC	Estuaries; Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Annual vegetation of drift lines; Perennial vegetation of stony banks; <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising muds and sand; Atlantic salt meadows; Mediterranean salt meadows; Embryonic shifting dunes; Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes); Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes).	This site supports estuarine habitats including extensive mudflats and saltmarsh, as well as dune habitat types. The rare plant <i>Sea-kale</i> occurs within the site. This SAC overlaps with Courtmacsherry Estuary SPA, and is an important site for wintering waterfowl.  <a href="#">Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC Site Data</a>	Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in discharging rivers and transitional coastal zones in harbour area;  Prevent direct loss of coastal and estuarine habitats within the SAC;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;  Prevent contamination or deterioration of marine habitats;  Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on heathland and dune habitats within SAC.
1547	Castletownshend SAC	Killarney fern.	This is mixed woodland site near Castletownshend, which is of conservation importance for its population of Killarney Fern.  <a href="#">Castletownshend SAC Site Data</a>	Prevent direct loss of woodland habitat within the SAC;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;  Regulate visitor access / human use within SAC.

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
1873	Derryclogher (Knockboy) Bog SAC	Blanket Bog (*Active) only	<p>This is an upland site whose main conservation interest is intact active mountain blanket bog. Other habitats that occur on site include heath and grassland habitats, upland streams and exposed rock.</p> <p><a href="#">Derryclogher Bog Site Data</a></p>	<p>Prevent direct loss of upland habitats within the SAC;</p> <p>Prevent drainage of upland habitats within SAC;</p> <p>Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on upland habitats within SAC.</p>
1879	Glanmore Bog SAC	<p>Oligotrophic Waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>); Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation; Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>; Blanket bog (*active) only; Freshwater pearl mussel; Killarney fern.</p>	<p>This diverse site on the Beara Peninsula, supports a range of upland peaty habitats and freshwater habitats and species of very high conservation importance. In addition to its qualifying features it supports breeding Chough and number of other upland bird species, as well as very good diversity of plant species.</p> <p><a href="#">Glanmore Bog SAC Site Data</a></p>	<p>Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in surface waters in SAC;</p> <p>Maintain stable hydrological regime in surface waters in SAC;</p> <p>Maintain open channels to allow the free passage of fish in freshwater habitats;</p> <p>Prevent direct loss of peatland or freshwater habitats within SAC;</p> <p>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</p> <p>Prevent contamination or other deterioration of freshwater habitats in SAC;</p>



<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
				<i>Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on upland habitats within SAC.</i>
1881	<i>Maulagowna Bog SAC</i>	<i>Blanket bog (*active only)</i>	<i>This upland site is located within Co. Kerry in the Caha Mountains. It supports intact active Blanket Bog, as well Cumer Lough. The Annex I (Birds Directive) species, Chough breeds in this site.</i>  <a href="#"><u>Maulagowna Bog SAC Site Data</u></a>	<i>Prevent direct loss of upland habitats within the SAC;</i>  <i>Prevent drainage of upland habitats within SAC;</i>  <i>Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on upland habitats within SAC.</i>
1890	<i>Mullaghanish Bog SAC</i>	<i>Blanket Bog (*active only)</i>	<i>This upland site is located on the Cork Kerry border and is centred on Mullaghanish Mountain near Millstreet. It supports intact Blanket Bog habitat.</i>  <a href="#"><u>Mullaghanish Bog SAC Site Data</u></a>	<i>Prevent direct loss of upland habitats within the SAC;</i>  <i>Prevent drainage of upland habitats within SAC;</i>  <i>Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on upland habitats within SAC.</i>
2036	<i>Ballyhoura Mountains SAC</i>	<i>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix;</i>	<i>Situated on the Limerick Cork border, this SAC supports</i>	<i>Prevent direct loss of upland habitats within the SAC;</i>

