



# How to make a Submission

The Draft Municipal District Local Area Plan is available from the Council website at www.corkcoco.ie. If required, a hard copy of the document may be inspected between the hours of **9.30 a.m. and 4.00p.m**, from **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2016** to **Friday 06<sup>th</sup> January 2017** at the following locations:

- Planning Department, Floor 1, County Hall, Cork.
- Planning Department, Norton House, Skibbereen, Co. Cork.
- Cork County Council Offices, Mallow
- Public Libraries Please check libraries regarding opening times and availability.

CD copies of the documents may be requested by phone (Tel: 021-4285900) or collected from the Planning Department, Floor 1, County Hall between the hours of **9.30am** and **4.00pm** during the above period.

Submissions or observations regarding the Draft Municipal District Local Area Plan document are hereby invited from members of the public, children, or groups or associations representing the interests of children and other interested parties during the period **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2016** to **4.00pm** on **Friday 06<sup>th</sup> January 2017**.

Submissions may be made in either of the following two ways:

On-line via www.corkcoco.ie following the instructions provided

OR

• In written form to the Senior Planner, Planning Policy Unit, Cork County Council, Floor 13, County Hall, Cork. T12R2NC.

All such submissions lodged within the above period and prior to the close of business at **4.00pm on Friday 6**<sup>th</sup> **January 2017**, will be taken into consideration in the finalisation of the Municipal District Local Area Plan.



# **Environmental Reports**

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# **West Cork Municipal District**

# 1 Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report

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# **Section 1: Introduction**

#### Sub-Section

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16<sup>th</sup> November 2016

# 1 Introduction

#### 1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This is the Environmental Report on the strategic environment assessment of the Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan 2016 and it describes the assessment of the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the Draft Plan.
- 1.1.2 Cork County Council sets out its land use planning strategy for the development of the towns and villages of the county in a series of ten Electoral Area Local Area Plans.
- 1.1.3 Local Area Plans sit at the lower end of the planning policy hierarchy and must be consistent with the higher level plans like the County Development Plan and the Regional Planning Guidelines.



- 1.1.4 The most recent Local Area Plans were adopted in 2011. The Plans have a six year life and the Council is now commencing the process of preparing new plans which will be in place by August 2017. Following the re-organisation of local government in 2014, the electoral structure of the County is now based on eight Municipal Districts; see Table 1.1 and Figure 1.1. A new Local Area Plan will be prepared for each of the eight Municipal Districts in the County.
- 1.1.5 Currently the Town Development Plans adopted by the nine former Town Councils of Cobh, Clonakilty, Fermoy, Kinsale, Macroom, Mallow, Midleton, Skibbereen and Youghal remain in force pending the making of the next Cork County Development Plan in 2020. It is proposed to vary the Town Development Plans, such that the zoning provisions and associated policy objectives of the Town Development Plans are updated and incorporated into the new Local Area Plans. The Town Plans will remain in force but the relevant zonings provisions will be those of the new Local Area Plan.

	Table 1.1: Municipal Districts in County Cork						
	Municipal District	Population 2011	Main Towns	No of villages			
1	Ballincollig - Carrigaline	71,946	Ballincollig, Carrigaline, Passage West/ Monkstown/ Glenbrook, Cork City South Environs, Ringaskiddy	5			
2	Bandon - Kinsale	42,454	Bandon, Kinsale	34			
3	Blarney - Macroom	43,398	Blarney, Macroom	54			
4	Cobh	53,544	Carrigtwohill, Cobh, Glanmire, Little Island, Cork City North Environs. (Monard is proposed new town and a designated Strategic Development Zone)	24			
5	East Cork	42,399	Midleton, Youghal	30			
6	Fermoy	42,226	Charleville, Fermoy, Mitchelstown	29			
7	Kanturk - Mallow	47,305	Buttevant, Kanturk, Mallow, Millstreet, Newmarket	46			
8	West Cork	56,530	Bantry, Castletownbere, Clonakilty, Dunmanway, Schull, Skibbereen	67 & 7 Inhabited Islands			



Figure 1.1 Municipal Districts in the County

#### 1.2 Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.2.1 From a legislative viewpoint, the concept of SEA was initially introduced by way of the Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27th June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the SEA Directive) which was transposed into Irish legislation by the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations, 2004 (S.I. No. 435 of 2004) and Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations, 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004). Subsequently, these statutory instruments were amended by S.I. 200 of 2011 and S.I. No. 201 of 2011. This SEA is being undertaken under S.I. No. 436 of 2004 (as amended) in accordance with Article 8, insofar as this legislation relates to land-use planning.
- 1.2.2 Strategic Environment Assessment is a systematic process of predicting and evaluating the likely environmental effects of implementing a plan, or other strategic action, in order to ensure that these effects are appropriately addressed at the earliest stage of decision-making on a par with economic and social considerations. The SEA process is undertaken using a methodical iterative approach. The methodology followed in this report is derived from a number of sources including the appropriate legislation and guidance documents prepared on a national and EU level. Legally, the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) transposed Irish regulations and associated amendments to provide the legislative framework. The main sources of guidance include the documents detailed below:
  - Implementation of SEA Directive (2001/42/EC): Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment Guidelines for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities, Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2004;
  - SEA Pack and Scoping Guidance Document, EPA.
  - SEA Process Checklist, EPA.

## 1.3 Stages of SEA

- 1.3.1 There are a number of stages involved in the SEA process which are listed as follows:
  - (1) Screening.
  - (2) Scoping.
  - (3) Collection of baseline data, assessment and compilation of the Environmental Report (current stage).
  - (4) Consultation with designated environmental authorities on Environmental Report and Draft Plan.
  - (5) Evaluation of submissions received in response to the consultation and amendments to the plan as appropriate with designated environmental authorities.
  - (6) Issuing of the final SEA Statement identifying how environmental considerations have been integrated into the final adopted Plan.
  - (7) Monitoring of significant environmental effects following adoption and implementation of the Plan.
- 1.3.2 This report only deals with stages 1-3.

#### Screening

1.3.3 The purpose of screening is to determine definitively if there is a necessity for a strategic environmental assessment to be undertaken. There is a mandatory requirement under the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations, 2004 (as amended) to undertake a strategic environmental assessment in respect of Local Area Plans for areas with a population of 5,000 or more, so in this instance, screening was not required and the SEA process proceeds to the next stage.

#### **Scoping**

- 1.3.4 The process of scoping for SEA is defined as the procedure whereby the range of environmental issues and the level of detail to be included in the Environmental Report are decided upon, in consultation with the prescribed environmental authorities. Scoping is necessary in order to establish, with objectivity, the potential impacts of the implementation of the draft plan on a number of environmental elements from consultations with a range of environmental bodies and the incorporation of associated submissions into the draft plan by way of their inclusion in the Environmental Report.
- 1.3.5 Scoping for the current SEA was commenced with the circulation of a Draft Scoping Report to all the environmental authorities on the 22nd April 2016. A total of two (2) submissions were received from EPA and Irish Water respectively. The Scoping Report was finalised on the 31st May 2016 and issues raised were considered further in the preparation of this Draft Local Area Plan and SEA Environment Report.

#### Collection of Baseline Data, Assessment and Environmental Report.

- 1.3.6 In order to assess the likely significant impacts of the Plan, baseline data on the current state of the environment has to be collected and evaluated and the potential effects of the plan predicted and considered. In accordance with legislation and guidance, the existing environment is described with respect to biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water (surface freshwater, coastal, transitional, groundwater, bathing and water services (drinking water and waste water treatment), air, climatic factors, material assets (roads, transportation, energy etc), cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage), landscape and the interrelationships between these factors as appropriate. Any existing problems relevant to the new Plan are also identified at this baseline stage.
- 1.3.7 Identification of baseline environmental status provides for the identification of key resources and sensitivities within the Plan area and the identification of potential threats to the environment, thus allowing for the inclusion of mitigation measures that may need to be incorporated into the new Plan to ensure that it does not exacerbate existing problems. Assessment of the baseline environment also enables plan-makers to consider how the environment might evolve in the absence of the proposed plan.
- 1.3.8 As the data is complied and plan policies evolve the likely significant effects of implementing the plan are identified, described and evaluated and this is described in the Environmental Report.
- 1.3.9 The information to be contained in the environmental report is set out in Annex 1 of the SEA Directive and reproduced in Schedule 2B of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as inserted by Article 12 of the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004). The structure of this report is summarised as follows:

	Table 1: Information to be contained in an Environmental Report						
Item	Information to be contained in an Environmental Report	Relevant Section of Environmental Report					
А	Outline of the contents and main objectives of the draft plan and relationship with other relevant plans or programmes	Section 2: Context of the Plan					
В	Description of the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan	Section 3: Baseline Environment					
С	Description of the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected	Section 3: Baseline environment					
D	Description of any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan including those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as Natura 2000 sites	Section 3: Baseline environment					
Е	Description of environmental protection objectives (EPOs), established at international, EU or national level, which are relevant to the plan and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation	Section 4: EPOs					
F	Description of the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and interrelationships between these factors	Section 6: Evaluation of Draft Plan					
G	Description of the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan	Section 6: Evaluation of Draft Plan					
Н	Outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives considered, with a description of how the assessment was undertaken and including any difficulties encountered in compiling the information	Section 5: Alternative Scenarios.					
I	Description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring of the significant environmental effects of implementation of the plan	Will be included in SEA Statement once plan finalised					
J	A non-technical summary of the above information.						

#### **Documenting the SEA process**

- 1.3.10 The SEA Process produces two documents this environmental Report which is published with the Draft Municipal District Local Area Plan and an SEA statement which will be published at the end of the process, once the plan is adopted.
- 1.3.11 This Environmental Report will be submitted to the Elected Members with the Draft Municipal District Local Area Plan. The Members must take account of the Environmental Report before the Plan is adopted. When the Plan is adopted, an SEA Statement will be published, summarising, inter alia, how environmental considerations have been integrated into the Plan and the reasons for choosing the Plan as adopted over other alternatives considered in the Environmental Report.
- 1.3.12 Should alterations to the Draft Plan be proposed, there will be a further submission period of not less than four weeks during which time submissions and/or observations may be made on the proposed alterations. If material alterations are proposed they will need to undergo a screening process to determine if SEA is required. The proposed alterations, the screening document and SEA Environmental report, where relevant, will be sent to the Minister, the Board and the prescribed authorities and will be made available for public inspection.

#### 1.4 Habitats Directive Assessment

- 1.4.1 Habitats Directive Assessment is an iterative process which runs parallel to and informs both the plan making process and the Strategic Environmental Assessment 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 must also be 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.
- 1.4.2 The results of this analysis and review are presented in a Natura Impact Report which is contained in Section B of Volume Two of the Draft Municipal District Local Area Plan. At the end of the plan making process, an Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement will be produced which contains a summary of how ecological considerations in relation to Natura 2000 sites have been integrated into the Plan. The final Natura Impact Report and a declaration in relation to the potential for the plan to affect the integrity of Natura 2000 sites within its potential impact zone will also be produced at this time.

## 1.5 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- 1.5.1 As part of the review of the Local Area Plan, and in order to meet the needs of the Strategic Environmental Assessment process and the requirements of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government / Office of Public Works Guidelines, "The Planning System and Flood Risk Management" (2009), Cork County Council also undertook a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).
- 1.5.2 1The assessment provides for an improved understanding of flood risk issues within the Municipal District and the spatial distribution of flood risk. The SFRA report sets out how the Flood Risk Assessment was undertaken, as well as how its findings were addressed and integrated into the Draft Plan. A copy of the SFRA is included in Appendix A of this report. It should be read in conjunction with the Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan.

#### 1.6 Difficulties Encountered

- 1.6.1 During the preparation of the Environmental Report, habitats mapping for towns outside Metropolitan Cork was carried out and forms part of this report. No other new research was undertaken and information was gathered from existing sources of data. It should be noted that there are a number of areas where data was not readily available which include:
  - No wetland inventory.
  - Habitat Mapping for the Non Metropolitan Towns was not finalised in time to inform preparation of report.
  - Information is largely paper based with exceptions of designated areas in digitised format (GIS).
  - Lack of guiding legislation in some areas e.g. soils and their conservation.
  - Limited Air Quality monitoring data for the plan area. The frequency of this monitoring is also identified as an issue.
  - Lack of a data on compliance records for waste water treatment systems on settlements of less than 500 p.e.
  - Lack of information on the effectiveness of existing septic tank systems within the county.
  - The lack of centralised data source for environmental baseline data posed a difficulty to the SEA process.
- 1.6.2 In addition, the status of a number of Transitional and Coastal Water bodies was not available. Not only did this impede the preparation of the baseline assessment, it also highlights a potential problem with the implementation of the Water Framework Directive.

# Section 2: The Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan

#### Sub-Section

- 2.1 Introduction
- 2.2 County Development Plan Strategy
- 2.3 Local Area Plan Strategy
- 2.4 Growth Strategy
- 2.5 Contents of the Draft Plan
- 2.6 Relationship with Other Relevant Plans and Programmes

16<sup>th</sup> November 2016

# 2 The Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan

#### 2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 In accordance with the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended a planning authority may at any time, and for any particular area within its functional area, prepare a local area plan in respect of that area.
- 2.1.2 The current Bantry and Skibbereen Electoral Area Local Area Plans were adopted in 2011 and must be replaced by end of July 2017. On the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015 the Council commenced a review by publishing a Preliminary Consultation Document for each of the 8 Municipal Districts and placing notices in the press to advise the public of the commencement of a 6 week period of public consultation. Submissions received were considered and included in a Chief Executive's Report to the Elected Members of the Council in April 2016. This was followed up by a series of briefing sessions to allow for consultation with members on issues raised and what needed to be addressed in the Draft Plan.

## 2.2 County Development Plan Strategy

- 2.2.1 A new Cork County Development Plan came into force in 2014. This plan, which has also been subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Directive Assessment, sets out the overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the County as a whole, including population targets for each Municipal District and each of the main towns. Within each Municipal District a combined population target is also given for the villages and rural areas. The County Development Plan 2014 has also identified the amount of new housing required in each Municipal District / Town / Village to meet the needs of the target population.
- 2.2.2 The County Development Plan has been prepared so that it is consistent with national targets issued by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government and the Regional Planning Guidelines for the South West Region. The Plan also sets out county-wide objectives for issues such as housing, social and community facilities, economy and employment, town centres and retail, energy and digital economy, transportation and mobility, water services, heritage, green infrastructure and the environment and zoning and land use.
- 2.2.3 The new Local Area Plan must be consistent with the objectives of the Cork County Development Plan 2014 and comply with the Local Area Plan Guidelines for Planning Authorities prepared by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government and various legislative and other policy documents issued by the Government.

## 2.3 Local Area Plan Strategy

#### **Overview**

2.3.1 The West Cork Municipal District is located south west of Cork City and in 2011 the population of the area stood at 56,530. This population is spread across a network of settlements including 6 Main Towns, 67 smaller settlements, 7 West Cork Island Communities and the open countryside, as detailed in Table 2.1. Outside the main towns the district is largely rural / agricultural in character with over 56% of the population of the Municipal District living in the open countryside i.e. not within a settlement.

Clonakilty is the largest town within the Municipal District with a population of 4,721 in 2011. The other Main Towns populations are Bantry (3,348), Skibbereen (2,670), Dunmanway (1,585), Castletownbere (912) and Schull (658).

	Settlement	Population 2011	%
Towns(6)	Bantry (3,348), Castletownbere (912), Clonakilty (4,721), Dunmanway (1,585), Schull (658) and Skibbereen (2,670).	13,894	25%
Key Villages (10)	Baltimore, Ballydehob, Courtmacsherry, Drimoleague, Durrus, Glengarriff, Leap, Rosscarbery, Timoleague, Union Hall.		
West Cork Island Communities (7)*	Bere Island, Dursey Island, Heir Island, Long Island, Oilean Chleire, Sherkin Island, Whiddy Island.		
Villages (28)	Allihies, Ahakista, Ardfield, Ardgroom, Ballinascarthy Ballingurteen, Ballylickey, Ballynacarriga, Butlerstown, Cappeen, Castletownkenneigh, Castletownshend, Clogagh, Crookhaven, Drinagh, Eyeries, Glandore, Goleen, Kealkill, Kilcrohane, Kilmichael, Lissavard, Rathbarry (Castlefreke) Reenascreena, Ring, Rossmore, Shannonvale Teerelton.	10,793**	19%
Village Nuclei (19)	Abbeystrowry, Adrigole, Caheragh, Church Cross, Connonagh, Coomhola, Drombeg, Dromore, Johnstown, Kilcoe, Lislevane, Lowertown, Lyre, Pearson's Bridge, Rathmore, Rossmackowen/ Waterfall, Togher, Toormore, Urhan.		
Other Locations (10)	Ardnegeeehy Beg, Ballinglanna, Barleycove, Darkwood, Darrara Rural Model Village, Inchydoney, Lisbealad, Ownahinchy, Poundlick, Tragumna.		
Rural Areas**	, , ,	31,843**	56%
Total population		56,530	

Rural Areas figure includes West Cork Island Communities population

<sup>\*\*</sup> Village and Rural Populations are estimated figures

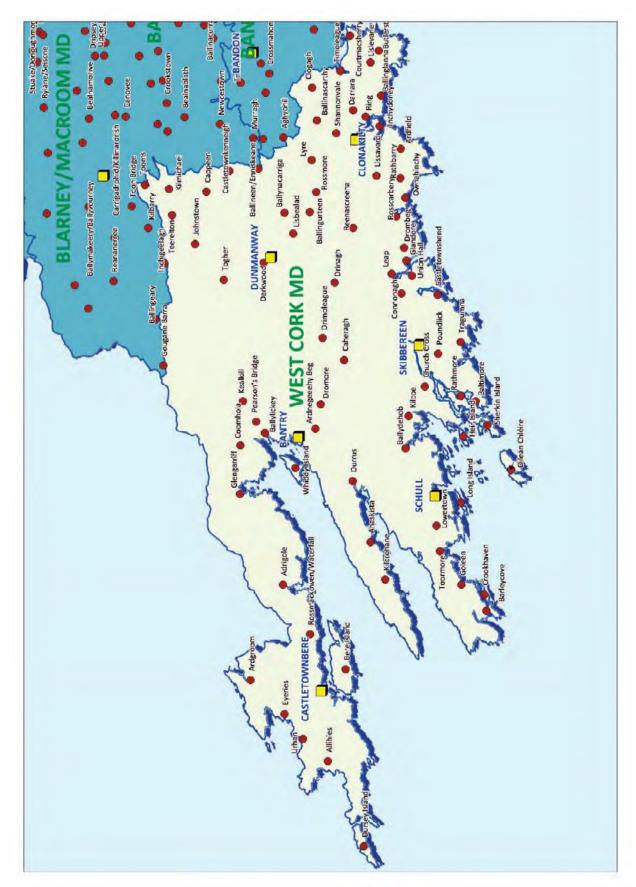


Figure 2.1: West Cork Municipal District Settlements

Revised Map (Darrara and Abbeystrowry

#### **Population Trends**

- 2.3.3 Within the West Cork Municipal District the County Development Plan provides for growth in population of 6,951 persons. The number of households is expected to grow by 6,151 leading to a net requirement for 6,896 new houses within the Municipal District. The County Development Plan indicates that 208ha of residentially zoned land is required.
- 2.3.4 The population growth target will require the provision of 6,896 new housing units, with at least 3,741units allocated to the 6 Main Towns. Housing growth of 1,944 units is also planned for the villages.