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
		<i>European dry heaths; Blanket bog (*active only)</i>	<i>upland peaty habitats including heath and blanket bog. It is of note for upland bird species including Peregrine Falcon and Hen Harrier.</i>  <a href="#">Ballyhoura Mountains SAC Site Data</a>	<i>Prevent drainage of upland habitats within SAC;</i>  <i>Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on upland habitats within SAC.</i>
2037	<i>Carrigeenamronety Hill SAC</i>	<i>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix; Killarney fern</i>	<i>This upland site is situated on the Limerick Cork border. It supports heath and Molinia grassland habitats, and is of primary importance for its population of Killarney Fern.</i>  <a href="#">Carrigeenamronety Hill SAC Site Data</a>	<i>Prevent direct loss of upland habitats within the SAC;</i>  <i>Prevent drainage of upland habitats within SAC;</i>  <i>Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on upland habitats within SAC.</i>
2041	<i>Old Domestic Building, Curraglass Wood SAC</i>	<i>Lesser horseshoe bat</i>	<i>This site consists of a derelict building in Curraglass Wood in Co. Kerry, which is used as a nursery site by Lesser Horseshoe Bats. The surrounding woodland provides important foraging habitat for this species.</i>  <a href="#">Old Domestic Building, Curraglass Wood SAC Site Data</a>	<i>Prevent disturbance to roost site;</i>  <i>Protect surrounding woodland habitat.</i>

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<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
2123	Ardmore Head SAC	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts; European dry heaths	This is a small headland east of Ardmore Co. Waterford. It is of conservation importance for its coastal heath habitat, and for the range of seabirds that breed here.  <a href="#">Ardmore Head SAC Site Data</a>	Prevent direct loss of terrestrial habitats within the SAC;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;  Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on heathland habitats within SAC.
2137	Lower River Suir SAC	Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> ), Water courses of plain to montane levels with the the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation; Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels; Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles; Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and	This is a large freshwater site which is located in Co's Kilkenny, Tipperary and Waterford. It supports a wide range of freshwater and terrestrial habitats as well as coastal and estuarine habitats. It also supports a number of protected plant species, and is important for wintering waterfowl and a range of fish and mammal species.  <a href="#">Lower River Suir SAC Site Data</a>	Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in surface waters in SAC;  Maintain stable hydrological regime in surface waters in SAC;  Maintain open channels to allow the free passage of fish in freshwater habitats;  Prevent direct loss of freshwater habitats within SAC;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;  Prevent contamination or other deterioration

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
		<i>Fraxinus (Alno-Padion Alnion incanae, Salicion albae); Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles; Freshwater pearl mussel; White-clawed crayfish; Sea lamprey; Brook lamprey; River lamprey; Allis shad; Twaite shad; Salmon; Otter</i>		<i>of freshwater habitats in SAC.</i>
2158	Kenmare River SAC	<i>Large shallow inlets and bays; Reefs; Perennial vegetation of stony banks; Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts; Atlantic salt meadows; Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes); Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes); European dry heaths; Calaminarian grassland of the <i>Violetalia calaminariae</i>; Submerged or partially submerged sea</i>	<i>This is a large coastal site which is located in Co's Cork and Kerry. It is of special importance for its estuarine and coastal habitats and species, some of which are very rare and known only from this area in Ireland. It is also of high importance for the occurrence of a very rare habitat type (Calaminarian grassland) associated with old mine works at Allihies. This grassland is the only Irish site for a number of exceptionally rare lichen species. The bay supports a breeding population of Arctic/Common</i>	<i>Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in discharging rivers and transitional coastal zones in harbour area; Prevent direct loss of habitat within SAC; Prevent drainage of wetland habitats; Prevent contamination or deterioration of wetland habitats; Protect marine mammals from disturbance in particular at haul outs and breeding sites; Prevent disturbance to Otter or their breeding</i>

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<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
		<i>caves; Whorl snail; Lesser horseshoe bat; Otter; Common (harbour) seal.</i>	<i>Tern, and overlaps with the Beara Peninsula which is designated for a breeding population of Chough.</i>  <a href="#"><u>Kenmare River SAC Site Data</u></a>	<i>sites.</i>
2165	<i>Lower River Shannon SAC</i>	<i>Large shallow inlets and bays; Estuaries; Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand; Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts; Coastal lagoons; Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Atlantic salt meadows; Sandbanks (slightly covered by seawater at all times); Reefs; Perennial vegetation of stony banks; Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche batrachion</i></i>	<i>This is a very extensive SAC which is located primarily in Co. Limerick. However, the upper catchment of the River Feale which forms part of this large SAC is located in North West Co. Cork.</i>  <a href="#"><u>Lower River Shannon SAC Site Data</u></a>	<i>Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in surface waters in SAC;</i>  <i>Maintain open channels to allow the free passage of fish in freshwater habitats;</i>  <i>Maintain stable hydrological regime in surface waters in SAC;</i>  <i>Prevent direct loss of freshwater habitats within SAC;</i>  <i>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</i>  <i>Prevent contamination or other deterioration of freshwater habitats in SAC;</i>  <i>Prevent disturbance to marine mammals, particularly at haul outs and breeding sites;</i>

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
		<i>vegetation; Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils; Alluvial forest with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>; River lamprey; Brook lamprey; Sea lamprey; Atlantic salmon; Freshwater pearl mussel; Bottle-nosed dolphin; Otter</i>		<i>Prevent disturbance to Otter and Otter habitat.</i>
2170	<i>Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC</i>	<i>Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Perennial vegetation of stony banks; <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand; Atlantic salt meadows; Mediterranean salt meadows; Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche batrachion</i> vegetation; Alluvial forest with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and</i>	<i>This is a very large Special Area of Conservation which extends from the western to the eastern boundaries of the north of the Cork. It has been designated for the conservation of a range of freshwater, terrestrial (woodland) and coastal and estuarine habitats and species. It overlaps with two Special Protection Areas, the Blackwater Callows downstream of Fermoy, and the Blackwater Estuary. It supports three protected plant</i>	<i>Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in surface waters in SAC;</i>  <i>Maintain open channels to allow the free passage of fish in freshwater habitats;</i>  <i>Maintain stable hydrological regime in surface waters in SAC;</i>  <i>Prevent direct loss of freshwater habitats within SAC;</i>  <i>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</i>  <i>Prevent contamination or other deterioration</i>

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		<i>Fraxinus excelsior; Old sessile oak woodlands with Ilex and Blechnum; Taxus baccata woods. Freshwater pearl mussel; White-clawed crayfish; Sea lamprey; Brook lamprey; River lamprey; Twaite shad; Atlantic Salmon; Otter</i>	<i>species, Starved Wood Sedge, Killarney Fern and Pennyroyal as well as other species listed in the Irish Red Data Book, Bird's – nest Orchid, Golden Dock and Bird Cherry, as well as many native Irish animal species including mammals, birds and amphibians.</i>  <a href="#">Blackwater River SAC Site Data</a>	<i>of freshwater habitats in SAC;  Prevent disturbance to Otter and Otter habitat.</i>
2171	<i>Bandon River SAC</i>	<i>Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation; Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae); Freshwater pearl mussel; Brook lamprey.</i>	<i>This site consists of adjoining stretches of the upper Bandon and Caha rivers. It is designated for its examples of Alluvial woodland, and Floating River vegetation habitat types, as well as a range of freshwater species, including the Freshwater Pearl Mussel. In addition to the qualifying features, some very rare, and some protected plant species have also been recorded from this site. The river is also important for a range of wetland bird</i>	<i>Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in surface waters in SAC;  Maintain open channels to allow the free passage of fish in freshwater habitats;  Maintain stable hydrological regime in surface waters in SAC;  Prevent direct loss of freshwater habitats within SAC;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;  Prevent contamination or other deterioration</i>

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<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
			<p>species.</p> <p><a href="#">Bandon River SAC Site Data</a></p>	<p>of freshwater habitats in SAC.</p>
2173	Blackwater River (Kerry) SAC	<p>European dry heaths; Kerry slug, Freshwater pearl mussel; Salmon; Lesser horseshoe bat; Otter</p>	<p>This is a large freshwater SAC located within Co. Kerry. It is designated for a range of freshwater as well as terrestrial habitats and species. The site is also visited by a number of bird species of conservation importance.</p> <p><a href="#">Blackwater River (Kerry) SAC Site Data</a></p>	<p>Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in surface waters in SAC;</p> <p>Maintain open channels to allow the free passage of fish in freshwater habitats;</p> <p>Maintain stable hydrological regime in surface waters in SAC;</p> <p>Prevent direct loss of freshwater habitats within SAC;</p> <p>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</p> <p>Prevent contamination or other deterioration of freshwater habitats in SAC;</p> <p>Prevent disturbance to Otter and Otter habitat;</p> <p>Prevent disturbance to bat roosts within SAC.</p>