Table 2.2 Population Trends and Targets within the West Cork Municipal District 2002-2022							
	Population 2002   Population 2011   Population Target 2022						
Total Main Towns	11,948	13,894	19,900				
Total Villages and Rural		42,636	43,581				
Areas 38,855							
Total Population	50,803	56,530	63,481				

#### 2.4 Growth Strategy

- 2.4.1 At present planning policy for the settlements within the West Cork Municipal District is spread across the Skibbereen Electoral Area Local Area Plan adopted in 2011, the Bantry Electoral Area Local Area Plan adopted in 2011, the Clonakilty Town Development Plan 2009 and the Skibbereen Town Development Plan 2013. The intention is that local planning policy for all settlements within the Municipal District will be contained within the new West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan 2017.
- 2.4.2 It is anticipated than many of the provisions of the current local area plan adopted in 2011 will be continued into the new Local Area Plan unless there is a specific requirement for change arising from changes in national planning policy, legislation, government guidelines, changes in local circumstances, needs etc or to reflect the provisions of the new County Development Plan adopted in 2014.
- 2.4.3 Within the West Cork Municipal District the County Plan provides for growth in population of 6,951 persons. The number of households is expected to grow by 6,151 leading to a net requirement for 7,074 new houses within the Municipal District in the period 2011-2022. The County Development Plan indicates that 208ha of land are required to meet this level of housing provision in the main towns, in addition to housing opportunities in the villages and rural areas.
- 2.4.4 Through its County Development Plan 2014, the Council has allocated the majority of this growth to the towns with 3,789 new houses proposed, the majority of which are planned for Clonakilty (1,505). Housing growth is also planned within the villages (2,661 units).
- 2.4.5 Table 3.1 below shows that the current provision of zoned lands within the main towns is sufficient to accommodate 5,534 new dwelling units providing headroom of 1793 units or 48% in excess of the net requirement within the towns of the Municipal District for 3,741 new units. Table 3.1 also shows that the greatest number of new dwellings is planned in Clonakilty with significant new growth also planned in Bantry.

Та	Table 2.3 West Cork Municipal District Housing Requirements and Supply					
		Housing	Requireme	nt	Housi	ng Supply
	Census 2011	Population Target	New Units Required	Net Estimated Requirement (ha)	Est. Net Residential area zoned.(ha)	Estimated Housing Yield (Units)
Clonakilty	4,721	7,218	1,500	83	128.8	1,600
Bantry	3,348	5,484	1,241	69	100	1,393
Skibbereen	2,670	3,035	332	18	77	1,300
Dunmanway	1,585	1,976	273	15	38.8	593
Castletownbe re	912	1,439	309	17	38	443
Schull	658	748	87	5	11.3	205
Main Towns	13,894	19,900	3,741	208	393.9	5,534
Villages	10,793	14,867	2,531			1,944
Rural	31,843	28,713	623			
Total Villages and Rural	42,636	43,581	3,155			1,944
Total for District	56,530	63,481	6,896	208	393.9	7,478

- 2.4.6 The scale of growth for the individual main settlements of the Municipal District as provided for in this Local Area Plan is outlined in Table 2.3. For the towns, the 'Overall Scale of New Development' figure is the same target figure established by the Core Strategy of the County Development Plan and sufficient residential land has been zoned within the plan to cater for this level of growth and to provide for additional spare capacity in the form of headroom.
- 2.4.7 Based on estimated current and target population figures for the villages, the County Development Plan (Core Strategy) estimated the number of new houses that that may need to be accommodated within the villages of this Municipal District as 2,531 units. This local area plan has the retained the scale of growth figures for the villages at the 2011 figures which is at lower level of development at 1,944 units.
- 2.4.8 Within the village network it is suggested that the new local area plan should maintain the scale of growth established in the 2011 Local Areas Plans in order to respect the scale and character of the villages and because there are significant deficits in water services infrastructure. Ample land is available within the development boundaries of the villages to accommodate the expected level of growth and at this stage of the process it is not intended to make any significant changes to the development boundaries of any of the villages. The main factor constraining development in the villages is likely to be inadequate water services infrastructure. As outlined above, there is enough land available within the towns within the Municipal District to accommodate any development which cannot take place within the villages due to lack of infrastructure.
- 2.4.9 In relation to the West Cork Island Communities of Bere Island, Dursey Island, Heir Island, Long Island, Sherkin Island, Oilean Chleire and Whiddy Island, it is proposed to continue with the strategy as set out in the current Local Area Plan adopted in 2011.

2.4.10 The Settlement network of this Municipal District includes Nine 'Other Locations' Ardnegeeehy Beg, Ballinglanna, Barleycove, Darkwood, Inchydoney, Lisbealad, Ownahinchy, Poundlick and Tragumna. County Development Plan Strategy recognises other locations, as areas which may not form a significant part of the settlement network, but do perform important functions with regard to tourism, heritage, recreation and other uses. No changes are proposed to the strategy for 'Other Locations' as part of the review of the Local Area Plans.

#### 2.5 Contents of the Draft Plan

2.5.1 The Draft Local Area Plan provides a blueprint for the development of West Cork Municipal District for the next 6 years. Set out below are details of the structure and broad chapter content of the Draft local Area Plan.

#### **Section 1 Introduction**

- 2.5.2 This Section sets out the review process to date, the overall plan context and the overall approach/key policies that will influenced the preparation of the Draft Plan namely;
  - Role of the Cork County Development Plan 2014
  - Approach to deal with Town Council Development Plans
  - Special Policy Areas-Framework Masterplans
  - Settlement Network
  - Infrastructure
  - Water Services
  - Flood Risk
  - Regeneration Areas
  - Quality in Urban Design
  - Green Belts around Towns
  - Environmental Assessment including
    - Strategic Environmental Assessment
    - Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
    - > Habitats Directive Assessment

#### **Section 2 Local Area Strategy**

2.5.3 This section set out the overall strategy for the West Cork Municipal District. It sets out the housing requirements and zoned housing land supply for each of the 6 main towns, sets out the appropriate scale of growth within the village network and the current infrastructure position for all the main towns and smaller settlement within the settlement network. It assesses the current employment position in the Municipal District and the key Environment and Heritage assets within the area. The key message is that sufficient land has been provided to meet population targets but that infrastructure remains a key constraint to delivering on those targets.

#### **Section 3 Main Towns**

2.5.4 The purpose of this section is to set out the policies and objectives including land use zoning maps for the 6 Main Towns of Clonakilty, Bantry, Skibbereen, Dunmanway, Castletownbere and Schull in the West Cork Municipal District. Where appropriate, Regeneration Areas have also been identified.

Table 2.4: Population, Households and Net New Houses for Main Towns							
			Housing Requi	rement		Housing Supply	
	Census 2011	Population Target	Total New Households	New Units Required	Net Estimated Requirement (Ha)	Net Estimated Residential Area Zoned (Ha)	Estimated Housing Yield
Clonakilty	4,721	7,218	1,309	1,500	83	128.8	1,600
Bantry	3,348	5,484	1,080	1,241	69	100	1,393
Skibbereen	2,670	3,035	306	332	18	77	1,300
Dunmanway	1,585	1,976	254	273	15	38.8	593
Castletown- bere	912	1,439	271	309	17	38	443
Schull	658	748	75	87	5	11.3	205

- 2.5.5 Clonakilty is the largest settlement within the West Cork Municipal District and a major focus of employment and retail services in West Cork. The town is set within the attractive coastal location and has grown to become a prominent county town with an extensive rural hinterland, while also functioning as a nationally regarded tourism centre and destination.
- 2.5.6 The aim is for the continued promotion of the settlement as a key technology based employment location, the consolidation of its important food industry and tourist function and maintaining high quality residential amenities and facilities. Clonakilty performs an important employment, service and social function in its role as a county town and growth/development centre for an extensive rural hinterland.
- 2.5.7 Bantry which is the second largest town in the West Cork Municipal District area provides commercial, retail and tourism/leisure facilities for an extensive coastal and inland catchment area. The overall strategy aims to develop Bantry as the primary urban centre and gateway for the western part of Cork. The plan will promote a significant expansion of the population based on an important marine related role, including aquaculture, and key employment functions in the service and tourism industries. It will promote good access to modern shops and services without destroying the unique setting of the town on which its attractiveness to tourists depends.

- 2.5.8 Skibbereen is one of the key county towns in the West Cork Municipal District. As a growth/development centre, it performs an important employment, service and social function for an extensive rural hinterland. The Plan recognises the need to provide a better balance of development in Skibbereen and its hinterland so that the town can maximize its potential to attract new investment in employment, services and public transport.
- 2.5.9 **Dunmanway** is the principle inland service centre within the West Cork Municipal District area. The town which is identified as a main settlement, functions as a market centre given its central geographical position within West Cork and has benefited from recent infrastructure improvements and has further potential to strengthen its tourism function.
- 2.5.10 The aim is to strengthen the role of Dunmanway as an important centre of population, employment, recreation, amenity and services so that it can better serve its wider rural hinterland. There is also potential to strengthen the town's tourism industry due to its location close to the main tourism centres in West Cork.
- 2.5.11 **Castletownbere** is the main population, employment and service centre for the Beara Peninsula. It is identified as a Main Settlement within the West Cork Strategic Planning Area. The town plays an important strategic role for the commercial fishing industry as the major white fish port in the state.
- 2.5.12 The overall strategy aims to promote population expansion and consolidation of Castletownbere as a key fisheries harbour and an important local services centre and to promote its role for marine-based tourism and as an employment location. One of the key considerations for the future development of the town is the provision of waste water treatment facilities.
- 2.5.13 **Schull** is an attractive coastal town overlooking a sheltered harbour in the West Cork Municipal District. The town is identified as a Main Settlement in the Cork County Development Plan.
- 2.5.14 The overall strategy aims to develop Schull as the main service centre for both the permanent and tourist population of the Mizen Peninsula. The strategic aim is to promote the development of the town within its scenic coastal setting and to continue the promotion of its coastal tourism functions while protecting its established role as a fishing port and marine food employment centre.

#### **Section 4 Key Villages**

- 2.5.15 There are **10 Key Villages** in the West Cork Municipal District as follows; Ballydehob, Baltimore, Courtmacsherry, Drimoleague, Durrus, Glengarriff, Leap, Rosscarbery, Timoleague and Union Hall.
- 2.5.16 It is a strategic aim of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014 to establish key villages as the primary focus for development in rural areas in the lower order settlement network and allow for the provision of local services, by encouraging and facilitating population growth at a scale, layout and design that reflects the character of each village, where water services and waste water infrastructure is available. Supporting the retention and improvement of key social and community facilities, and inter urban public transport.

Table 2.5: Appropriate Scale of Development for Key Villages							
Name	Existing Number of Houses Q1 2015 (Geodirectory)	Growth 2005 to 2015 (Geodirectory)	Overall Scale of Development (No. of houses)	Normal Recommended Scale of any Individual scheme			
Ballydehob	189	9	39	12			
Baltimore	485	8	85	12			
Courtmacsherry	417	40	155	12			
Drimoleague	246	27	137	12			
Durrus	196	1	100	12			

Glengarriff	191	1	60	15
Leap	149	0	55	12
Rosscarbery	409	40	91	15
Timoleague	167	3	73	12
Union Hall	206	-	80	12
<b>Total Key Villages</b>			875	

#### **Section 5 West Cork Island Communities**

- 2.5.17 There are **7 West Cork Island Communities** in the West Cork Municipal District as follows; Bere Island, Dursey Island, Heir Island, Long Island, Oileán Chléire, Sherkin Island and Whiddy Island.
- 2.5.18 The strategic aim of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014 for the West Cork Island Communities is to support island communities in their sustainable economic, social and cultural development, to preserve and enhance their unique cultural, linguistic, built and natural heritage and support viable socioeconomic island communities in order that the permanent population will be maintained and where possible further increased in a sustainable manner.

#### Section 6 Villages, Village Nuclei and Other Locations

- 2.5.19 There are **28 Villages** in the West Cork Municipal District as follows; Ahakista, Allihies, Ardfield, Ardgroom, Ballinascarthy, Ballingurteen, Ballylickey, Ballynacarriga, Butlerstown, Cappeen, Castletownkenneigh, Castletownshend, Clogagh, Crookhaven, Drinagh, Eyeries, Glandore, Goleen, Kealkill, Kilcrohane, Kilmichael, Lissavard, Rathbarry (Castlefreke), Reenascreena, Ring, Rossmore, Shannonvale, Teerelton.
- 2.5.20 It is a strategic aim of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014 to encourage and facilitate development at a scale, layout and design that reflects the character of each village, where water services and waste water infrastructure is available and support the retention and improvement of key social and community facilities within villages, including the improved provision of inter-urban public transport.

Table 2.6: S	Table 2.6: Scale of Development in West Cork Municipal District Villages							
Villages	Existing Number of Houses Q1 2015 (Geodirectory)	Growth 2005 to 2015 (Geodirectory)	Overall Scale of Development (No. of houses)	Normal Recommended Scale of any Individual scheme.				
Ahakista	52	17	15	10				
Allihies	94	52	35	7				
Ardfield	55	9	25	9				
Ardgroom	60	33	29	5				
Ballinascarthy	53	35	60	10				
Ballingurteen	20	3	30	5				
Ballylickey	37	16	23	3				

Ballynacarriga	-	-	11	1
Butlerstown	31	4	15	5
Cappeen	16	10	10	2
Castletownkenneigh	15	1	5	1
Castletownshend	162	58	70	15
Clogagh	10	6	7	1
Crookhaven	104	47	40	6
Drinagh	52	5	20	7
Eyeries	77	32	25	5
Glandore	114	21	50	12
Goleen	120	51	40	10
Kealkill	103	51	60	12
Kilcrohane	94	69	40	6
Kilmichael			3	1
Lissavard	39	3	15	5
Rathbarry (Castlefreke)	24	7	10	1
Reenascreena	10	2	5	1
Ring	21	6	10	4
Rossmore	19	10	14	3
Shannonvale	79	38	40	12
Teerelton	22	18	16	3

- 2.5.21 There are **19 Village Nuclei** in the West Cork Municipal District as follows; Abbeystrowry, Adrigole, Caheragh, Church Cross, Connonagh, Coomhola, Drombeg, Dromore, Johnstown, Kilcoe, Lislevane, Lowertown, Lyre, Pearson's Bridge, Rathmore, Rossmackowen/ Waterfall, Togher, Toormore, Urhan.
- 2.5.22 It is a strategic aim of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014 to preserve the rural character of village nuclei and encourage small scale expansion at a scale, layout and design that reflects the character of each village, where water services and waste water infrastructure is available generally through low density individual housing, in tandem with the provision of services.

Table 2.7: Scale of Development in West Cork Municipal District Village Nuclei							
Village Nuclei	Existing Number of Houses Q1 2015 (Geodirectory)	Growth 2005 to 2015 (Geodirectory)	Overall Scale of Development (No. of houses)	Normal Recommended Scale of any Individual scheme.			
Abbeystrowry	15	-	6	1			
Adrigole,	34	3	15	2-3			
Caheragh,	27	16	15	4			
Church Cross,	13	3	7	2-3			
Connonagh,	12	3	3	1			
Coomhola,	11	-	13	2-3			
Drombeg,	8	-	4	1			
Dromore,	24	10	12	2-3			
Johnstown,	16	1	5	1			
Kilcoe,	11	4	6	2-3			
Lislevane,	14	4	5	1			
Lowertown,	10	7	10	2-3			
Lyre,			8	1			
Pearson's Bridge,	30	-	10	2-3			
Rathmore,	12	3	5	1			
Rossmackowen / Waterfall,	13	11	10	2-3			
Togher,	17	8	10	3			
Toormore,	23	7	6	2-3			
Urhan.	6	-	7	2-3			

- 2.5.23 There are **10 Other Locations** in the West Cork Municipal District as follows; Ardnageehy Beg, Ballinglanna, Barleycove, Darkwood, Inchydoney, Lisbealad, Ownahinchy, Poundlick and Tragumna.
- 2.5.24 It is a strategic aim of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014 to recognise Other Locations, as areas which may not form a significant part of the settlement network, but do perform important functions with regard to tourism, heritage, recreation and other uses.

#### **Section 7 Putting the Plan into Practice**

2.5.25 This section assigns responsibility for the implementation of the Plan's policies to various agencies including the Local Authority. It also sets out the expected timeframes for the delivery of physical and social infrastructure, including the assignment of Plan priorities and funding streams necessary to secure key development objectives. It also outlines the approach to monitoring and how the Plan will inform other Plans within its functional area.

#### 2.6 Relationship with Other Relevant Plans and Programmes

2.6.1 The Local Area Plan is part of a hierarchy of County, Regional and National plans. The Plan should be consistent with higher-level plans such as those of a county, regional or national nature. The following National, Regional and County Plans have influenced the policies contained in this Draft Local Area Plan.

#### **National Policy**

- 2.6.2 **National Spatial Strategy:** The National Spatial Strategy (NSS) is a twenty year planning framework for the entire country which is designed to achieve a better balance of social, economic and physical development and population growth between regions. The main focus of the NSS is to bring people, jobs and services closer together, in order to achieve a better quality of life for people, a strong, competitive economic position for the country and to ensure environmental protection.
- 2.6.3 Cork is identified as a gateway, a nationally significant centre whose location, scale and service base supports the achievement of the type of critical mass necessary to sustain strong levels of growth. Cork will build on its substantial and established economic base to lever investment into the South West region, with the support of its scale of population, its third level institutions and the substantial capacity for growth identified in the Cork Area Strategic Plan (CASP). Implementation of CASP is important to secure the objectives of the NSS. Mallow is identified as a 'hub' and will perform an important role within the national structure at regional and County level. Improvements in regional accessibility through roads, advanced communications infrastructure and public transport links are key supporting factors. The NSS also seeks to develop the potential of other towns and villages. Large towns near Cork City need to be promoted as self-sustaining towns. Medium sized towns in coastal and peripheral areas have a critical role to play as service centres and in economic development. In the more rural parts of the County "a dynamic and nationally important tourism product has been developed which will require effective management and sustainable development of the natural and cultural heritage to sustain it for the future".
- 2.6.4 National Development Plan 2007 2013: The National Development Plan (NDP) Transforming Ireland A Better Quality of Life for All sets out our national investment priorities and has four basic objectives: to continue sustainable national economic and employment growth, to strengthen and improve Ireland's international competitiveness, to foster balanced regional development and to promote social inclusion. In Cork, the NDP identifies the need to accelerate growth and development and identifies a number of investment priorities for Cork including motorways, integrated public transport systems, enhancement of tourism, leisure and recreational facilities, developing employment, research and development capacity etc.
- 2.6.5 Food Harvest 2020 A Vision for Irish Agri-Food and Fisheries: The agri-food and fisheries sector is Ireland's most important indigenous industry and is recognised as having a key role to play in Ireland's export-led economic recovery. With €7bn in exports the sector currently accounts for over half of manufacturing exports, by Irish owned firms. The geographical distribution of the sector ensures that any future wealth and employment generated will be of direct benefit to rural and coastal communities. The 2020 vision for the sector seeks to increase the value of primary output in the agriculture, fisheries and forestry sector by €1.5 billion by 2020 (an increase of 33% on 2007-2009 levels); increase value added in the agri-food, fisheries and wood products sector by €3 billion (+40%) and achieve an export target of €12 billion for the sector (+ 42%). Meeting these targets will have significant environmental challenges including reducing the carbon intensity of Irish agriculture and ensuring the sector plays its part in reducing our overall greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. As a County with a strong agri-food and fisheries sector already, there is obvious scope of sustainable growth in this area which should bring many benefits to the County as a whole.

- 2.6.6 National Climate Change Strategy (2007 2012) / Climate Change Adaption Framework 2012: The National Climate Change Strategy 2007 2012 sets out a range of measures, building on those already in place under the first National Climate Change Strategy (2000) to ensure Ireland reaches its target under the Kyoto Protocol. The Strategy provides a framework for action to reduce Ireland's greenhouse gas emissions.
- 2.6.7 The National Climate Change Adaptation Framework introduces an integrated policy framework, involving all stakeholders on all institutional levels to ensure adaptation measures are taken across different sectors and levels of government to manage and reduce Ireland's vulnerability to the negative impacts of climate change. Under the Framework, the relevant Government Departments, Agencies and local authorities have been asked to commence the preparation of sectoral and local adaptation plans and to publish drafts of these plans by mid-2014
- 2.6.8 **National Renewable Energy Action Plan:** The National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) sets out the Government's strategic approach and concrete measures to deliver on Ireland's 16% target under European Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28/EC. The development of renewable energy is central to overall energy policy in Ireland. Nationally, the Government's ambitions for renewable energy and the related national targets are fully commensurate with the European Union's energy policy objectives and the targets addressed to Ireland under the Renewable Energy Directive. Ireland's energy efficiency ambitions (20% of energy from renewable sources by 2020) as set out in the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan are duly reflected in the NREAP.
- 2.6.9 National Biodiversity Plan: Action for Biodiversity 2011 2016: Ireland's second National Biodiversity Plan sets out a vision for the conservation and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems in Ireland and includes the overarching target of "reducing biodiversity loss and degradation of ecosystems in Ireland by 2016, and achieving substantial recovery by 2020". The Plan sets out a number of strategic objectives and actions which are aimed at mainstreaming biodiversity in the decision making process across all sectors, strengthening the knowledge base and increasing awareness of biodiversity in order to support the achievement of the target.
- 2.6.10 Our Sustainable Future -A framework for Sustainable Development in Ireland (2012): This framework recognises that the green economy and sustainable development agendas are a key element of Ireland's economic recovery strategy and sets out the range of environmental, economic and social measures required to move these agendas forward. The framework sets out 70 measures that will ensure we improve our quality of life for current and future generations and sets out clear measures, responsibilities and timelines in an implementation plan. These include areas such as the sustainability of public finances and economic resilience, natural resources, agriculture, climate change, transport, sustainable communities and spatial planning, public health, education, innovation and research, skills and training, and global poverty. The framework recognises that some aspects of the pattern of development that emerged in Ireland over the last decade present major challenges from a sustainable development perspective and spatial planning is one of the mechanisms, along with wider public policy coordination and fiscal policy, to effect change at national, regional and local level and deliver more sustainable communities.
- 2.6.11 Smarter Travel. A new transport Policy for Ireland 2009-2020: Smarter Travel recognises that transport and travel trends in Ireland are unsustainable. Even with the investment in Transport 21, if we continue with present policies, congestion will get worse, transport emissions will continue to grow, economic competitiveness will suffer and quality of life will decline. Smarter travel is designed to show how we can reverse current unsustainable transport and travel patterns and reduce the health and environmental impacts of current trends and improve our quality of life. Actions are aimed at influencing overall travel demand and reducing emissions in both urban and rural areas. Key actions include the following:

- Actions to reduce distance travelled by private car and encourage smarter travel, including
  focusing population growth in areas of employment and to encourage people to live in
  close proximity to places of employment and the use of pricing mechanisms or fiscal
  measures to encourage behavioural change,
- Actions aimed at ensuring that alternatives to the car are more widely available, through improved public transport service and investment in cycling and walking,
- Actions aimed at improving the fuel efficiency of motorised transport, and
- Actions aimed at strengthening institutional arrangements to deliver the targets.
- 2.6.12 National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007 2016: This National Action Plan for Social inclusion, complemented by the social inclusion elements of the National Development Plan 2007-2013: Transforming Ireland A Better Quality of Life for All, sets out how the social inclusion strategy will be achieved over the period 2007-2016. The overall goal of this Plan is to reduce the number of those experiencing consistent poverty to between 2% and 0% by 2012, with the aim of eliminating consistent poverty by 2016.
- 2.6.13 **National Heritage Plan 2002:** The National Heritage Plan sets out a clear and coherent strategy and framework for the protection and enhancement of Ireland's national heritage. The core objective of the Plan is to protect the national heritage as well as promoting it as a resource to be enjoyed by all.

#### **Regional Policy**

- 2.6.14 South Western Regional Planning Guidelines: Prepared by the South West Regional Authority to provide a broad canvas to steer the sustainable growth and prosperity of the region in line with the key principles of national strategy. Planning Authorities are required to have regard to the guidelines in the discharge of their functions.
- 2.6.15 **South West River Basin District Management Plan** has been prepared on foot of the EU Water Framework Directive to create an integrated approach to managing water quality on a river basin basis. It requires that management plans be prepared on a river basin basis in six year cycles and specifies a structured approach to developing those plans with the first plans to cover the period 2009 to 2015. The South West River Basin Management Plan is the mechanism for protecting and improving the County's water resources and ensures that development permitted meets the requirements of the relevant River Basin Management Plan and does not contravene the objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive.
- 2.6.16 Waste Management Plan: A joint waste management strategy was prepared for the Cork City and county in 1995 by the both Local Authorities. Since then separate waste management plans have been prepared for each jurisdiction and the most recent plan for the County covers the period 2004-2009. Waste minimisation is a key element of the most recent Plan (2004) and includes a number of measures including waste prevention, reduction at source, reuse, recycling and recovery and is achieved through the use of bring sites, civic amenity sites, waste transfer stations, authorised transfer facilities and material recovery. All of these have a role to play in achieving national recycling targets.

#### **Local Policy**

- 2.6.17 Cork County Development Plan 2014: The Cork County Development Plan, 2014 adopted on the 8th December 2014 sets out the blueprint for the development of the county, underpinned by the core principles of sustainability, social inclusion, quality of design and climate change adaptation. The County Development Plan includes over 200 objectives on a range of issues including:
  - Housing,
  - Rural, Coastal and Island Development;

- Social and Community facilities;
- Economy and Employment;
- Town Centres and Retail Development;
- Tourism;
- Energy and Digital Economy;
- Transport and Mobility;
- Water Services, Surface Water (including Flooding) and Waste;
- Heritage;
- Green Infrastructure and Environment;
- Zoning and Land use.
- 2.6.18 The objectives of the County Development Plan have not been repeated in the Local Area Plan and so the two documents must be read together when planning a development. All proposals for development, put forward in accordance with the provisions of this Local Area Plan, must demonstrate compliance with the objectives of the County Plan.
- 2.6.19 It is expected to remain in force (subject to any interim variations that the Council may make) until late 2020. It is a six year development plan for the County that attempts to set out, as concisely as possible; Cork County Council's current thinking on planning policy looking towards the horizon year of 2022. The plan also sets out the overall planning and sustainable development strategy for the county which must be consistent with the National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020 and the South West Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022.
- 2.6.20 The Plan is the county's principle strategic planning policy document. Detailed land-use zoning maps for the main settlements of the county are contained in the Municipal District Local Area Plans.
- 2.6.21 Local Economic and Community Plans: The Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) was adopted in 2016. It is provided for in the statutory Local Government Reform Act 2014. This Act requires that a six-year plan be adopted by Cork County Council, setting out high level goals, objectives and actions required to promote and support local economic and community development within the county. The strategic aim of this Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) is, ultimately, the
  - "Removal of barriers to facilitate individuals and organisations in achieving their ambitions, within a long-term and sustainable framework"
- 2.6.22 This strategic aim seeks to absorb and reflect the breadth and complexity of modern life, where opportunities exist for individuals and organisations to fulfil their ambitions, whether personal, economic or social. Places and societies that best provide for those ambitions, within a sustainable framework, are the places where people want to live and work. In turn, places where people want to live are the places that become socially and economically relevant. Impediments be they linked to issues around physical, organisational, environmental, economic, educational, equality, access, or related to any of the other aspects of our collective lives are the barriers to our ambitions. This plan seeks to commence a process that will lead to removal of those barriers by those with the capacities to do so.
- 2.6.23 The legislation envisaged that the LECP will be consistent with its informing strategies, set at a European, National and Regional level, while also being consistent and integrated with complementary plans at its own level. In particular, the LECP must be consistent with the County Development Plan Core

- Strategy and the planned for Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES), currently the Regional Planning Guidelines.
- 2.6.24 This Local Area Plan will play a key role in implementing the LECP's aims and objectives as they apply to this Municipal District while at the same time the LECP will set out a pathway to address many of the social and economic issues facing the District identified din this Local Area Plan.
- 2.6.25 County Biodiversity Action Plan 2009-2014: This plan addressed how the wildlife resources of the County, including native plants, animals and the ecosystems that they combine to produce, will be managed and protected. Its implementation will contribute to achieving national and international targets for the conservation of biodiversity in the context of constantly accelerating rates of species extinction and habitat loss and deterioration globally.
- 2.6.26 **Cork County Heritage Plan 2005-2010:** The development of the County Heritage Plan had its origins in the National Heritage Plan published in 2002. The aim of the plan is to 'ensure the protection of our heritage and to promote its enjoyment by all'. This is underpinned by the core principle that heritage is communal and we all share a responsibility to protect it.
- 2.6.27 Cork City Development Plan 2015-2021: The city plan is of relevance because the city is the main economic and retail focus for the county as a whole and the focus of public transport services within the metropolitan area. The Plan includes a population target for the city of 150,000 by 2022 and reemphasises the potential for the development of brownfield land in the City Centre, Docklands, Mahon and Blackpool to cater for the sustainable growth of the city.

#### **Legislative Context**

- 2.6.28 The Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the SEA Directive) and its transposed Irish legislation, including amendments form the legislative framework for the SEA process, including its documentation in the form of an Environmental Report. The Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) also forms an integral part of SEA and additional guidance from a European context and national context has been listed within this Section. Additional key pieces of legislation pertaining to environmental considerations include the following list which is regarded as not exhaustive:
  - EU Birds Directive (79/409/EEC),
  - EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC),
  - The Wildlife Act, 1976 (as amended),
  - The Flora (Protection) Order 1999,
  - UN Convention of Biological Diversity 1992 (ratified 1996),
  - Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention 1971),
  - European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011,
  - Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations, 2001 and 2004 and Amendments (2010),
  - Water Services Act, 2007,
  - Water Services (Amendment) Act, 2013,
  - European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations, 2009,
  - European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations,
     2009,

- European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations, 2010,
- EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC),
- European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations,
   2010,
- EU Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC),
- Bathing Water Quality Regulations, 2008,
- Bathing Water Quality (Amendment) Regulations, 2011,
- Shellfish Waters Directive (2006/113/EC),
- European Communities (Quality of Shellfish Waters) Regulations, 2006,
- European Communities (Quality of Shellfish Waters) (Amendment) Regulations, 2009,
- Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations, 2007,
- European Communities (Environmental Liability) Regulations, 2008,
- Air Quality Standards Regulations, 2011,
- Environmental Noise Regulations, 2006,
- The European Landscape Convention, 2000.

# **Section 3: Environmental Baseline**

#### Sub-Section

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Population and Human Health
- 3.3 Biodiversity-Flora and Fauna
- 3.4 Soils
- 3.5 Water
- 3.6 Air and Climatic Factors
- 3.7 Material Assets
- 3.8 Cultural Heritage
- 3.9 Landscape

16<sup>th</sup> November 2016

## 3 Environmental Baseline

#### 3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The environmental baseline of this Municipal District is described in this section. This baseline information outlines the environmental context within which the Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan will operate. The purpose of this section is to provide enough environmental baseline data to:
  - Support the identification of environmental problems;
  - Support the process of assessing the environmental effects;
  - Provide a baseline against which future monitoring data can be compared.
- 3.1.2 A number of key environmental issues set the context for the collection of the baseline data and each section includes an overview of the current situation, the key environmental problems and an analysis of the likely evolution in the absence of the Draft Plan. The Environmental issues are listed below:
  - Population and Human Health,
  - Biodiversity Flora and Fauna,
  - Soil,
  - Water,
  - Air and Climatic factors,
  - Material Assets,
  - Cultural Heritage,
  - Landscape.
- 3.1.3 A number of maps are included to illustrate the baseline environment of the Municipal District County, the majority of which indicate the existing situation for the environmental issues identified above. However in many cases the maps and information is only available at a County Level.
- 3.1.4 The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DoEHLG) circular SEA 1/8 and NPWS 1/8 requires that under the Habitats Directive an Appropriate Assessment of the ecological implications of a plan is conducted. An appropriate assessment of the Draft Plan was conducted by Cork County Council and is provided as part of this Draft Plan.

## 3.2 Population and Human Health

3.2.1 In 2011 the population of the West Cork MD stood at 56,530. In the period to 2022, the population target allocated by the Cork County Development Plan 2014 provides for the population to grow by 6,951 persons or 12.3% approximately. The majority of this growth is targeted at the six towns of the District; Bantry, Clonakilty, Skibbereen, Dunmanway, Schull and Castletownbere. Growth is also provided for across the network of smaller settlements within the District.

Cork County Council

	Housing Requirement				Housing Supply	
	Census 2011	Population Target	New Units Required	Net Estimated Requirement (ha)	Est. Net Residential area zoned	Estimated Housing (Units)
Clonakilty	4,721	7,218	1,500	83	128.8	1,600
Bantry	3,348	5,484	1,241	69	100	1,393
Skibbereen	2,670	3,035	332	18	77	1,300
Dunmanway	1,585	1,976	273	15	38.8	593
Castletownbe re	912	1,439	309	17	38	443
Schull	658	748	87	5	11.3	205
Main Towns	13,894	19,900	3,741	208	393.9	5,534
Villages	10,793	14,867	2,531			1,944
Rural	31,843	28,713	623			
Total Villages and Rural	42,636	43,581	3,155			1,944
Total for District	56,530	63,481	6,896	208	393.9	7,478

3.2.2 With regard to Human Health, impacts relevant to SEA are those which arise as a result of interactions with environmental vectors such as air, water or soil through which contaminants or pollutants, which have the potential to cause harm, can be transported so they come in contact with human beings. These issues will be explored in the Environmental Report.

#### **Existing Sensitivities in relation to Population and Human Health**

- 3.2.3 The Draft Plan has made provision for the population of the MD to increase leading to increased demand for housing within the area and the provision of supporting social, community and employment/commercial services, facilities and opportunities. The timely delivery of such services is important to the quality of life of the population.
- 3.2.4 Enabling population growth and sustainable patterns of development in key settlements may be hindered by delays in the delivery of key infrastructure required to facilitate development leading to a housing shortage in some areas and development being shifted to other, potentially less sustainable locations, frustrating efforts to plan for having people, jobs and services located closer together.
- 3.2.5 Dispersed settlement patterns can lead to an over dependence on car based transport and long journeys to work which can have negative impacts on the health of the population and quality of life.
- 3.2.6 The economic decline of some settlements and/or the failure of others to realise the expected level of growth, can lead to reduced service provision, loss of job opportunities and reduced quality of life for the remaining residents of the area. A key challenge for the Draft Plan is to promote the sustainable growth of the economy of the six main towns of the Municipal District to support the balanced socio economic growth of the area.

3.2.7 Improved recreational/walking and cycling facilities are needed to support an increased uptake in physical exercise to help improve / maintain the health of the population.

### 3.3 Biodiversity-Flora and Fauna

- 3.3.1 European and National Legislation now protect the most valuable of our remaining wild places, through designation of sites as proposed Natural Heritage Area, Natural Heritage Areas, candidate Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas. The designation of these sites at a national level is the responsibility of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and local Government but it is the responsibility of all of us to protect these sites. The process of designation of such sites is ongoing, with new sites being added, redesignated and boundaries of existing sites being adjusted. The key Natura sites in the West Cork MD are illustrated in Figure 3.1.
- 3.3.2 There are 7 SPAs, 20 SAC's, 6 NHA's and numerous pNHA's dispersed throughout the West Cork MD. The reasons for designation range from ecological, plants, ornithological, woodland, heath, bats and vegetation. In addition, there are two designated Nature Reserves at Lough Hyne (0097) which is both a cSAC and a pNHA and Glengarriff harbour and woodland (0090) which is both a cSAC and a pNHA. There are also designated Refuge for Fauna at Bull Rock and Cow Rock.