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<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
2189	Farranamanagh Lough SAC	Coastal lagoons; Perennial vegetation of stony banks.	This is a relatively small site located on the Sheep's Head peninsula. It is designated for the occurrence of a small shallow lagoon in a natural condition, which supports lagoonal specialist species, and for its fine example. The site also supports heath, wet grassland, freshwater marsh, scrub and woodland habitats. Kerry Slug has been recorded within the site.  <a href="#">Farranamanagh Lough SAC Site Data</a>	Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in lagoon and in waters discharging to lagoon;  Prevent direct loss of coastal and wetland habitats within the SAC;  Prevent contamination of wetland habitats;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats.
2098	Old Domestic Building, Askive Woods SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat	This is a small SAC located in Co. Kerry. It is a breeding site of the Lesser Horseshoe Bat. The site also includes woodland habitat which provides suitable foraging habitats for the population of bats which use this roost site.  <a href="#">Old Domestic Building Askive Woods SAC Site Data</a>	Prevent disturbance to bat roost;  Protect foraging woodland habitat within SAC.

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2257	Moanour Mountain SAC	Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grasslands on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	This site is located in Co. Tipperary on the edge of the Galtee Mountains. It is designated as it supports good quality example of an acid grassland habitat type. The site also supports heath habitats.  <a href="#">Moanour Mountain SAC Site Data</a>	Prevent direct loss of upland habitats within the SAC;  Prevent drainage of upland habitats within SAC;  Regulate visitor access / human use with potential to cause path erosion on upland habitats within SAC.
2280	Dunbeacon Shingle SAC	Perennial vegetation of stony banks	This is a small coastal site located at the head of Dunmanus Bay near Durrus. It is of high conservation importance for the diversity of habitats and species that it supports. These include saltmarsh, wet and dry heath, lake, freshwater marsh, tidal estuarine creeks, scrub woodland and wet woodland. The site provides valuable feeding habitat for several bird species, and is also used by Otter.  <a href="#">Dunbeacon Shingle SAC Site Data</a>	Prevent direct loss of coastal and wetland habitats within the SAC;  Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in freshwater habitats within SAC;  Prevent contamination of wetland habitats;  Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;  Prevent disturbance to birds.

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<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
2281	Reen Point Shingle SAC	Perennial vegetation of stony banks.	<p>This is a small site which is designated as it supports a good example of shingle beach habitats. Other habitats which occur on the site include lagoon habitat, saltmarsh, marsh/scrub and heath. These add to the overall value of the SAC.</p> <p><a href="#">Reen Point Shingle SAC Site Data</a></p>	<p>Prevent direct loss of coastal and wetland habitats within the SAC;</p> <p>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</p>
2315	Glanlough Woods SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat	<p>This site is located in Co. Kerry. It consists of a derelict farmhouse and adjacent out-buildings. The buildings support an important Lesser horseshoe bat maternity roost.</p> <p><a href="#">Glanlough Woods SAC Site Data</a></p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to bat roost;</p> <p>Protect bat foraging habitat.</p>
4021	Old Head of Kinsale SPA	Guillemot and Kittiwake (nationally important numbers)	<p>This is a headland site which has been designated for the protection of important breeding populations of two sea bird species, Guillemot and Kittiwake. Other</p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to breeding birds.</p>

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			<p>species that have breed here include Fulmar, Shag, Herring Gull and Razorbill, while Chough and Peregrine Falcon also breed nearby.</p> <p><a href="#">Old Head of Kinsale SPA Site Data</a></p>	
4022	Ballycotton Bay SPA	<p>Teal; Ringed Plover; Golden Plover; Grey Plover; Lapwing; Black-tailed Godwit; Bar-tailed Godwit; Curlew; Turnstone; Common Gull; Lesser Black-backed Gull; Wetlands and Waterbirds</p>	<p>This site comprises two sheltered inlets which receive the flows of a number of small rivers. It supports a range of estuarine habitat types including a formerly lagoonal lake, saltmarsh, sand and mudflats and some shallow marine water. It supports an excellent diversity of wintering waterfowl species, and it is well known location for passage waders in the autumn.</p> <p><a href="#">Ballycotton Bay SPA Site Data</a></p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to wintering birds;</p> <p>Maintain a high standard of water quality in discharging rivers and transitional coastal zones in bay area;</p> <p>Prevent direct loss of estuarine habitats within the SAC;</p> <p>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</p> <p>Prevent contamination or deterioration of estuarine habitats.</p>
4023	Ballymacoda Bay SPA	<p>Wigeon; Teal; Ringed Plover; Golden Plover; Grey Plover; Lapwing; Sanderling; Dunlin;</p>	<p>This site comprises the estuary of the Womanagh River. It supports mudflats and saltmarsh habitats as well as wet fields, all</p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to wintering birds;</p> <p>Maintain a high standard of water quality in discharging</p>