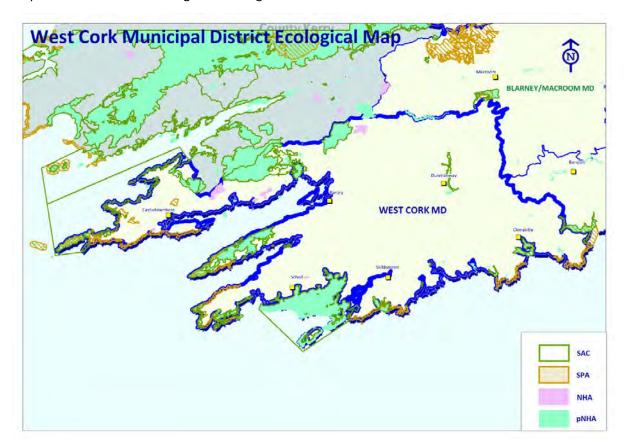


Figure 3.1 West Cork Ecological Map

Table 3.2:Special Areas of Conservation West Cork MD				
Name	<b>Environmental Designation</b>	Settlement		
Bandon River	cSAC 2171	Dunmanway		
Clonakilty Bay	cSAC 91	Clonakilty; Inchydoney		
Courtmacsherry Estuary	cSAC 1230	Courtmacsherry, Timoleague		
Castletownshend	cSAC 1577	Castletownshend		
Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes	cSAC 1061	Rosscarbery; Castlefreke		
Lough Hyne nature reserves and environs	cSAC 97	Skibbereen; Baltimore; Castletownshend		
Myross Wood	cSAC 1070	Leap		
Barley Cove to Ballyrisode Point	cSAC 1040	Crookhaven		
Caha Mountains	cSAC 93	Glengarriff; Adrigole		
Cleanderry Wood	cSAC 1043	Ardgroom		
Derryclogher Knockboy Bog	cSAC 1873	Bantry		
Dunbeacon Shingle	cSAC 2280	Durrus		
Farranamanagh Lough	cSAC 2189	Kilcrohane		
Glengarriff Harbour and woodland	cSAC 90	Glengarriff		
Kenmare River	cSAC 2158	Allihies		
Reen Point Shingle	cSAC 2281	Durrus		
Roaringwater Bay and Islands	cSAC 101	Ballydehob; Schull		
Sheep's Head	cSAC 102	Bantry; Kilcrohane; Ahakista		
Three castle Head to Mizen Head	cSAC 109	Crookhaven; Barleycove		
Glanmore Bog	cSAC 1879	Ardgroom		

Table 3.3: Special Protection Areas				
Name	<b>Environmental Designation</b>	Settlement		
Beara Peninsula	SPA 4155	Castletownbere		
Bull and the Cow Rocks	SPA 4066	Allihies		
Sheep's Head to Toe Head	SPA 4156	Crookhaven; Baltimore		
Galley Head to Duneen point	SPA 4190	Ardfield		
Clonakilty Bay	SPA 4081	Clonakilty		
Seven Heads	SPA 4191	Courtmacsherry		
Courtmacsherry Bay	SPA 4219	Courtmacsherry		

Table 3.4: Natural Heritage Areas				
Name	Environmental Designation	Settlement		
Pulleen Harbour Bog	NHA 2416	Castletownbere		
Hungry Hill	NHA 1059	Adrigole		
Trafrask Bog	NHA 2371	Adrigole		
Leahill Bog	NHA 2417	Adrigole; Glengarriff		
Conigar Bog	NHA 2386			
Dereennatra (cutaway) Bog	NHA 2105	Ballydehob		
Barley Cove to Ballyrisode point	pNHA 1040	Crookhaven; Barleycove		

16<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Bull and Cow Rocks	pNHA 80	Allihies
Caha Mountains	pNHA 93	Glengarriff
Cappul Bridge	pNHA 1284	Ardgroom
Carriganass Castle near Kealkill	pNHA 2099	Kealkill
Cleanderry Wood	pNHA 1043	Ardgroom
Currakeel	pNHA 1826	Glengarriff
Dereen Upper Bog	pNHA 1887	Adrigole
Derryclogher Knockboy Bog	pNHA 1873	Bantry
Domestic Dwelling	pNHA 2049	Glengarriff
Dursey Island	pNHA 86	Allihies
Eyeries Island	pNHA 1050	Eyeries
Firkeel Gap	pNHA 1051	Allihies
Garnish Point	pNHA 1986	Allihies
Glanmore Bog	pNHA 1879	Ardgroom
Glengarriff (thatched Shooting	pNHA 88	Glengarriff
Lodge in Forest Park)	pivila do	Giengariii
Glengarriff harbour and woodland	pNHA 0090	Glengarriff
Kilcatherine Heath	pNHA 593	Ardgroom
Kilkinnikin	pNHA 1985	Allihies
Lough Namaddra and Lough West	pNHA 1069	Glengarriff
Loughavaul	pNHA 98	Glengarriff
Orthons Island Adrigole Harbour	pNHA 1028	Adrigole
Owen's Island	pNHA 1071	Ahakista
Roancarrigbeg and Roancarrigmore	pNHA 1073	Castletownbere
Roaringwater Bay and Islands	pNHA 101	Ballydehob; Baltimore; Schull
Rossnashunsoge	pNHA 1537	Glengarriff
Sheelane Island	pNHA 1977	Glengarriff
Sheep's Head	pNHA 102	Kilcrohane
Three Castle Head to Mizen Head	pNHA 109	Crookhaven; Barleycove
Trafrask bog	NHA 2371	Adrigole; Trafrask
Trafrask Bog	pNHA 2371	Trafrask
Whiddy Island	pNHA 110	Bantry
Bandon River	pNHA 1035	Dunmanway
Bateman's Lough	pNHA 1037	Clonakilty; Ballinascarthy
Castletownshend (Gate Lodge)	pNHA 84	Castletownshend
Castletownshend	pNHA 1547	Castletownshend
Clonakilty Bay	pNHA 1347	Clonakilty
Cloonties Lough	pNHA 1044	Glandore
Courtmacsherry Estuary	pNHA 1044	Timoleague;
Courtinacinelly Estuary	PINITA 1230	Courtmacsherry
Dirk Bay	pNHA 1498	Clonakilty
Gallanes Lough	pNHA 1052	Clonakilty
Galley Head to Duneen Point	pNHA 4190	Clonakilty
Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes	pNHA 1061	Castlefreke
Killaneer House Glen	•	
	pNHA 1062 pNHA 97	Ballineen; Enniskeane Castletownshend; Baltimore
Lough Hyne Reserve and Environs	•	·
Myross Wood	pNHA 1070	Leap

#### **Protected Species**

- Within the Municipal District identified protected species include Bats in Carriganass Castle a pNHA. This site is a nursery roost of the Daubenton's bat (Myotis daubentonii). Approximately 60 bats hang from the roof of two dark passageways in a ruined castle, near Kealkill, Co. Cork. This is a site of national importance because it is the second largest nursery colony of this species in the country. Other Bat locations include a domestic dwelling near Glengarriff; this site consists of a walled-off section of a privately owned modern bungalow. This site is used as a hibernation site by over 100 lesser horseshoe bats (Rhinolophus hipposideros). As this site contains 100 hibernating lesser horseshoe bats, it is a site of international importance. In close proximity to this site is another roosting location for bats in pNHA 88. As this species is dependent on woodland for foraging habitat, any changes in woodland in the vicinity of the building could adversely affect this colony. Orthons Island in Adrigole Harbour has an important Common Seal colony. This species is listed in Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive. Habitats including several habitats listed on Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive are included in the cSACs of the Bandon River, Clonakilty bay, Kilkeran Lake and Lough Hyne. Species protected under Annex 1 of the EU Birds directive include Galley Head, Seven Heads and Sheep's Head. Annex II Habitats include Bandon Valley south of Dunmanway, The Bandon Valley is reported to have otters in many places, a species listed in Annex II of the E.U. Habitats Directive as it is threatened within the E.U. Castletownsend (Gate Lodge) is a nursery roost of the Leisler's bat (Nyctalus leisleri) and Myross Wood where there is a population of Killarney Fern (Trichomanes speciosum), a rare and legally protected fern that is listed on Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive and in the Irish Red Data book.
- 3.3.4 The SEA has been informed by the findings of the Habitats Directive Assessment process and will include appropriate mapping highlighting important sites within the area. The SEA process has also been informed by the Ecological Baseline study commissioned by the Council.

#### **Existing Sensitivities in relation to Biodiversity**

- 3.3.5 Dunmanway is situated adjacent to the River Bandon which is designated as a Special Area of Conservation under the Habitats Directive as it is a significant site for a number of species including the Freshwater Pearl Mussel. The Council has an obligation to protect the favourable conservation status of the site. The management of water quality within the Bandon River is a critical factor in the protection of the Freshwater Pearl Mussel and management of surface water is therefore a significant issue in planning for the future development of Dunmanway.
- 3.3.6 Currently the location of the outfall pipe from the Dunmanway WWTP which discharges into the Bandon SAC has raised an issue with water quality and the Freshwater Pearl Mussel. Cork County Council is working with other stakeholders in particular Irish Water and the National Parks and Wildlife Service to address this issue. Pending resolution of the issue, any new development in Dunmanway which discharges into the Bandon SAC will have to be put on hold. If appropriate, once the matter is resolved, a variation to the County Development Plan will be brought before the Council to give effect to the agreed solution.

#### **Ecological Baseline Study for Main Towns in West Cork Municipal District**

3.3.7 Habitat Mapping for the West Cork Towns is ongoing however it was not completed in time to inform this Draft Plan. When completed the Draft Plan will be assessed against its findings and any changes required will be brought forward by way of Amendment to the Draft Plan.

#### 3.4 Soils

- 3.4.1 The SEA examined soil issues within the Municipal District, looking at the most common soil types within the plan area and how they might be affected by the development proposed in the Draft Plan. The SEA considered the challenges facing soil generally together with issues such as erosion, geology and quarrying as appropriate.
- 3.4.2 The dominate soil in this area are peaty podzolics which provide a land use of limited grassland. Given the geographical extent of this area there is a variety of soil types around the main settlements including gleys and acid brown soils.

Table 3.5 West Cork MD Soil Types					
Rolling Lowland	Brown Podzolics 60%	Acid Brown earths	Old Red sandstone,		
	Less depleted of	40%	Lower avonian shale		
	nutrients	Most occur on lime	and Ryolite glacial till.		
		deficient parent			
		materials, therefore			
		acidic in nature,			
		relatively mature and			
		well drained			
Mountain and Hill	Peaty Podzols 75%	Climatic peat and	Mostly Granite; Old		
		lithosols 25%	Red Sandstone		

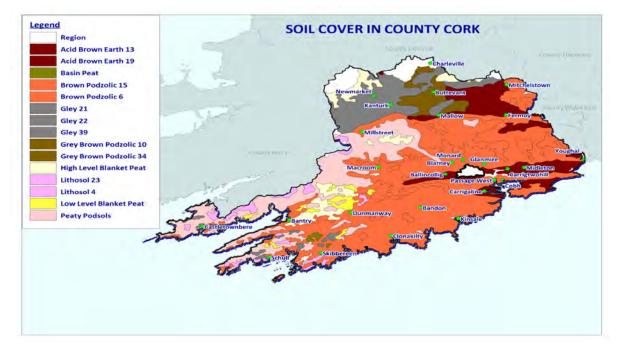


Figure 3.2 Soil Cover in County Cork

#### **Existing Sensitivities in relation to Soil**

4.5.3 Additional development may lead to damage to or loss of the soil resource or impact on its functions.

#### 3.5 Water

- 3.5.1 This section of the SEA will consider issues in relation surface water (rivers and lakes, estuarine and coastal waters) and groundwater in the Municipal District as appropriate looking at the status and quality of these waters. The section will also examine water services infrastructure (drinking water supply, wastewater treatment and storm water).
- 3.5.2 Consideration was given to current and future loading within key water catchments, the potential impacts of additional development on water quality, surface water management, climate change and the need for new infrastructure to serve anticipated demands.
- 3.5.3 Water services of the all the infrastructure requirements needed to facilitate new development is the most critical, as in the absence of it, no development can take place. Since January 2014 Irish Water is responsible for the operation of public water services (drinking water and wastewater) including management and maintenance of existing water services assets. Those intending to carry out development must now obtain consent to connect to Irish Water Infrastructure for new development. Irish Water also has responsibility for planning for future infrastructure needs and for the delivery of new infrastructure and future decisions in relation to investment in new water services infrastructure will be made by Irish Water. Developers must also satisfy themselves that Irish Water will make adequate services available in order to meet the needs of any development they propose.
- 3.5.4 The Cork County Development Plan, 2014 and the new Municipal District Local Area Plans are important documents that Irish Water should take into account in formulating its plans and programmes. As part of the review of the Local Area Plans it is proposed to prepare a companion document outlining the Water Services Infrastructural Investment needs in each Municipal District.
- 3.5.5 So far as the villages are concerned, in many cases (see Table 3.7) the water services infrastructure needed to deliver the 2011 housing requirements is often not in place. In general the Councils approach to this, which is summarised in Table 3.6, is that where Irish Water already have water services infrastructure in a town or village then Irish Water will need to upgrade that infrastructure as necessary to meet the demands of current and future customers in the settlement.

	Table 3.6: Strategy for Water Services Provision				
Normally Expected level of Water Services		Policy Approach			
Towns	Public Drinking Water and Waste Water	Adequate water services infrastructure to be prioritised.			
Key villages	Treatment	prioritised.			
Villages	Public Drinking Water	Adequate drinking water services infrastructure to be prioritised			
	Public Waste Water Treatment	Adequate waste water treatment facilities to be prioritised for villages which already have some element of public infrastructure.			
		For smaller villages where services are not available or expected, development will be limited to a small number of individual houses with their own treatment plant.			
Village Nuclei	Public Drinking Water	Where already present, adequate drinking water services to be maintained. In the absence of public drinking water, individual dwellings may be permitted			

Table 3.6: Strategy for Water Services Provision				
		on the basis of private wells subject to normal planning and public health criteria.		
	ublic Waste Water reatment	In these smaller settlements within no public services, it is proposed to limit development to a small number of individual houses with their own treatment plant.		

- 3.5.6 Across the County as a whole the water services infrastructure needed to deliver the scale of growth envisaged by the County Development 2014 is often not in place. In general, the Councils approach to this is that where Irish Water already have water services infrastructure in a town or village then Irish Water will need to up upgrade that infrastructure as necessary to meet the demands of current and future customers in the settlement.
- 3.5.7 Therefore, while the current water services infrastructure may not immediately be able to deliver the overall scale of growth set out in the LAP, the proposal is to retain the target with the expectation that the infrastructure will be delivered over time by Irish Water.

	Existing Number	Outstanding			
Name	of Houses Q1 2015 (Geo directory)	Planning Permissions Q1 2015 (No. of houses)	Scale of Development	Drinking Water Status	Waste- Water Status
Main Towns					
Bantry	-	-	1,241		
Castletownbere*	-	-	309		
	_	_	1,500		
Clonakilty **	_	_			
Dunmanway**		_	273		
Schull	_	-	87		
Skibbereen	-	-	332		
Total Main Towns	-	-	3,741		
Key Villages (11)	40=		25		
Baltimore	485	8	85		
Ballineen/ Enniskeane	344	125	195		
Ballydehob	189	9	39		
Courtmac- sherry	417	40	155		
Drimoleague	246	27	137		
Durrus	196	1	100		
Glengarriff	191	1	60		
Leap	149	0	55		
Rosscarbery	409	40	91		
Timoleague	167	3	73		
Union Hall	206	-	80		
Total Key Villages			1,070		
Villages (28)					
Allihies	94	2	35		
Ardgroom***	60	-	29		
Castletown-					
shend	162	70	70		
Crookhaven	104	1	40		
Drinagh	52	-	20		
Eyeries*	77	2	25		
Glandore	114	10	50		
Goleen	120	19	40		
Kealkill	103	12	60		
Kilcrohane	94	18	40		
Shannonvale	79	11	40		
Ahakista	52	5	15	None	None
Ardfield	55	9	25		None
Ballinascarthy	53	1	60	None	
Ballingurteen	20	1	30		

Butlerstown Cappeen Castletownke nneigh Clogagh Kilmichael Lissavard Rathbarry (Castlefreke) Reenascreena Ring Rossmore Teerelton Total Villages Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross	37 - 31 16 15 10 94 39 24 10 21	1 - - - - 18 - 4	23 11 15 10 5 7 3 15	None  None	None None None None None None
Ballynacarriga Butlerstown Cappeen Castletownke nneigh Clogagh Kilmichael Lissavard Rathbarry (Castlefreke) Reenascreena Ring Rossmore Teerelton Total Villages Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross	16 15 10 94 39 24	- - - 18	15 10 5 7 3	None	None None None
Cappeen Castletownke nneigh Clogagh Kilmichael Lissavard Rathbarry (Castlefreke) Reenascreena Ring Rossmore Teerelton Total Villages Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross	16 15 10 94 39 24	- - - 18	10 5 7 3		None None
Castletownke nneigh Clogagh Kilmichael Lissavard Rathbarry (Castlefreke) Reenascreena Ring Rossmore Teerelton Total Villages Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross	15 10 94 39 24	-	5 7 3		None
nneigh Clogagh Kilmichael Lissavard Rathbarry (Castlefreke) Reenascreena Ring Rossmore Teerelton Total Villages Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross	10 94 39 24	-	7 3		
Kilmichael Lissavard Rathbarry (Castlefreke) Reenascreena Ring Rossmore Teerelton Total Villages Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross	94 39 24	-	3		None
Lissavard Rathbarry (Castlefreke) Reenascreena Ring Rossmore Teerelton Total Villages Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross	39 24 10	-		None	
Rathbarry (Castlefreke) Reenascreena Ring Rossmore Teerelton Total Villages Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross	24	4	15	None	None
(Castlefreke) Reenascreena Ring Rossmore Teerelton Total Villages Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross	10	4	13		None
Ring Rossmore Teerelton Total Villages Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross			10		None
Rossmore Teerelton Total Villages Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross	21	2	5		None
Teerelton Total Villages Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross		-	10		None
Total Villages Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross	19	-	14	None	
Village Nuclei (18) Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross	22	-	16	None	None
Abbeystrowry Adrigole Caheragh Church Cross			723		
Adrigole  Caheragh  Church Cross					
Caheragh Church Cross				None	None
Church Cross	34	1	15		None
	27		15		None
	13		7		None
Connonagh	12		3		None
Coomhola	11		13		None
Drombeg	8	1	4	None	None
Dromore	24		12		None
Johnstown	16		5		None
Kilcoe	11	1	6		None
Lislevane	14	1	5		None
Lowertown	10	1	10		None
Lyre			8		None
Pearson's Bridge	30		10		None
Rathmore	12		5		None
Rossmackowe n/ Waterfall	13	2	10		None
Togher	17		10	None	None
Toormore	23	1	6		None
Urhan	6		7		None
Total Village			151		
Nuclei Overall Total			5,685		

Name	Existing Number of Houses Q1 2015 (Geo directory)	Outstanding Planning Permissions Q1 2015 (No. of houses)	Scale of Development	Drinking Water Status	Waste- Water Status	
Services Key	None – No existing Irish Water Services					
*	it will result in an in	New development in Castletownbere requiring a connection to the public water supply cannot be permitted if it will result in an increase in abstraction rates from Glenbeg Lough. (This also applies to any other settlements in the Beara area relying on the Glenbeg Lough water supply).				
**	Any new development in Dunmanway which discharges into the Bandon SAC will have to be put on hold until such time as issues relating to the outfall location for this WWTP are resolved.					
***	Any new development in Ardgroom which discharges into the Glanmore Bog SAC will have to be put on hold until such time as issues relating to the outfall location for this WWTP are resolved.					

#### **Existing Sensitivities in relation to Water**

3.5.8 Development will not be able to take place until the required infrastructure is available. New development in Castletownbere requiring a connection to the public water supply cannot be permitted if it will result in an increase in abstraction rates from Glenbeg Lough. (This also applies to any other settlements in the Beara area relying on the Glenbeg Lough water supply). Any new development in Dunmanway which discharges into the Bandon SAC will have to be put on hold until such time as issues relating to the outfall location for this WWTP are resolved.

#### **Flooding**

- 3.5.9 The assessment and management of flood risks in relation to planned future development is an important element of the local area plan. The majority of towns, villages and smaller settlements have a river or stream either running through the built-up area or close by and are inevitably exposed to some degree of flood risk when those rivers or streams overflow their normal course. Similarly, in coastal areas flooding can periodically occur following unusual weather or tidal events.
- 3.5.10 As part of the preparation of this Local Area Plan the Council has updated the flood zone mapping used in the 2011 Local Area Plans to take account of the information that has become available from the National CFRAM programme (Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management), and other Flood Schemes undertaken by the OPW. In addition, flood risk mapping for rural areas, outside of settlements boundaries, is also now available and is being published simultaneously with this Draft Local Area Plan.
- 3.5.11 The Councils overall approach to Flood Risk Management is set out in Chapter 11 of the County Development Plan 2014 and intending developers should familiarised themselves with its provisions. In Council's approach to flood risk is to:
  - a) Avoid development in areas at risk of flooding; and
  - b) Where development in floodplains cannot be avoided, to take a sequential approach to flood risk management based on avoidance, reduction and mitigation of risk.
- 3.5.12 A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has been undertaken as part of the preparation of this plan, and all zoned lands in areas at risk of flooding have been reviewed. The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) is included in Volume 2 of this Plan and explains in detail the overall approach to

flood risk management that has been followed. It is important to read this document in conjunction with Volume 1 of the plan.

- 3.5.13 Where development is proposed within an area at risk of flooding, either on land that is subject to a specific zoning objective, lands within the "existing built up area" of a town, within a development boundary of a village, or in the open countryside, then intending applicants need to comply with the provisions of Chapter 11 of the Cork County Development Plan 2014 and Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2, as appropriate, and with the provisions of the Ministerial Guidelines 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management'.
- 3.5.14 Flood Zone Mapping for the rural parts of the Municipal District (i.e. outside of a settlement boundary) is also now available to view online, for information purposes, as part of the Local Area Plan Map Browser at www.corkcoco.ie.

#### **Existing Sensitivities in relation to Water**

- 3.5.15 The major issues arising in relation to water relates to Dunmanway where there are conservation issues relating to the Bandon River SAC and the freshwater Pearl mussel associated with the location of the outfall from the Dunmanway Waste Water Treatment Plant. Cork County Council is working with other stakeholders in particular Irish Water and the National Parks and Wildlife Service to address this issue. Pending resolution of the issue, any new development in Dunmanway which discharges into the Bandon SAC will have to be put on hold. This approach is also reflected in Table 11.1 in Chapter 11 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014 and this needs to be resolved if planned development is not to be delayed. New development in Castletownbere requiring a connection to the public water supply cannot be permitted if it will result in an increase in abstraction rates from Glenbeg Lough. (This also applies to any other settlements in the Beara area relying on the Glenbeg Lough water supply).
- 3.5.16 In terms of water services infrastructure within the Municipal District Table 3.7 in section 3 of this document details the current status of the water services infrastructure within the West Cork Municipal District. Additional investment will be required in some settlements in order to facilitate development in line with Core Strategy provisions of the County Development Plan 2014.

#### 3.6 Air and Climatic Factors

- 3.6.1 The SEA for this Plan considered Air and Climatic Factors potentially affecting the plan area including air quality, noise, greenhouse gases etc.
- 3.6.2 Air quality is generally good in the County and Cork is located in an area with a relatively mild climate and has an almost continuous movement of clean air. Nationally, it is now evident that, due mainly to the very significant increase of vehicles on the public roads, the biggest threat now facing air quality in urban areas is emissions from road traffic. As the population grows and more development takes place emissions will rise.
- 3.6.3 Cork County and City Councils have prepared a joint Noise Action Plan which deals with the mitigation of noise within the Cork conurbation as well as along all national and some regional roads within the county. Common sources of noise within the County include road vehicles, aircraft, railways, industry, construction, commercial premises and entertainment venues, sports and recreation venues and windfarms.
- 3.6.4 Development Plans and Local Area Plans have an important role to play in the prevention and limitation of adverse noise effects and can ensure that conflicts do not occur between noise-generating and noise sensitive uses such as housing, hospitals, schools, places of worship etc., by guiding

development to the right locations and where necessary, specifying design and layout solutions, planning authorities can limit the overall number of people exposed to potential noise effects.

#### **Existing Sensitivities in relation to Air and Climate**

- 3.6.5 One of the key manifestations of climate change is flooding. A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has been undertaken as part of the preparation of this plan, and all zoned lands in areas at risk of flooding have been reviewed. The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) is included in Volume 2 of this Plan and explains in detail the overall approach to flood risk management that has been followed. It is important to read this document in conjunction with Volume 1 of the plan.
- 3.6.6 The dispersed nature of the settlement patterns throughout the county results in high levels of car based commuting which contributes to the overall transport emissions which impacts on air quality.

#### 3.7 Material Assets

3.7.1 The EPA SEA Process Draft Checklist (2008) defines material assets as the critical infrastructure essential for the functioning of society such as: electricity generation and distribution, water supply, wastewater treatment, transportation, etc. Water Supplies and Waste Water Treatment infrastructure will be dealt with under Water in Section 3.5. This section of the SEA will deal with other essential infrastructure within the plan area i.e. Transport (Road, Rail, Public Transport, airports, ports/ harbours) etc as appropriate and Waste.

#### **Existing Sensitivities in relation to Material Assets**

3.7.2 Additional population and economic growth in the area is dependent on the provision of appropriate and sustainable water services and transport infrastructure to underpin sustainable growth. The Draft Plan has identified areas where additional investment is required in order to meet population growth targets.

### 3.8 Cultural Heritage

- 3.8.1 The SEA will consider Archaeological and Architectural Heritage. Cork County has a vast resource of archaeological heritage with over 19,000 monuments registered throughout the County. Figure 4.2 indicates the distribution of recorded monuments within the county. The County has the highest concentration of National Monuments (58 in total).
- 3.8.2 Within the network of settlements designated for growth, a number of towns are subject to zones of archaeological potential including Bandon, Buttevant, Clonakilty, Cobh, Fermoy, Kinsale, Macroom, Mallow, Midleton, Skibbereen and Youghal. Some of these towns are also walled towns and subject to recently released national policy and guidelines regarding "walled towns" (Youghal, Bandon, Kinsale & Buttevant).
- 3.8.3 County Cork has a wealth of industrial archaeology and this is protected through the archaeological record. Underwater Archaeology is now recognised as an important element of our cultural heritage. Given the coastal geography of County Cork and the significance role that some of the County's coastal ports and towns played in historic events over the centuries there is very high potential for underwater cultural material in the form of shipwreck remains and associated artefacts. Some of the coastal towns may have been subject to reclamation and infrastructure may have been developed to facilitate the

maritime landscape. Maritime artefacts such as quays, jetties, anchorages, access routes to the sea etc are all important cultural heritage resources

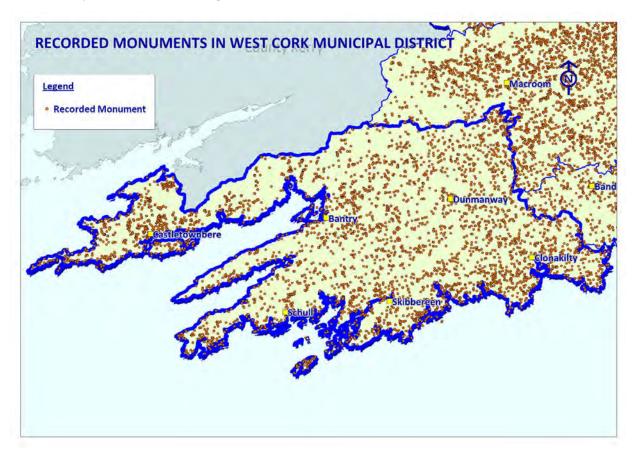


Figure 3.3: Recorded Monuments

- 3.8.4 In terms of Architectural Heritage, the Planning and Development Act sets out the requirements for County Development Plans to protect structures of "architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific and technical interest" by including a Record of Protected Structures (RPS) or the designation of Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs) to protect areas of townscape value. There are currently in excess of 1,400 structures on the RPS as part of the County Development Plan 2014 and a further 155 structures currently designated in the Clonakilty Town Development Plan 2009 and 163 structures designated in the Skibbereen Town Development Plan 2009. Figure 3.4 illustrates the distribution of protected structures in the West Cork MD while Table 4.5 provides information at main town level.
- 3.8.5 There are 9 Architectural Conservation Areas designated within the County Development Plan 2014, Skibbereen Town Development Plan, 2009 and Clonakilty Town Development Plan, 2009. Under the Planning Act it is an objective to protect the special character of an area which generally comprises of a collection of buildings and their setting and in many cases may include a historic demense or park. Some of these are within settlements designated for growth.

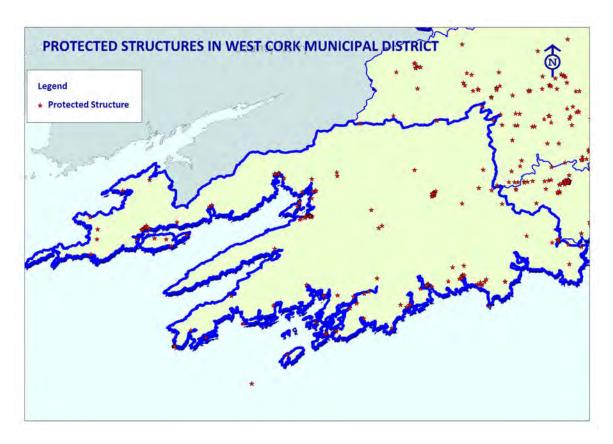


Figure 3.4: Protected Structures

T	Table 3.8 West Cork Built Heritage Designations				
Settlement Name	ACA	RPS	NIAH (Buildings & Gardens)	Archaeology Source: www.archaeology.ie	
Clonakilty	1 (most of the town centre)	207	177 (1 of National Importance)	30 sites, Zone of Archaeological Potential, Area of Archaeological Sensitivity around the town centre.	
Bantry	3	40+	93 (1 National)	10 sites.	
Skibbereen	1 (Entire Town Centre)	163	125	14 sites, Centre of Skibbereen is located within a Zone of Archaeological potential.	
Dunmanway	0	28	51	15 sites.	
Castletownbere	0	c.20	28	14 sites.	
Schull	0	0	32	5 sites.	

### 3.9 Landscape

3.9.1 The landscape sensitivity of the West Cork MD has been classified in accordance with Figure 4.5. The SEA will explore landscape issue as they relate to the Local Area Plan process in accordance with the policy set out in the County Development Plan.

Table 3.9 Landscape Character Assessment				
Landscape Character Types	Main Settlements located within LCT	LCT Value	LCT Sensitivity	LCT Importance
Indented Estuarine Coast (Rosscarbery- Timoleague- Kinsale) 3	Clonakilty	Very high	Very high	National
Rugged Ridge Peninsulas (Castletownbere- Bantry-Schull) 4	Castletownbere, Schull, Bantry	Very high	Very high	National
Broad Fertile Lowland Valleys 6(a) (West Dunmanway)	Dunmanway	High	High	County
Rolling Patchwork Farmland (Bandon- Clonakilty-Leap and Environs) 7(a)		Medium	Medium	County
Broad Marginal Middleground and Lowland Basin 9	Skibbereen	Low	Low	Local
Fissured Fertile Middleground 10(a)		Low	Low	Local
Rolling Marginal Middleground and Forested Middleground 12(b)		Medium	Medium	Local
Ridged and Peaked Upland 15(a)		High	High	County
Glaciated and Forested Cradle Valley 16(a)		High	High	National
Glaciated and		Low	Medium	Local

Forested Cradle		
Valley 16(b)		

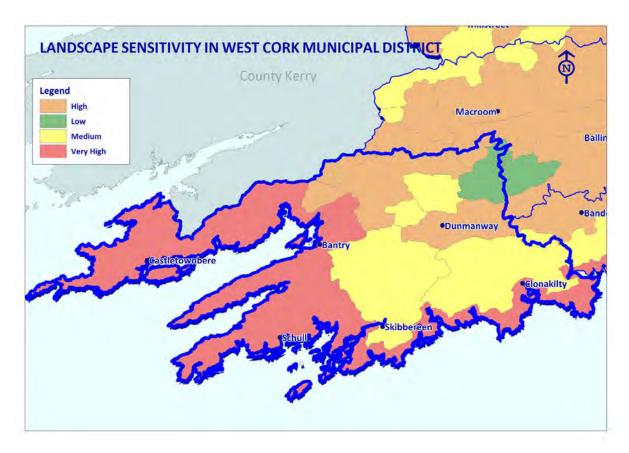


Figure 3.5: Landscape Sensitivity in West Cork

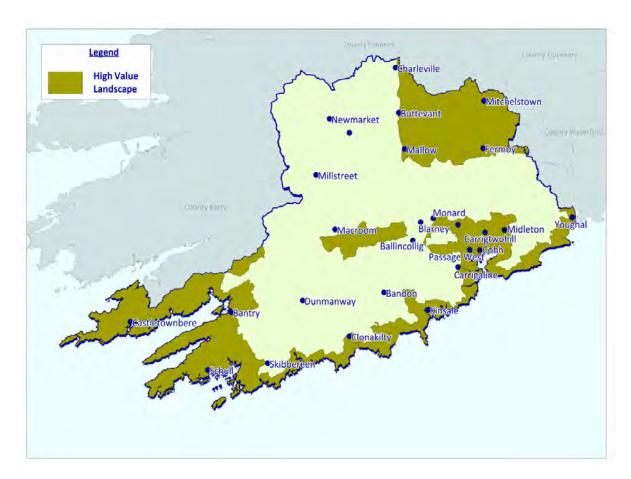


Figure 3.6: Landscape Value

# **Section 4: Environmental Protection Objectives**

#### Sub-Section

- 4.1 Introduction
- 4.2 Population and Public Health
- 4.3 Biodiversity-Flora and Fauna
- 4.4 Soils
- 4.5 Water
- 4.6 Air Quality and Climatic Factors
- 4.7 Cultural Heritage
- 4.8 Landscape
- 4.9 Material Assets
- 4.10 Flooding

## 4 Environmental Protection Objectives

#### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 This section identifies the Strategic Environmental Protection Objectives used in the assessment of the Draft Plan. Environmental Protection Objectives (EPOs) are methodological measures against which the environmental effects of the Plan can be tested. If complied with in full, EPOs would result in an environmentally neutral impact from the implementation of the Plan. The EPOs are set out under a range of topics and are used as standards against which the provisions of the Plan can be evaluated in order to help identify areas in which significant adverse impacts are likely to occur, unless mitigated.
- 4.1.2 The SEA Directive requires that the evaluation of plans and programmes be focused upon the relevant aspects of the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected. EPOs are developed from international, national and regional policies including various European Directives which have been transposed into Irish law and which are intended to be implemented within the County. The EPOs selected have also been informed by Table 4B of the SEA Guidelines (DEHLG, 2004), those used in the preparation of the current County Development Plan and the issues arising from the baseline assessment. The use of EPOs, although not a statutory requirement, does fulfil obligations set out in Schedule 2B of the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (SI No. 436 of 2004).
- 4.1.3 The EPOs are linked to indicators which can facilitate monitoring the environmental effects of implementing the Plan when adopted, as well as to targets which the Plan can help work towards.

### 4.2 Population and Human Health

- 4.2.1 The impact of the Plan on the population and human health is potentially multifaceted as the plan interacts with all the environmental receptors. The plan guides physical land use and seeks to promote sustainable development, guiding the spatial distribution of population across the county. Key directives and policy documents relevant to population have been referenced earlier in this document and include the National Spatial Strategy, Regional Planning Guidelines, National Development Plan, Our Sustainable Future A Framework for Sustainable Development in Ireland 2011-2016, Smarter Travel, Guidelines for Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas, Sustainable Rural Housing, Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2005 etc.
- 4.2.2 The impact of the plan on human health will be influenced by nature, location and design of new development permitted under the plan and its impact on environmental factors like water quality, air quality, noise, landscape and in the long term on climatic factors. The EPOs, Indicators and Targets in Table 4.1 have been identified having regard to the policy context and the environmental baseline described in Section 3.

### 4.3 Biodiversity-Flora and Fauna

4.3.1 County Cork has a rich and diverse natural heritage which is described in the baseline section of this report (Chapter 3). Key directives and policy documents relevant to biodiversity, flora and fauna have been referenced earlier in this document and include the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), the EU Birds Directive (79/409/EEC), UN Convention on Biological Diversity, the National Biodiversity Plan – Action for Biodiversity 2011-2016 and the County Biodiversity Action Plan 2009-2014. The EPOs,

Indicators and Targets set out in Table 4.1 have been identified having regard to the policy context and the environmental baseline described in Section 3.

#### 4.4 Soils

4.4.1 There is currently no legislation specific to protecting soil resources. Successive development plans have sought to protect and sustainably manage the soil resource of the county. The EPOs, Indicators and Targets in Table 4.1 have been identified having regard to the environmental baseline described in Section 3.

#### 4.5 Water

4.5.1 Water Quality is governed by a large body of legislation and is subject to regular monitoring. As discussed in Chapter 3, the Water Framework Directive has introduced a new approach to water protection. The current baseline status of waters in Cork is varied (see Chapter 3) and the improvement of less than good water quality status is a priority for the future. Key directives and policy documents relevant to water have been referenced earlier in this document and include the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) and Groundwater Quality Directive 2006/118/EC. The EPO, Indicators and Targets in Table 4.1 have been identified having regard to the policy context and the environmental baseline described in Section 3.

#### 4.6 Air Quality and Climate Factors

4.6.1 The main impacts on air quality are likely to arise from traffic emissions and noise from traffic and other sources. The land use policies of the plan affect the journeys people make every day to work, school, shopping or for leisure purposes etc. At present approximately 90% of journeys to work within the county are made by the private car. The transport sector is also a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. Key directives and policy documents relevant to Air/ Climate change include Directive 96/62/EC – Air Quality Framework Directive, the Kyoto Protocol and the National Climate Change Strategy (2007-2012) and Climate Change Adaption Framework 2012. The EPO, Indicators and Targets in Table 4.1 have been identified having regard to the policy context and the environmental baseline described in Section 3.

### 4.7 Cultural Heritage

4.7.1 Cork has a rich architectural, archaeological and cultural heritage. Key directives, legislation and policy documents relevant to cultural heritage include the Planning and Development Acts 2000 – 2013, National Monuments Acts, National Heritage Plan 2000 and the Framework & Principles for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (DAHGI 1999). The EPO, Indicators and Targets in Table 4.1 have been identified having regard to the policy context and the environmental baseline described in Section 3.