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<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
		<i>Black-tailed Godwit; Bar-tailed Godwit; Curlew; Redshank; Turnstone; Black-headed Gull; Common Gull; Lesser Black-backed Gull; Wetlands and Waterbirds</i>	<i>of which are of importance for a range of wintering bird species that use this site. The site regularly supports &gt;20,000 wintering waterfowl. It has internationally important numbers of Bar-tailed Godwit, supports large flocks of Golden Plover. It has nationally and regionally important numbers of a range of other species including Brent Goose. This site overlaps with Ballymacoda (Clonpriest) Pillmore SAC.</i>  <a href="#"><u>Ballymacoda Bay SPA Site Data</u></a>	<i>rivers and transitional coastal zones in bay area;</i>  <i>Prevent direct loss of estuarine habitats within the SAC;</i>  <i>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</i>  <i>Prevent contamination or deterioration of estuarine habitats.</i>
4028	<i>Blackwater Estuary SPA</i>	<i>Wigeon; Golden plover; Lapwing; Dunlin; Black-tailed godwit; Bar-tailed godwit; Curlew; Redshank; Wetlands and Waterbirds</i>	<i>This is a sheltered south-facing estuary, located on the eastern boundary of Co. Cork. The principle habitat types are mudflats and sandflats, with saltmarsh fringing the estuarine channels. The site is of high ornithological importance for its variety and numbers of wintering</i>	<i>Prevent disturbance to wintering birds;</i>  <i>Maintain a high standard of water quality in discharging rivers and transitional coastal zones in bay area;</i>  <i>Prevent direct loss of estuarine habitats within the SAC;</i>

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
			<p>waterfowl, in particular its internationally important population of Black-tailed Godwit, as well as a range of other species. This site overlaps with the Blackwater River SAC.</p> <p><a href="#">Blackwater Estuary SPA Site Data</a></p>	<p>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</p> <p>Prevent contamination or deterioration of estuarine habitats.</p>
4030	Cork Harbour SPA	<p>Little Grebe; Great Crested Grebe; Cormorant; Grey Heron; Shelduck; Wigeon; Teal; Pintail; Shoveler; Red-breasted Merganser; Oystercatcher; Golden Plover; Grey Plover; Lapwing; Dunlin; Black-tailed Godwit; Bar-tailed Godwit; Curlew; Redshank; Black-headed Gull; Common Gull; Lesser Black-backed Gull; Common Tern; Wetlands and Water Birds</p>	<p>This is a large site which is made up of a number of discrete sheltered river estuarine systems discharging to Cork Harbour. The primary habitats of the SPA are intertidal mudflats which are of very high importance for the high numbers and variety of wintering waterfowl species which occur here. The SPA also has a nationally important breeding colony of Common Tern.</p> <p><a href="#">Cork Harbour SPA Site Data</a></p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to wintering birds;</p> <p>Maintain a high standard of water quality in discharging rivers and transitional coastal zones in bay area;</p> <p>Prevent direct loss of estuarine habitats within the SAC;</p> <p>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</p> <p>Prevent contamination or deterioration of estuarine habitats.</p>

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
4038	Killarney National Park SPA	Merlin, Greenland White-fronted Goose	<p>This site is located within Co. Kerry. This is an upland SPA which has been designated as it supports a wintering population of Greenland White-fronted Goose, and breeding Merlin.</p> <p><a href="#">Killarney National Park SPA Site Data</a></p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to breeding birds;</p> <p>Protect upland habitats;</p>
4066	Bull and the Cow SPA	Storm Petrel; Gannet; Puffin	<p>This site comprises to small rock islands and surrounding water situated off Dursey Head. It is an important site for breeding populations of Storm Petrel, Gannet and Puffin. Other seabirds which also breed on the islands include Gull spp, Cormorant, Kittiwake, Guillemot, Fulmar and Razorbill.</p> <p><a href="#">Bull and the Cow Rocks SPA Site Data</a></p>	Prevent disturbance to breeding birds.
4081	Clonakilty Bay SPA	Shelduck; Dunlin; Black-tailed Godwit; Curlew; Wetlands and Waterbirds	<p>This site overlaps with Clonakilty Bay SAC. It is a coastal wetland site which supports a range of coastal / estuarine habitats, brackish grasslands</p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to wintering birds;</p> <p>Maintain a high standard of water quality in discharging rivers and transitional</p>

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<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
			<p>and freshwater marsh. Over 8,000 birds of a variety of species are recorded in the estuary annually.</p> <p><a href="#">Clonakilty Bay SPA Site Data</a></p>	<p>coastal zones in bay area;</p> <p>Prevent direct loss of estuarine habitats within the SAC;</p> <p>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</p> <p>Prevent contamination or deterioration of estuarine habitats.</p>
4094	River Blackwater Callows SPA	Whooper swan; Wigeon; Teal; Black-tailed Godwit; Wetlands and Waterbirds	<p>This wetland site is located downstream from Fermoy, and overlaps with the Blackwater River SAC. It consists of seasonally flooded grassland within the flood plain of the Blackwater. It is of conservation value on account of the occurrence of wintering waterfowl.</p> <p><a href="#">River Blackwater Callows SPA Site Data</a></p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to wintering birds;</p> <p>Maintain a high standard of water quality in river;</p> <p>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats.</p>
4095	Kilcolman Bog SPA	Whooper Swan; Teal; Shoveler; Wetlands and Waterbirds	<p>This site supports quaking fen, lake, reed swamp, freshwater marsh and wet grassland habitat. It is of conservation value due to the occurrence of</p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to wintering birds;</p> <p>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats.</p>



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<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
			<p><i>nationally important numbers of number of species of wintering waterfowl.</i></p> <p><a href="#">Kilcolman Bog SPA Site Data</a></p>	
4109	<i>The Gearagh SPA</i>	<i>Teal; Wigeon; Mallard; Coot; Wetland and Waterbirds</i>	<p><i>This is an internationally important wetland site which is designated as a RAMSAR site as well as an SAC. It is the only extensive alluvial woodland in Ireland or Britain, and supports rare plants as well as internationally important numbers of a variety of species of wetland birds.</i></p> <p><a href="#">The Gearagh SPA Site Data</a></p>	<p><i>Prevent disturbance to birds;</i></p> <p><i>Maintain a high standard of water of water quality in watercourses;</i></p> <p><i>Prevent direct loss of terrestrial and freshwater habitats within the SAC;</i></p> <p><i>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</i></p> <p><i>Prevent contamination or deterioration of terrestrial and freshwater habitats.</i></p>
4124	<i>Sovereign Islands SPA</i>	<i>Cormorant</i>	<p><i>This is a marine site consisting of two small islets at the entrance to Oysterhaven Bay. The islands are important for breeding seabirds, including Cormorant, Great Black-backed Gulls and Herring Gulls.</i></p>	<p><i>Prevent disturbance to breeding birds;</i></p>

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			<a href="#">Sovereign Islands SPA Site Data</a>	
4155	<i>Beara Peninsula SPA</i>	<i>Fulmar; Chough</i>	<p><i>This SPA includes sea cliffs and the land behind these as well as several upland areas further inland of the coast. A large population of Chough have been recorded from this site. They are breeding both on the sea cliffs and at the old copper mines at Allihies. The SPA protects Chough feeding and breeding sites, as well as areas where birds flock in the wintertime. The site is also important for breeding seabird species including Fulmar, Black Guillemot, Shag, Gull spp and Razorbill.</i></p> <p><a href="#">Beara Peninsula SPA Site Data</a></p>	<p><i>Prevent disturbance to breeding birds;</i></p> <p><i>Maintain Chough feeding , wintering and breeding habitat.</i></p>
4156	<i>Sheeps Head to Toe Head SPA</i>	<i>Peregrine Falcon; Chough</i>	<p><i>This site encompasses high coast and sea cliffs on the SW coast including Sheeps Head, Mizen Head, Brow Head and Crookhaven, Baltimore, Tragumna,</i></p>	<p><i>Prevent disturbance to breeding birds;</i></p> <p><i>Protect breeding habitat for Chough and Peregrine Falcon.</i></p> <p><i>Protect feeding and</i></p>