#### 4.8 Landscape

- 4.8.1 The European Landscape Convention was signed in 2000 and came into force in Ireland in 2004. The European Landscape Convention aims to promote the protection, management and planning of European landscapes and to organise European co-operation on landscape issues. The Convention highlights the importance and need for public involvement in the development of landscapes. It encourages a joined up approach through policy and planning in all areas of land-use, development and management, including the recognition of landscape in law and is the first international treaty to be exclusively concerned with the protection, management and enhancement of the European landscape. The Convention covers natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas. It deals with ordinary and degraded landscapes as well as those of outstanding beauty.
- 4.8.2 The preparation of a National Landscape Strategy is underway since 2011 but has yet to be completed. A Draft Landscape Strategy for County Cork was prepared in 2008 and identifies landscapes in the county in terms of their Character, Value, Sensitivity and Importance and includes recommendations on balancing development and change with landscape protection. Once the National Landscape Strategy is finalised the County Strategy will need to be reviewed and completed.
- 4.8.3 The EPOs, Indicators and Targets in Table 4.1 have been identified having regard to the policy context and the environmental baseline described in Section 3.

#### 4.9 Material Assets

4.9.1 Material Assets, for the purposes of SEA, comprises the infrastructure the population needs for the functioning of society and includes roads, transport, water services, energy and telecommunications infrastructure, the building stock of the county, production facilities (factories etc.), green infrastructure (parks open spaces, recreational facilities etc.). Large infrastructural installations have the potential to have significant effects on the environment, both during its construction/ development stage and during its use and operation. Such projects will generally require EIA as part of the planning process which would evaluate such impacts and introduce mitigation measures where necessary to minimise any negative environmental effects. The EPO, Indicators and Targets in Table 4.1have been identified having regard to the policy context and the environmental baseline described in Section 3.

#### 4.10 Flood Risk

4.10.1 In order to meet the needs of the Strategic Environmental Assessment process and the requirements of the Department Guidelines "The Planning System and Flood Risk Management" the Draft Local Area Plan has been subject to flood risk assessment procedures. Government Guidelines require, and it is an objective of this plan, that future development is avoided in areas indicated as being at risk of flooding. More detailed information on the approach to flooding and how development proposals in areas at risk of flooding have been assessed is given in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Report contained in Volume 2 Environmental Reports, of the Draft Plan.

Table 4.1; List of Environmental Protection Objectives, Targets and Indicators				
<b>Environmental Protection Objective</b>	Targets	Indicators		
Population (P)  EPO 1: To ensure the sustainable development of area so people have the opportunity to live in communities with high quality residential, working and recreational environments with sustainable travel patterns.	Deliver on the population target for the Municipal District, especially in the main towns.  Promote the economic development of the area.  Co-ordinate new housing development and the delivery of social and community infrastructure  Decrease journey time and distance travelled to work during the lifetime of the plan.  All large scale housing development to be accompanied by a Design Statement.	Significant increase in the population of the main towns. Distance and mode of transport to work/ school.		
Human Health (HH)  EPO 2: To protect and enhance human health and manage hazards or nuisances arising from traffic & incompatible land uses.	Avoid incompatible development nears SEVESO sites or IPPC licensed sites Ensure new development is well served with community facilities and facilitates including walking and cycling routes.	No of planning permissions granted within the consultation distance of Seveso sites/IPPC facilities. No of new primary health care/schools/crèches/community facilities provided. Amount of (Km) new cycleways provided.		
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna (BFF)  EPO 3: Throughout the county, conserve and restore ecosystems, habitats and species in their natural surroundings, and ensure their sustainable management, including the ecological corridors between them.	<ul> <li>Maintain the favourable conservation status of all habitats and species, especially those protected under national and international legislation.</li> <li>Implement the actions of the Cork County Biodiversity Action Plan.</li> <li>Establishment of a Green Infrastructure Strategy for the County</li> <li>Protect habitats from</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of developments receiving planning permission within designated sites or within the consultation distance of designated sites where the HDA process identified potential for impacts.</li> <li>Reduction in the quantum of greenfield land in the county as measured by the increase in the amount of brownfield land associated</li> </ul>		

Table 4.1; List of Environmental Protection Objectives, Targets and Indicators				
Environmental Protection Objective	Targets	Indicators		
	invasive species	with each settlement and the no. of one off houses being built in the countryside.  • Number of actions achieved in Biodiversity Action Plan • Progress on Green Infrastructure strategy		
Soil (S)  EPO 4: Protect the function and quality of the soil resource in the West Cork Municipal District	Reduce the use of greenfield land by encouraging the reuse of brownfield sites. Encourage sustainable extraction of non-renewable sand, gravel and rock deposits and the reuse and recycling of construction and demolition waste.	No of brownfield sites that have been redeveloped. Volume of construction and demolition waste recycled. Reduction in number of vacant and derelict buildings.		
Water (W)  EPO 5: Maintain and improve the quality of water resources and improve the management and sustainable use of these resources to comply with the requirements of the WFD.	To achieve 'good' status in all bodies of surface waters (lakes rivers, transitional and coastal waters).  Achieve compliance with Groundwater Quality Standards and Threshold Values under Directive 2006/118/EC (protection of groundwater).  Not to permit development where it would result in a WWTP exceeding the terms of its discharge license.  Encourage future population growth in areas served by urban waste water treatment plants and public water supplies.	Trends in classification of overall status of surface water under Surface Water Regulations 2009 (SI No 272 of 2009) Trends in Classification of Bathing Waters as set by Directive 2006/7/EC. Groundwater Quality Standards and Threshold Values under Directive 2006/118/EC. No of households served by urban waste water treatment plants/ septic tanks/ individual WWTP or other systems. No of households served by public water supplies. % of water unaccounted for.		
Air Quality and Climate Factors (AQ/C)  EPO 6: Protect and improve air quality.	Ensure air quality monitoring results are maintained within appropriate emission limits. Increase modal shift in favour of public transport, walking and cycling.	Trends in Air Quality monitoring data. Percentage of population travelling to work by public transport, walking or cycling. No of wind turbines		

Table 4.1; List of Environmental Protection Objectives, Targets and Indicators			
Environmental Protection Objective	Targets	Indicators	
<b>EPO 7:</b> Contribute to mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.	Encourage production and use of renewal energy. Encourage energy efficiency in building design and construction. Provide flood protection measures where appropriate. Avoid inappropriate development in areas of flood risk.	permitted.  No of developments permitted within areas at risk of flooding.	
Cultural Heritage (CH)  EPO 8: Protect and, where appropriate, enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of architectural, archaeological and cultural heritage (including Gaeltachtaí) in County Cork.	No loss of or adverse impact on the fabric or setting of monuments on the Record of Monuments (RMP).  No loss of or adverse impact on the architectural heritage value or setting of protected structures.  No loss of or adverse impact on structures recorded on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage.  Implement the Cork County Heritage Plan	Loss of or adverse impact on monuments on the Record of Monuments (RMP). Loss of or adverse impact on protected structures included on the RPS or structures included on the NIAH.	
Landscape (L)  EPO 9: Protect and, where appropriate, enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of landscapes in County Cork.	No large scale development permitted in areas of high landscape value.	Number of large scale developments permitted in areas of high landscape value.	
Material Assets (MA)  EPO 10: Make best use of the material assets of the area and promote the sustainable development of new infrastructure to provide for the current and future needs of the population.	Develop the road, rail and public transport infrastructure of the county to facilitate sustainable growth and travel patterns. Ensure appropriate water services infrastructure is delivered in areas targeted for population growth. Protect and optimise the use of the existing building stock. Facilitate the sustainable expansion of production	New critical infrastructural projects completed (projects identified by the CDP).	

Table 4.1; List of Environmental Protection Objectives, Targets and Indicators				
Environmental Protection Objective	Targets	Indicators		
	facilities to enable economic growth and create new employment opportunities. Protect and enhance green infrastructure. Protect existing recreational facilities and green infrastructure.			
Flooding (F) EPO 11: Protect flood plains and areas at risk of flooding from inappropriate development.	No inappropriate development permitted in areas at risk of flooding.  All applications in areas at risk to be accompanied by detailed a flood risk assessment.	Number and nature of developments permitted in areas at risk		

## **Section 5: Alternatives**

#### Sub-Section

- 5.1 Introduction
- 5.2 SEMPRe
- 5.3 Description of Alternative Plan Scenarios
- 5.4 Evaluation of Alternative Scenarios
- 5.5 The Preferred Scenario

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### 5 Alternatives

#### 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The SEA Directive and Regulations require the Environmental Report to consider 'reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme' and the significant environmental effects of the alternatives selected. The alternatives must be reasonable and capable of implementation within the statutory and operational requirements of the Plan.
- 5.1.2 Three alternative scenarios have been considered during the drafting process for the preparation of the Draft Municipal District Local Area Plan. Each scenario was prepared having regard to Ministerial Guidelines, the National Spatial Strategy and the Regional Planning Guidelines for the South West Region, including its population targets, and the key aims of the County Development Plan 2014. Any scenario that runs counter to these higher level plans would not be reasonable and has not been considered as part of the Environmental Assessment process.

#### 5.2 SEMPRe

- 5.2.1 The SEMPRe Settlement Sustainability project for Cork was completed in 2013. The study involved a detailed analysis of the sustainability of the 26 main towns in County Cork using Sustainability Evaluation Metric for Policy Evaluation (SEMPRe) which is an indicator based method of sustainability measurement. The study identified the relative sustainability of the 26 main towns using a series of 25 sustainable indicators, (Table 5-2) of which 5 were identified as key performance indicators (measure significant aspects of sustainability). Each settlement was assessed and awarded a score out of 100, enabling settlements to be ranked in terms of relative sustainability. The Sustainable Development Index (SDI) scores for the 26 main settlements in Cork are detailed in Table 5-1 and are organised into 3 categories. It can be observed that in general, larger settlements are more sustainable and as distance from Cork city increases, settlement sustainability decreases:
  - Category 1 settlements have the highest SDI results,
  - Category 2 have intermediate SDI results, and
  - Category 3 has the lowest SDI results.

Table 5.1: Settlement Sustainable Development Indicators
Infrastructure and location
Infrastructural capacity for settlement expansion**
Connected to gas distribution network
Index of recycling facilities
Proportion of households with broadband internet
Presence of farmers markets
Water and wastewater
Water quality of water bodies
Wastewater treatment spare capacity
Unaccounted for water
Populated area at risk of flooding**
Urban wastewater treatment status
Population and urban form
Planned population density **
Proportion of population unemployed
Proportion of population with 3 <sup>rd</sup> level education
Housing vacancy rate
Distance to nearest largest retail centre
Transport and energy
Average transport CO <sub>2</sub>
Settlement walkability
Number of public transport services/1000 population**
Average household heating CO <sub>2</sub>
Proportion of population travelling to work by private car
Livability
Distance to nearest acute hospital**
Tidy Towns points score
SAC, SPA, HA within 5km of settlement
Distance to nearest park, nature reserve or wildlife park
Presence of 24 hour Garda station
** key performance indicators

Table 5.2: Main Towns Sustainable Settlement Ranking				
Settlement	SDI Score 2013	Category	Population 2011	
Ballincollig	62.8	1	17,368	
Blarney	61.5	1	2,437	
Carrigaline	57.2	1	14,775	
Carrigtwohill	56.8	1	4,551	
Midleton	54.9	1	12,001	
Cobh	54.8	1	12,347	
Bandon	54.5	1	6,640	
Mallow	53.6	1	11,605	
Glanmire	53.5	1	8,924	
Bantry	53.1	1	3,348	
Clonakilty	50.3	2	4,721	
Kinsale	50.3	2	4,893	
Fermoy	49.6	2	6,489	
Passage West	48.6	2	5,709	
Macroom	46.7	2	3,879	
Buttevant	46.1	2	945	
Schull	43.8	2	658	
Mitchelstown	42.8	2	3,677	
Charleville	41.1	3	3,646	
Newmarket	41.0	3	988	
Skibbereen	39.2	3	2,670	
Youghal	38.2	3	7,794	
Dunmanaway	37.8	3	1,585	
Castletownbere	37.7	3	912	
Millstreet	36.7	3	1,574	
Kanturk	35.3	3	2,263	

- 5.2.2 In general Category 1 settlements are relatively large in terms of population size and are located in relatively close proximity to Cork city. Category 1 settlements benefit from economies of scale in terms of infrastructure and services. All settlements in the County Metropolitan Strategic Planning Area are Category 1 settlements with the exception of Passage West which falls into Category 2. Category 1 settlements outside of the Metropolitan SPA are: Mallow, Bandon and Bantry.
- 5.2.3 Category 2 settlements generally have smaller population sizes and are more peripheral relative to Cork City. Certain settlements such as Schull and Buttevant have population sizes of less than 1,000 persons and peripheral locations yet fall into the intermediate sustainability category.

- 5.2.4 Category 3 settlements are the least sustainable (with an average SDI of 38.4) and range in population size from Castletownbere (912 persons) to Youghal (7,794 persons) with an average of 2,682 persons. In general category 3 settlements are smaller settlements sited in more peripheral locations relative to Cork city, and are mainly located in the North and West Strategic Planning areas.
- 5.2.5 The score each town receives is determined by how the town measures up in relation to the indicators used in the study which were arrived at following consultation with a range of stakeholders. Indicators chosen were limited by data availability and applicability at the spatial scale of individual towns and it is acknowledged that the use of different indicators may yield different results. The lack of public transport provision and the high reliance on the private car as a means of travelling to work means that most settlements score poorly in terms of transportation while those with an older housing stock score poorly in terms of energy due to higher household heating CO2 emissions. Proximity to the city influenced two indicators (proximity to large retail centre and an acute hospital) so for some towns their sustainability automatically decreases with distance from the city. A sample of potential measures for enhancing the sustainability of these settlements is set out in Appendix B. The study has informed the consideration of alterative scenarios for development in the formulation of the Draft Plan.

#### 5.3 Description of Alternative Plan Scenarios

- 5.3.1 West Cork Municipal District has an extensive urban structure comprising towns and villages. The Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan provide for the development of 6 main towns and 63 villages, west cork island communities and smaller settlements and an number of specialist locations with specific industrial/ tourism functions e.g. Barleycove, Ownahinchy and Inchydoney. Table 3.7 show the network of settlements provided for within the current Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan.
- 5.3.2 Successive County Development Plan strategies have sought to encourage balanced growth across the county to sustain the economies and service levels of the main towns and villages and the key aims of the Draft Plan support the continuation of this approach, seeking sustainable patterns of growth in urban and rural areas.
- 5.3.3 The Regional Planning Guidelines support this balanced approach to development in order to maintain vibrant rural communities with an equal level of urban and rural growth. The population targets set out in Regional Planning Guidelines distribute the population growth target for the SW Region to the Cork Gateway (including Metropolitan Cork), the Greater Cork Area, equivalent to the CASP Ring, the Northern Area which includes North Cork and parts of North and East Kerry, and the Western Area which includes West Cork and South and West Kerry. Targets for the North and West Areas have been allocated between Cork and Kerry in their respective County Development Plan strategies.
- 5.3.4 The scenarios considered in preparing this Draft Plan have therefore been prepared in this context. The overall level of growth allocated to each Municipal District is the same for each scenario, in line with targets of the Core Strategy in the County Development Plan and the Regional Planning Guidelines. The scenarios look at options for development within each Municipal District. Scenarios which would be inconsistent with this approach, by focusing more growth on one Municipal District over another for example, have not been considered.

#### **Scenario 1: Public Transport**

- 5.3.5 This scenario seeks to focus a greater proportion of development in a smaller number of settlements to enhance the viability of bus based inter-urban public transport services. Under this scenario the potential for growth is still dispersed over the entire settlement network but a greater proportion of the growth is focused on a smaller number of locations.
- 5.3.6 Very little growth has been allocated to the rural area under this scenario. It is anticipated that the reduced growth targets for the rural areas combined with a revised approach to managing rural housing, would serve to further consolidate growth in those areas along the preferred public transport corridors.
- 5.3.7 In the West Cork Municipal District, this scenario concentrates growth in fewer settlements, with most of the growth is directed towards Clonakilty and Skibbereen with the aim of delivering a sufficient critical mass of population in these towns so as to justify further investments in primarily bus based public transport around the county and growth in rural areas is curtailed.

#### **Environmental Impacts of Scenario 1**

- 5.3.8 Scenario One allocates some growth to every settlement in the network and to villages and rural areas, while seeking to concentrate a greater proportion of the growth in a smaller number of settlements. Many of these settlements have inadequate drinking water supply and/or waste water treatment infrastructure, and significant public investment in infrastructure will be required to enable such development to take place. Such investment is essential to accommodate the growth and mitigate impacts on water quality, human health etc. This dispersed pattern of growth will generally give rise to some cumulative impacts on ground and surface water quality, heritage, landscape and biodiversity and will lead to increased levels of environmental effects associated with additional commuting such as increased energy consumption, emissions to air, road traffic noise etc.
- 5.3.9 In those areas where more intense levels of growth are promoted, there is greater potential for negative environmental impacts on soil, air quality, biodiversity and landscape. Such impacts can however be managed by adherence to good practice guidance and procedures in development management. Intense development in some areas would also be balanced with lower development pressures in other areas, particularly the villages and rural areas which will lead to less pressure on biodiversity, groundwater resources, flora and fauna etc. and the general rural amenities of the county.
- 5.3.10 Investment in infrastructure in the main growth centres can be more targeted, potentially leading to better quality provision/ design solutions/ economies of scale.
- 5.3.11 Within the main growth areas, the correlation between population growth and public transport infrastructure will have a neutral to positive environmental impact particularly on air quality, climatic factors and human health due to the reduction in the need to travel and road traffic emissions. The concentration of population within the built up area of the city and its environs might also encourage a greater proportion of people to consider a move to other modes of transport such as walking and cycling with positive benefits on human health, air quality etc.

#### Planning Effects of Scenario One

- 5.3.12 While the settlement pattern for the county remains dispersed, overall commuting should decrease as a greater proportion of population growth is accommodated in the main settlements where public transport is available, reducing commuting distances and car dependency with associated positive benefits for the population.
- 5.3.13 The concentration of growth in the manner proposed by this strategy may lead to reduced levels of investment in the other areas which may have negative impacts on quality of life and the quality of the urban environment if there are higher levels of vacancy. The reduced population targets for towns

- outside the corridor may also hinder their ability to secure investment in waste water infrastructure in the future if there are lower levels of population and employment growth.
- 5.3.14 Dispersed settlement pattern means limited resources for infrastructural investment have to be spread over a large number of settlements, leading to deficiencies in the level of service provided with potential for negative impacts on the environment (most likely in the area of waste water treatment and water quality). The reduced population targets for towns outside the corridor may also hinder their ability to secure investment in waste water infrastructure in the future if there are lower levels of population and employment growth.

Table 5.3: Scenario 1 Population Targets					
	Census Population 2011	CDP 2014 2022 Target Population	Scenario 1 Population Target 2022	Scenario 1 Population Growth 2011 - 2022	
West Cork MD					
Bantry	3,348	5,484	3,784	436	
Castletownbere	912	1,439	1,139	227	
Clonakilty	4,721	7,218	8,399	3,678	
Dunmanway	1,585	1,976	1,976	391	
Schull	658	748	748	90	
Skibbereen	2,670	3,035	4,435	1,765	
<b>Total Main Towns</b>	13,894	19,900	20,481	6,587	
Villages and Rural	42,636	43,581	43,000	364	
Total West	56,530	63,481	63,481	6,951	

#### Scenario 2: Employment Towns.

- 5.3.15 This Scenario looks at employment-led growth which focuses development in key locations where employment growth is more likely to be delivered and differs from previous Plan strategies which spread growth more evenly across all the Main Settlements.
- 5.3.16 Within the West Cork Municipal District this scenario focuses growth in Clonakilty and Bantry with reduced growth targets in Castletownbere and Dunmanway. This takes account of the proposed employment policies of the Plan. This approach reinforces the important regional employment focus allocated to Clonakilty in the CDP and acknowledges the existing role Bantry plays as an employment centre serving a wider hinterland area and as the only location in West Cork offering an acute hospital facility.

#### **Environmental Impacts Scenario Two**

5.3.17 Scenario Two allocates growth across the full settlement network, while seeking to concentrate a greater proportion of the growth in a smaller number of settlements where economic/employment growth may be more easily achieved. Many of these settlements have inadequate drinking water supply and/or waste water treatment infrastructure, and significant public investment in infrastructure will be required to enable such development to take place. Such investment is essential to accommodate the growth and mitigate impacts on water quality, human health etc. This dispersed pattern of growth will generally give rise to some cumulative impacts on ground and surface water quality, heritage, landscape

- and biodiversity and will lead to increased levels of environmental effects associated with additional commuting such as increased energy consumption, emissions to air, road traffic noise etc.
- 5.3.18 This scenario concentrates economic growth and employment growth in a smaller number of settlements, making them more self sufficient. This could potentially have negative impacts on soil, air quality, biodiversity and landscape but these impacts can be mitigated by implementing good proactive in development management and would be balanced with lower development pressures in other areas, particularly the villages and rural areas with less pressure on the water quality, biodiversity, landscape etc. in these areas. In addition more people will have the opportunity to work locally and possible switch to walking or cycling modes, thus reducing travel distances, traffic volumes and traffic emissions within positive benefits to air quality, climatic factors and human health.
- 5.3.19 The concentration of growth in the manner proposed by this strategy may lead to reduced levels of investment in the other areas which may have negative impacts on quality of life and the quality of the urban environment if there are higher levels of vacancy and reduced employment opportunities at these locations. The reduced population targets for towns outside the designated employment nodes may also hinder their ability to secure investment in waste water infrastructure in the future if there are lower levels of population and employment growth.

#### **Planning Impacts**

- 5.3.20 The concentration of growth in the manner proposed by this strategy will strengthen the economic position of these towns chosen as the main growth centres, underpinning further investment and making them more attractive places to live. The strategy may also lead to reduced levels of investment in the other areas which may have negative impacts on quality of life and the quality of the urban environment of those areas if there are higher levels of vacancy and reduced employment opportunities at these locations. The reduced population targets for some towns may also hinder their ability to secure investment in waste water infrastructure in the future if there are lower levels of population and employment growth.
- 5.3.21 Lower levels of development in the rural areas will help conserve the landscape and amenity of those areas, potentially making it more attractive for visitors.

Table.5.4: Scenario 2 Population Targets				
	Census Population 2011	CDP 2014 2022 Target Population	Scenario 2 Population Target 2022	Scenario 2 Population Growth 2011 - 2022
		West Cork MD		
Bantry	3,348	5,484	5,911	2,563
Castletownbere	912	1,439	1,039	127
Clonakilty	4,721	7,218	7,900	3,179
Dunmanway	1,585	1,976	1,876	291
Schull	658	748	720	62
Skibbereen	2,670	3,035	3,035	365
Total Main Towns	13,894	19,900	20,481	6,587
Villages and Rural	42,636	43,581	43,000	364
Total West	56,530	63,481	63,481	6,951

#### Scenario 3: Balanced Growth

- 5.3.22 In this scenario, significant growth is allocated across the main settlements with lower levels of growth in the villages and rural areas. The principle strength of this scenario lies in the balanced approach allowing for the majority of growth to take place in the main settlements but at the same time allowing for continued, more modest growth in the villages and rural areas, continuing to support the economies of these areas to underpin local services and quality of life. The pattern of population distribution in this scenario is more dispersed than in the other scenarios as it seeks to support all the main towns. However this is balanced with an employment strategy which seeks to bring people and jobs closer together either in the same settlement or by high quality transport links connecting settlements together.
- 5.3.23 In the West Cork Municipal District, the majority of the growth is assigned to Clonakilty with more modest growth in the other towns, villages and rural areas.

#### **Environmental Impacts**

- 5.3.24 The concentration of both population and employment growth in the main urban areas of the County would serve to reduce commuting patterns as more people would be afforded greater opportunities to live closer to their places of employment and/or travel using high quality public transport links. Such an approach would have a positive environmental effect by serving to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and would enhance people's quality of life.
- 5.3.25 Focusing population growth across the settlement network will necessitate significant investment in water services infrastructure.
- 5.3.26 While allowing for growth in rural areas, this scenario will result in some negative impacts on the environment. It is unlikely that developments in rural area will be connected to public wastewater treatment networks. While not as significant on their own, the cumulative impact of rural development could have significant negative impacts both on biodiversity and particularly on water quality.
- 5.3.27 This scenario would still give rise to the growth of rural housing outside the settlement network which would contribute to further unsustainable commuting patterns and increased car dependency.

#### **Planning Impacts**

- 5.3.28 In common with the other scenarios, this scenario has a strong urban influence. It sets out population targets for the main settlements that, while ambitious, will ultimately help them perform their function as the primary growth centres in the county.
- 5.3.29 The scenario also recognises that there is a demand for growth in rural areas and provides for some additional growth in the key villages and lower order settlements in rural areas. Facilitating population growth in these areas would in turn encourage the retention of services in these locations. The scale of growth envisaged however is not of a scale that would serve to undermine the growth of the main urban centres in the county.

Table 5.5: Scenario 3 Population Targets				
	Census Population 2011	CDP 2014 2022 Target Population	Scenario 3 Population Target 2022	Scenario 3 Population Growth 2011 - 2022
		West Cork MD		
Bantry	3,348	5,484	5,484	2,136
Castletownbere	912	1,439	1,439	527
Clonakilty	4,721	7,218	7,218	2,497
Dunmanway	1,585	1,976	1,976	391
Schull	658	748	748	90
Skibbereen	2,670	3,035	3,035	365
<b>Total Main Towns</b>	13,894	19,900	19,900	6,006
Villages and Rural	42,636	43,581	43,581	945
Total West	56,530	63,481	63,481	6,951

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#### 5.4 Evaluation of Alternative Scenarios

- 5.4.1 The evaluation of the three proposed alternative scenarios for their respective impacts on the environment was undertaken utilising the Environmental Protection Objectives (EPOs) specifically developed to protect, maintain, conserve or restore environmental elements within the Municipal District. Each scenario was assessed as to whether it was likely to have a positive, negative, uncertain or neutral impact on the EPO's. The EPO's against which the three scenarios were assessed are set out in Section 4, Table 4.1 and are outlined below together with a matrix assessment of each scenario.
- 5.4.2 All scenarios are assessed on the basis that appropriate water services infrastructure will be available to cater for growth and development will not be permitted in the absence of this critical infrastructure.

EPO Reference number	Table 5.6: Environmental Objectives
EPO 1	To ensure the sustainable development of Cork County so the people of Cork have the opportunity to live in communities with high quality residential, working and recreational environments with sustainable travel patterns.
EPO 2	To protect and enhance human health and manage hazards or nuisances arising from traffic and incompatible land uses.
EPO 3	Throughout the county, conserve and restore ecosystems, habitats and species in their natural surroundings, and ensure their sustainable management, including the ecological corridors between them.
EPO 4	Protect the function and quality of the soil resource in County Cork
EPO 5	Maintain and improve the quality of water resources and improve the management and sustainable use of these resources to comply with the requirements of the WFD.
EPO 6	Protect and improve air quality.
EPO 7	Contribute to mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.
EPO 8	Protect and, where appropriate, enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of architectural, archaeological and cultural heritage (including Gaeltachtaí) in County Cork.
EPO 9	Protect and, where appropriate, enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of landscapes in County Cork.
EPO 10	Make best use of the material assets of the county and promote the sustainable development of new infrastructure to provide for the current and future needs of the population.
EPO 11	Protect flood plains and areas at risk of flooding from inappropriate development.

#### 5.5 The Preferred Scenario

- 5.5.1 The Planning Acts require that a Local Area Plan must be consistent with the objectives of the development plan, its core strategy and any regional spatial and economic strategy that applies to the area. This makes the consideration of alternative scenarios more difficult and the key parameters have already been determined. The provisions of the core strategy imply that higher level plans are the ones where the strategic alternative scenarios need to be considered and subjected to rigorous environmental assessment.
- 5.5.2 Given the parameters established by the Regional Planning Guidelines and the extensive nature of the designated settlement network within the county, the alternatives considered in preparing the draft plan are all rather similar in promoting balanced development across the county and have relatively similar impacts.
- 5.5.3 Scenario 3 is the one that places the most emphasis on building on what has already been achieved within the county in terms of supporting the network of settlements, the established employment areas while continuing to support the development of villages and rural areas and it is therefore the preferred scenario, giving the most positive interaction for most of the population with EPO 1. Scenarios 1 and 2 in promoting a more focused development pattern would inevitability lead to the decline and contraction of some of the other towns, villages and rural areas resulting in the loss of economic opportunities in those areas, reduced investment and an overall reduction in the quality of life for the people living in those areas.

Table 5.7: Alternative Scenarios interaction with Environmental Protection Objectives					
	Positive Interaction with status of EPOs	Negative Interaction with status of EPOs	Uncertain Interaction with status of EPOs	Neutral Interaction with status of EPOs	
Scenario 1	EPO 2, 6, 7, 10	EPO1 3, 5		EPO 4, 8, 9	
Scenario 2	EPO 2, 6, 7, 10	EPO 1, 3, 5		EPO 4, 8, 9	
Scenario 3	EPO 1, 2, 6, 7, 10			EPO 3, 4, 5, 8, 9.	

## **Section 6: Evaluation of the Draft Local Area Plan**

Sub-Section

- 6.1 Introduction
- 6.2 Evaluation
- 6.3 Mitigation/Recommended Changes

### 6 Evaluation of the Draft Local Area Plan

#### 6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 SEA legislation requires the Environmental Report to include the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the Plan. This includes secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects. The effects should be shown on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above.

#### 6.2 Evaluation

#### Overview

- 6.2.1 The following section identifies the effects on the environment of implementing the Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan. The assessment is done on a Section by Section basis, looking at the key provisions and individual objectives of each Section the expected outcome of implementing the Section and the implications for the environment. The Section is then assessed for its likely interaction with the Environmental Protection Objectives and the assessment concludes with recommendations for changes to the Draft Plan. Interactions are assessed on the basis of being:
  - Positive (+),
  - Negative (-),
  - Uncertain (?), or
  - Neutral (Ne).
- 6.2.2 This exercise will set out any environmental problems that are likely to arise from the implementation of the Draft Local Area Plan. Arising from this analysis, the Environmental Report provides recommendations on what mitigation measures will be taken. Mitigation measures can take the form of:
  - Amend the wording of an existing objective,
  - Delete the objective,
  - Addition of a new objective.
- 6.2.3 A column has been provided to show the Environmental Report's recommendations and another has been provided to display the resulting Local Area Plan's action or response to these recommendations. The Local Area Plan's action could be to reject, accept or to partly accept the Environmental Reports recommendation.
- 6.2.4 In the event that a recommendation is rejected or partly accepted, the onus was on the Local Area Plan to provide reasons for this course of action. A 'tick' was entered in the Local Area Plan's action column when the Environmental Report's recommendation was accepted in full and changes made appropriately in the Local Area Plan document. A 'dash' was entered where the Environmental Report's recommendation was partly accepted. A 'cross' was entered where the Environmental Report's recommendation was rejected and not entered into the Local Area Plan document.
- 6.2.5 The Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan 2016 document has been prepared by undertaking a review of the existing statutory plans for the area including the Skibbereen Electoral Area

Local Area Plan 2011 (as amended), the Bantry Electoral Area Local Area Plan 2011 (as amended), the Skibbereen Town Development Plan 2009 and the Clonakilty Town Development Plan 2009 (as varied) and updating the provisions those plans as necessary to take account of any changes in national planning policy, legislation, government guidelines etc which has taken place in the interim and by changes in local circumstances, needs etc. It is important to recognise that the current statutory plans for the area i.e. the Skibbereen Electoral Area Local Area Plan 2011, the Bantry Electoral Area Local Area Plan 2011, the Skibbereen Town Development Plan 2009 and the Clonakilty Town Development Plan 2009, were themselves subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Directive Assessment prior to adoption, and many of the provisions of these plans have been carried forward, unchanged, into the new Draft Plan 2016. Therefore, there are few issues arising that need to be assessed de novo.

- 6.2.6 In addition, given the current body of planning knowledge gathered from previous planning work for the area, policy and objectives likely to give rise to significant environmental effect are simply not put forward in the first instance. In this way many of the possible environmental impacts of objectives were avoided or had previously been anticipated and mitigated for through the inclusion of objectives in the current statutory plans.
- 6.2.7 The County Development Plan 2014 includes many protective objectives in relation to issues such as Development Management and Protection of Amenities, Sustainable Residential Development, Natural, Built and Cultural Heritage, Biodiversity, Landscape, Water Quality, Pollution Control, protecting Air Quality, managing Noise and Light emissions, flood risk management, sustainable energy, etc. All proposals for development under the Local Area Plan, must comply in the first instance, with the all the provisions of the County Development Plan.
- 6.2.8 All of the objectives of the Draft Plan were assessed for possible impacts within the context of these existing mitigation measures. As these mitigation measures negate or mitigate any significant negative impacts that could otherwise have been expected, there were few recommendations arising from the SEA process in relation to the Draft Local Area Plan.
- 6.2.9 Key mitigation measures included in previous plans, and carried forward in the current Draft Local Area Plan relate to issues such as timely delivery of key infrastructure needed to cater for new development. In relation to water quality for example the plan recognises that in some areas the water services infrastructure needed to facilitate planned growth is not currently in place. In response to this the Draft Plan includes strong objectives requiring that appropriate and sustainable water and waste water infrastructure is provided and operational in advance of the commencement of any discharges from the development. In addition the objectives provide that such infrastructure must be capable of treating discharges to ensure that water quality in the receiving water does not fall below legally required levels, while also meeting the objectives of the relevant River Basin Management Plan, and the requirements of any Natura sites in the area.
- 6.2.10 In relation to Traffic and Transportation the plan requires the submission of traffic impact assessments for key sites to ensure that these impacts are fully assessed and mitigated as appropriate, at the project stage.

#### **Ecological Baseline Study for Main Towns in West Cork Municipal District**

6.2.11 Habitat Mapping for the West Cork Towns is currently being prepared but was not complete in time to fully inform the preparation of the Draft Plan. Once complete any recommendations arising from the work will be considered at the amendment stage of the plan making process and can be integrated it to the plan, as appropriate, at that stage.

# **Evaluation of the Objectives of the Draft Local Area Plan**

Table 6.1: Ev	aluation of	Draft Wo	est Cork M	lunicipal D	istrict Local Area Pla	an Objectives
Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
Section 1 Intr	oduction					
IN-01	EPO 1,2,3,4, 5,7,9,10 ,11.			EPO 6, 8.	No change required	
GB 1-1	EPO 1,2,3,5, 7,10, 11.			EPO 4,6,8 and 9.	No change required	
GB 1-2	EPO 1,2,3,5, 7,10, 11.			EPO 3,4 6, 8 and 9.	No change required	
Section 2 Loca	al Area Strate	gy				
LAS-01	EPO 3,5,7,8, 9,10,11.			EPO 1, 2, 4, 6.	No change required	
Section 3 Mai	in Towns		1			
Clonakilty						
CK GO-01	EPO 1,2, 10,11.	EPO 3,5.		EPO 4,6,7,8, 9.	Addition of a new objective.	V
CK GO-02	EPO 1,2,3,5, 10,11.			EPO 4,6,7,8, 9.	No change required	
CK GO-03	EPO 1,2,3,5, 10,11.			EPO 4,6,8,9.	No change required	
CK GO-04	EPO 3,4,5.			EPO 1,2,6,7, 8,9,10, 11.	No change required	
CK GO-05	EPO 1,3,4,5, 8,9.			EPO 2,6,7,10 11.	No change required	
CK GO-06	EPO 1,8,9			EPO 2,3,4,5, 6,7,10,	No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
				11.		
CK GO-07	EPO 1,2,4, 10.			EPO 3,5,6,7, 8,9,11.	No change required	
CK GO-08,	EPO 1,2, 10.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9,11	No change required	
CK GO-09	EPO 1,2.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9,10 11	No change required	
CK GO-10	EPO 1,2, 10.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9,11	No change required	
Specific Develo	oment Obje	ctives				
CK R-01 to R- 18, I-01, B-01 to B-02 and C-01	EPO 1,2, 10.			EPO 3, 4,5,6,7, 8,9,11.	No change required	
CK T-01	EPO 1,2,7,10			EPO 3,4,5,6, 8,9,11.	No change required	
CK T-02 to T- 03	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9.	No change required	
CK O-01 to O- 03	EPO 1, 2,3,4,6, 7,8,9,10			EPO 5, EPO 11,	No change required	
Bantry						
BT GO-01	EPO 1,2,10, 11			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9.	No change required	
BT GO-02,G0- 04, GO-05,GO- 06,GO-07,GO- 08,GO-09,GO- 10	EPO 1, 2,3,4,5, 6,7,8,9, 10,11.				No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
BT GO-03	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9,11	No change required	
Specific Develop	ment Obje	ctives				L
BT R-01 to R- 14, B-02 to B- 05, T-02, X-01	EPO 1,2, 10.			EPO 3, 4,5,6,7, 8,9,11.	No change required	
BT I-01,B-01,X- 02	EPO 1,2,10, 11.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9.	No change required	
BT T-01	EPO 1,2,7,10 11.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 8,9.	No change required	
BT C-01,C-02	EPO 1,2.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9,10 11.	No change required	
BT U-01, U-08	EPO 1,2.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9,10 11.	No change required	
BT U-02 to U- 07	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9,11	No change required	
BT O-01, O-07	EPO 1,2,3,4, 6,7,8,9, 10,11.			EPO 5.	No change required	
BT O-02 to O- 06, O-08, O- 09.	EPO 1,2,3,4, 6,7,8,9, 10.			EPO 5,11.	No change required	
Skibbereen						
SK GO-01	EPO 1, EPO 2, EPO 10 EPO 11.	EPO 3, EPO 5.		EPO 4, EPO 6, EPO 7, EPO 8, EPO 9.	Addition of a new objective.	<b>√</b>