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<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
			<p><i>Gokane Point and Toe Head. It includes sea cliff and land inward from these. It also includes areas of sand dune at Barley Cove and Crookhaven. It includes breeding, feeding and flocking areas for an important population of Chough. It also supports breeding sea birds and an important population of Peregrine Falcon.</i></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Sheeps Head to Toe Head SPA Site Data</u></a></p>	<p><i>flocking sites / habitats used by Chough.</i></p>
4161	<p><i>Stacks to Mullaghareirks Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mountain Eagle SPA</i></p>	<p><i>Hen Harrier</i></p>	<p><i>This is a very large upland site which is located in Cork, Kerry and Limerick. This site supports the largest concentration of breeding Hen Harrier in the country. Short-eared Owl, a species which is very rare in Ireland and also listed on Annex I of the Birds Directive has also been known to breed in this site.</i></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Stacks to Mullaghareirks Mountains, West Limerick Hills and</u></a></p>	<p><i>Prevent disturbance to breeding birds;</i></p> <p><i>Protect feeding and breeding habitat of Hen Harrier.</i></p>

<b>Table 1: Natura 2000 Sites In Co. Cork and Within 15km of Co. Cork</b>				
<b>Site Code</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Interests</b>	<b>Features of biodiversity note and links to site data</b>	<b>Key requirements to protect site integrity</b>
			<a href="#"><u>Mountain Eagle SPA Site Data</u></a>	
4162	Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA	Hen Harrier	<p>This is an upland site located near Millstreet. It supports an important population of breeding Hen Harrier. It also supports a breeding population of Merlin, a species that is also listed on Annex I of the Birds Directive.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA Site Data</u></a></p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to breeding birds;</p> <p>Protect feeding and breeding habitat of Hen Harrier.</p>
4190	Galley Heat to Duneen Point SPA	Chough	<p>This site is located south-west of Clonakilty. The site encompasses the sea cliffs where Chough and a number of other bird species breed, and land adjacent to the cliffs which provide feeding habitat for Chough. The site is used by breeding seabirds including Fulmar, Gull spp and Cormorant. It is also a breeding site for the Annex I species, Peregrine</p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to breeding birds;</p> <p>Maintain Chough breeding and feeding habitat within SPA.</p>

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			<p>Falcon.</p> <p><a href="#">Galley Heat to Duneen Point SPA Site Data</a></p>	
4191	Seven Heads SPA	Chough	<p>This site is located south-west of Courtmacherry. It supports an important population of breeding Chough. The SPA includes grassland and heath, freshwater marsh and arable land behind the cliffs which are used as feeding areas by this species. Site also supports breeding seabirds including Fulmar; Gull spp, Cormorant as well as breeding Peregrine Falcon.</p> <p><a href="#">Seven Heads SPA Site Data</a></p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to breeding birds;</p> <p>Maintain Chough breeding and feeding habitat within SPA.</p>
4192	Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA	Cormorant; Peregrine Falcon; Herring Gull; Kittiwake; Chough	<p>This site which runs along the SW coast of Co. Waterford. The site includes sea cliffs which are used by breeding sea birds, and coastal heath behind the cliffs. The site supports a population of Chough, as well as an important breeding</p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to breeding birds;</p> <p>Prevent disturbance to breeding birds;</p> <p>Maintain Chough breeding and feeding habitat within SPA.</p>

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			<p>seabird population which includes Cormorant, Gull spp., Kittiwake, Razorbill, Fulmar, Shag, Guillemot and Black Guillemot. It also supports a population of breeding Peregrine Falcon.</p> <p><a href="#">Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA Site Data</a></p>	
4219	Courtmacsherry Estuary SPA	<p>Great Northern Diver; Shelduck; Wigeon; Red-breasted Merganser; Golden Plover; Lapwing; Dublin; Black-tailed Godwit; Car-tailed Godwit; Curlew; Black-headed Gull; Common Gull; Wetlands and Waterbirds</p>	<p>This is a largely estuarine in nature and consists of the drowned valley of the Argideen and Kilbrittain Rivers. The site overlaps with Courtmacsherry SAC. It is of particular importance for the range and numbers of wintering birds that feed on the wetland habitats of the estuary some of which occur in nationally and internationally important numbers.</p> <p><a href="#">Courtmacsherry Estuary SPA Site Data</a></p>	<p>Prevent disturbance to wintering birds;</p> <p>Maintain a high standard of water quality in discharging rivers and transitional coastal zones in bay area;</p> <p>Prevent direct loss of estuarine habitats within the SAC;</p> <p>Prevent drainage of wetland habitats;</p> <p>Prevent contamination or deterioration of estuarine habitats.</p>