Table 6.1: Eva	luation of	Draft We	est Cork M	unicipal D	istrict Local Area Pla	an Objectives
Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
SK GO-02	EPO 1			EPO 1	No change required	
SK GO-03	EPO 1,2,3,4, 5,10.			EPO 6,7,8,9, 11.	No change required	
SK GO-04, GO- 05 and GO-10	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9,11	No change required	
SK GO-06	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,11.	No change required	
SK GO-07	EPO 1,2,7,8, 9,10,11.			EPO 3,4,5,6.	No change required	
SK GO-08 to GO-09	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,11.	No change required	
SK GO-11	EPO 1 to 11.				No change required	
Specific Develo	pment Obje	ctives				
SK R-01 to R- 21 B-02 to B- 05, X-01 and C-01	EPO 1,2, 10.			EPO 3, 4,5,6,7, 8,9,11.	No change required	
SK B-01, T-01	EPO 1,2, 10,11.			EPO 3, 4,5,6,7, 8,9.	No change required	
SK U-01	EPO 1,2,3,4, 5,6,7,10			EPO 8,9,11.	No change required	
SK U-02	EPO 1,2.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9,10 11.	No change required	
SK U-03	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9,11	No change required	
SK O-02 to O- 03, O-05 to O-	EPO 1,2,3,4, 6,7,8,9,			EPO 5.	No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
12	10,11.					
SK O-01 and O-04	EPO 1,2,3,4, 6,7,8,9, 10,11.			EPO 5.	No change required	
Dunmanway						
DY GO-01	EPO 1, EPO 2, EPO 10 EPO 11.	EPO 3, EPO 5.		EPO 4, EPO 6, EPO 7, EPO 8, EPO 9.	Addition of a new objective.	V
DY GO-02, DY GO-03	EPO 2,3,5.			EPO 1,4,6,7, 8,9,10, 11.	No change required	
DY GO-04	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,9,11	No change required	
DY GO-05	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10,			EPO 3,4,5,6, 7,8,11.	No change required	
Specific Develop	ment Obje	ctives				
DY R-01 to R- 14, B-02, T-02, X-01	EPO 1,2, 10.			EPO 3, 4,5,6,7, 8,9,11.	No change required	
DY R-12 (2011 Bantry EA LAP)	EPO 1,2, 10.	EPO 11.		EPO 3, to 9.	Delete this objective	V
DY I-01	EPO 1,2, 10.			EPO 3, 4,5,6,7, 8,9,11.	No change required	
DY B-01	EPO 1,2, 10,11.			EPO 3 to 9.	No change required	
DY T-01	EPO 1,2,7 10,11.			EPO 3 to 6 and 8,9.	No change required	
DY U-01, U-02	EPO 1,2,			EPO 3 to	No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
	10.			9, 11.		
DY U-03, U-04	EPO 1,2.			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
DY O-01, O-03 to O-10.	EPO 1 to 4, 6 to 11.			EPO 5	No change required	
DY O-02	EPO 1 to 11.				No change required	
Castletownbere						
CR GO-01	EPO 1, EPO 2, EPO 10 EPO 11.	EPO 3, EPO 5.		EPO 4, EPO 6, EPO 7, EPO 8, EPO 9.	Addition of a new objective.	V
CR GO-02	EPO 1 to 5, 7,10			EPO 6,8,9,11	No change required	
CR GO-03	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4, 6 to 11.	No change required	
CR GO-04	EPO 1,2,7,10 11			EPO 3 to 6, 8,9.	No change required	
CR GO-05, GO- 06	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
Specific Develop	oment Obje	ctives				
CR R-01 to R- 06 B-01 to B- 03 T-02, U-01 to U-07	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
CR T-01	EPO 1,2,7,10 11.			EPO 3 to 6, 8,9.	No change required	
CR I-01, X-01	EPO 1,2,10,1 1			EPO 3 to 9.	No change required	
CR U-10	EPO 1 to 5, 10 to 11			EPO 1 to 11	No change required	

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Table 6.1: Eval	uation of	Draft We	st Cork M	unicipal D	istrict Local Area Pla	n Objectives
Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
CR U-08, U-09, U-11	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
CR O-01	EPO 1 to 4, 6 to 11			EPO 5	No change required	
CR O-02, O-03	EPO 1 to 11			EPO 1 to 11	No change required	
Schull						
SC GO-01	EPO 1, EPO 2, EPO 10 EPO 11.	EPO 3, EPO 5.		EPO 4, EPO 6, EPO 7, EPO 8, EPO 9.	Addition of a new objective.	V
SC GO-02	EPO 1,2,3,5, 7,10.			EPO 4,6,8,9, 11.	No change required	
SC GO-03	EPO 1 to 5, 7, 10.			EPO 6, 8,9,11.	No change required	
SC GO-04	EPO 2,3,5.			EPO 1,4,6 to 11.	No change required	
SC GO-05	EPO 1,2,7,10			EPO 3 to 6, 8,9,11.	No change required	
SC GO-06, GO- 08	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
SC GO-07	EPO 1,2.			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
Specific Develop	ment Obje	ctives				
SC R-01 to R- 07, I-01, B-01 to B-03, T-02, C-01, U-01 to SC U-04	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
SC T-01	EPO 1,2,7,10			EPO 3 to 6, 8,9,11	No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
SC O-01 to O- 04	EPO 5 and 11.			EPO 1 to 4 and 6 to 10.	No change required	
Section 4 Key V	illages		1	1		
GO-01	EPO 1,2,3,5, 10,11.			EPO 4, 6 to 9.	No change required	
Ballydehob	1		1	1		1
DB-01, DB-02, X-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	
DB-04 to DB- 07	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11	No change required	
O-01	EPO 1 to 11				No change required	
<u>Baltimore</u>						1
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11	No change required	
DB-04	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11	No change required	
O-01 to O-03	EPO 1 to 11.				No change required	
U-01, U-04, X- 01 to X-03	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
U-02, U-03	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 9, 10,11	No change required	
Courtmacsherry						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	

Table 6.1: Eval	uation of	Draft We	est Cork M	unicipal D	istrict Local Area Pla	n Objectives
Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
DB-02	EPO 1 to 10.			EPO 11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 2,3,5.			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required	
DB-04	EPO 1,2.			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
O-01 to O-05	EPO 1 to 10.			EPO 11	No change required	
U-01	EPO 1,2.			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
Drimoleague				l		
DB-01, B-01, B-02 and X-01	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
<u>Durrus</u>				L		
DB-01, DB-02, X-01	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1,10.			EPO 2 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-04, DB-05, DB-06	EPO 1,2.			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
DB-07, DB-08	EPO 1, 10.			EPO 2 to 9, 11.	No change required	
U-01, U-04	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
U-02, U-03, U- 05	EPO 1,2.			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
O-01, O-02	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
Glengarriff				ı		
DB-01, DB-02, DB-07, X-01, X-02 (New),	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	

Table 6.1: Eval	uation of	Draft We	est Cork M	unicipal D	istrict Local Area Pla	an Objectives
Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
DB-03	EPO 1.			EPO 2 to 11.	No change required	
DB-04	EPO 1,2,4,5, 8,9,10.			EPO 3,6,7,11	No change required	
DB-05, DB-08, DB-09	EPO 1,2.			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
DB-06	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
DB-10	EPO 1, 10			EPO 2 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-11	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4, 6 to 11.	No change required	
DB-12	EPO 1,2,5			EPO 3,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required	
O-01, O-02, O-03	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
O-04	EPO 1, 10			EPO 2 to 9, 11.	No change required	
U-01	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
U-02	EPO 1 to 6 and 8 to 10.			EPO 7, 11	No change required	
X-02 (2011 Bantry EA LAP)	EPO 1,2,10.	EPO 11		EPO 3 to 9.	Delete this objective	V
Leap						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
Rosscarbery						
DB-01	EPO			EPO 3 to	No change required	

Table 6.1: Eva	luation of	Draft We	est Cork M	unicipal D	istrict Local Area Pla	n Objectives
Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
	1,2,10.			9, 11.		
DB-02 and O- 01 to O-04	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
U-01	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11	No change required	
Timoleague						
DB-01, B-01	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4,6 to 11	No change required	
O-01, O-02	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
U-01	EPO 1,2.			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
U-02	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
Union Hall	<u>'</u>			1		1
DB-01, DB-03, B-01, X-01, U- 01	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
DB-04	EPO 1, 8,9,10			EPO 2 to 7, 11.	No change required	
Section 5 West	Cork Island	Commur	nities			
GO-01	EPO 1,2,3,5, 10, 11.			EPO 4, 6,7,8,9.	No change required	
Bere Island						
GDO-01, GDO- 05, GDO-09.	EPO 1,2,10.			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
GD0-02	EPO 1,8			EPO 2 to	No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
				7 and 9 to 11		
GDO-03	EPO 8,9			EPO 1 to 7 and 10,11	No change required	
GDO-04	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required	
GDO-06	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
GDO-07, GDO- 08	EPO 1,10			EPO 2 to 9 and 11.	No change required	
GDO-10	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
GDO-11	EPO 1,8,9			EPO 2 to 7 and 10,11	No change required	
Dursey Island						
GDO-01, GDO- 06	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
GDO-02	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10			EPO 3 to 7, 11.	No change required	
GDO-03	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
GDO-04	EPO 4,10			EPO 1 to 3, 5 to 9 and 11.	No change required	
GDO-05	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required	
Heir island						
GDO-01	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
GDO-02	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10			EPO 3 to 7, 11.	No change required	
GDO-03, GDO- 04, GDO-06	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
GDO-05	EPO 1,8,9,10			EPO 2 to 7, and 11.	No change required	
Long Island	L		l	<u>I</u>		
GDO-01	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required	
GDO-02	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10			EPO 3 to 7, 11.	No change required	
GDO-03, GDO- 05, GDO-06	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
GDO-04	EPO 1,8,9,10			EPO 2 to 7, and 11.	No change required	
Oileain Chleire	L		l	<u>I</u>		
GDO-01, GDO- 02, GDO-05	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
GDO-03, GDO- 06, GDO-08, GDO-10, GDO- 13, GDO-15	EPO 1,10			EPO 2 to 9 and 11.	No change required	
GDO-04	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required	
GDO-07, GDO- 16	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
GDO-09	EPO 1 to 5 and 10			EPO 6 to 9 and 11	No change required	
GDO-11, GDO- 14	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
GDO-12	EPO 1,8,9			EPO 2 to 7 and 10,11	No change required	
<u>Sherkin</u>	l			l		
GDO-01, GDO- 03, GDO-04, GDO-11, GDO- 15	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
GDO-02	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required	
GDO-05, GDO- 06, GDO-13, GDO-17, GDO- 18	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
GDO-07, GDO- 14	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	
GDO-08	EPO 1,10			EPO 2 to 9 and 11.	No change required	
GDO-09	EPO 1,8			EPO 2 to 7 and 9 to 11	No change required	
GDO-10	EPO 1 to 5 and 10			EPO 6 to 9 and 11	No change required	
GDO-12	EPO 1, 8,9.			EPO 2 to 7 and 10,11.	No change required	
GDO-16	EPO 1,11			EPO 2 to 9 and 11	No change required	
Whiddy						
GDO-01, GDO- 02	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
			d Other Loc			

Ohiostivos	Positive	Negati	Uncertai	Neutral	SEA	LAP Response
Objectives	(+)	ve (-)	n (?)	(Ne)	Recommendation	LAP Response
GO-01	EPO 1,2,3,5, 10,11			EPO 4 and 6 to 9.	No change required	
<u>Ahakista</u>			L	<u>I</u>		
DB-01, DB-06	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1,2,3,8, 9.			EPO 4 to 7,and 10,11.	No change required	
DB-04, DB-05	EPO 1,2,8,9.			EPO 3, to 7,10,11.	No change required	
O-01, O-02	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11.	No change required	
B-01	EPO 1,10			EPO 2 to 9, 11.	No change required	
Allihies						
DB-01	EPO 1,2, 10,11.	EPO 3, EPO 5.		EPO 4,6, 7, 8, 9.	Addition of a new objective.	√
DB-02	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10			EPO 3 to 7, 11.	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1,2,4,8, 9,10			EPO 3,5,6,7, 11.	No change required	
DB-04, DB-07, X-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-05, DB-08	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
DB-06	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
DB-09, DB-10	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1, 4, and 6 to 11.	No change required	
O-01	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11.	No change required	
U-01	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
<u>Ardfield</u>	l		1	ı		
DB-01, DB-02, DB-03	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-04	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10			EPO 3 to 7, 11.	No change required	
Ardgroom						
DB-01	EPO 1,2, 10, 11.	EPO 3,5.		EPO 4,6,7,8, 9.	Addition of a new objective.	√
Ballinascarthy						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	
Ballingurteen			1			
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	
Ballylickey						
DB-01, DB-03, U-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,2,4 and 10			EPO 3, 5 to 9 and 11	No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
DB-04	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10			EPO 3 to 7, 11.	No change required	
DB-05	EPO 1,2,4,8, 9,10			EPO 3, 5,6,7 and 11	No change required	
DB-06	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
O-01	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
U-02	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
U-03	EPO 1 to 5 and 10			EPO 6 to 9 and 11	No change required	
Ballynacarriga	1					
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
0-01	EPO 1 to 11				No change required	
Butlerstown	·					
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 and 10,11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1,8,9			EPO 2 to 7 and 10,11.	No change required	
<u>Cappeen</u>				1		
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	

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Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
DB-02	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	
Castletownkenr	eigh					
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	
Castletownshen	d		1	1		1
DB-01, DB-03	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10			EPO 3 to 7, 11.	No change required	
DB-04, O-01	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11.	No change required	
U-01	EPO 1 to 5 and 10			EPO 6 to 9 and 11	No change required	
Clogagh				l		
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,8,9,10			EPO 2 to 8 and 11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1,			EPO 2 to 11.	No change required	
Crookhaven				I		
DB-01, DB-02, DB-03, DB-04	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-05	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1, 4, and 6 to 11.	No change required	
Drinagh						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
DB-02	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
Eyeries						
DB-01, DB-03, DB-06	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11	No change required	
DB-04	EPO 1,8,9,10			EPO 2 to 7 and 11	No change required	
DB-05	EPO 1,2,4,8, 9,10			EPO 3,5,6,7 and 11	No change required	
0-01	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
O-02	EPO 1 to 11				No change required	
<u>Glandore</u>						
DB-01, DB-04, X-01, U-01,U- 02	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,8,9,10			EPO 2 to 7 and 11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
0-01	EPO 1 to 11				No change required	
Goleen						
DB-01, DB-03, DB-04, DB-09, X-01, U-01.	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,2,4,8,			EPO 3,	No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
	9,10			5,6,7,11		
DB-05	EPO 1,8,9,10			EPO 2 to 7 and 11	No change required	
DB-06, DB-07	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11	No change required	
DB-08	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11	No change required	
<u>Kealkill</u>						
DB-01, U-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	
DB-03, DB-04,	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10			EPO 3 to 7 and 11	No change required	
DB-05	EPO 1,2,4,8, 9,10			EPO 3, 5 to 7 and 11.	No change required	
O-01, O-02	EPO 1 to 11				No change required	
Kilcrohane	1					
DB-01, DB-02, DB-03, DB-04 and U-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-05	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
DB-06	EPO 1,8,9,10			EPO 2 to 7, 11.	No change required	
DB-07	EPO 1,2,4 and 8,9,10			EPO 3 and 5,6,7 and 11.	No change required	

Table 6.1: Eva	luation of	Draft We	est Cork M	unicipal D	istrict Local Area Pla	n Objectives
Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
Kilmichael						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	
Lissavard						
DB-01, X-01, U-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11.	No change required	
Rathbarry						
DB-01, DB-03	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10			EPO 3 to 7 and 11.	No change required	
DB-04	EPO 2,3 and 5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required	
O-01	EPO 1 to 11				No change required	
Reenascreena						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	
Ring						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10			EPO 3 to 7 and 11.	No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
DB-03	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
DB-04	EPO 2,3 and 5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required	
Rossmore					,	
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1, and 8 to 10			EPO 2 to 7 and 11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	
Shannonvale				l		
DB-01, X-01, E-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11.	No change required	
0-01	EPO 1 to 11				No change required	
U-01, U-02	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
Teerelton	-					
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 and 10,11.	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	
Village Nuclei						
GO-01	EPO 1,2,3,5 and 7 to			EPO 4, 6	No change required	

Objectives	Positive	Negati	Uncertai	Neutral	SEA	LAP Response
	(+)	ve (-)	n (?)	(Ne)	Recommendation	
	11					
Abbeystrowry	<u>′</u>					
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8, 10,11	No change required	
<u>Adrigole</u>						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 9, 10,11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 9, 10,11	No change required	
DB-04	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8, 10,11	No change required	
Caheragh		·	•	1		
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required	
Church Cross						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required	
Coononagh						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 2			EPO 1 and 3 to	No change required	

Objectives	Positive	Negati	Uncertai	Neutral	SEA	LAP Response
Objectives	(+)	ve (-)	n (?)	(Ne)	Recommendation	LAP Response
				11		
DB-03	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required	
Coomhola						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required	
Dromore						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required	
Drombeg		l				
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required	
Johnstown						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1,			EPO 2 to 11	No change required	
Kilcoe						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required	
Lislevane						
DB-01	EPO			EPO 3 to	No change required	

Table 6.1: Evaluation of Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan Objectives							
Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response	
	1,2,10			9, 11			
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required		
Lowertown							
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9,11	No change required		
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required		
DB-03	EPO 2			EPO 1 and 3 to 11	No change required		
DB-04	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11	No change required		
Lyre							
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required		
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required		
Pearsons Bridge							
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required		
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required		
Rathmore							
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required		
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required		
Rossmackowen	/ Waterfall						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required		
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to	No change required		

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
				8 ,10,11		
Togher						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required	
Toormore				1		1
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to 8 ,10,11	No change required	
<u>Urhan</u>						1
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1 and 9			EPO 2 to 8 and 10,11	No change required	
Other Locatio	ns		<u>'</u>			
GO-01	EPO 1 to 5 and 7 to 11			EPO 6	No change required	
Ardnageehy B	eg			1		1
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1,8,9,10			EPO 2 to 7 and 11	No change required	
Ballinglanna						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1 to			EPO 11	No change required	

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Table 6.1: Evaluation of Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan Objectives							
Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response	
	10						
Barleycove							
DB-01	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required		
DB-02	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required		
X-01	EPO 1			EPO 2 to 11	No change required		
X-02	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11	No change required		
Darkwood							
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required		
DB-02	EPO 1,8,9,10			EPO 2 to 7 and 11	No change required		
Inchydoney							
GO-01	EPO 1,8,9			EPO 2 to 7 and 10,11	No change required		
GO-02, GO-03	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11	No change required		
GO-04, GO-07	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required		
GO-05	EPO 1,4,5,6, 9			EPO 2,3,7,8, 10,11.	No change required		
GO-06	EPO 1,2,7			EPO 3 to 6 and 8 to 11	No change required		
GO-08	EPO 3,4,5,7, 9,11			EPO 1,2,6,8, 10	No change required		

Table 6.1: Evaluation of Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan Objectives						
Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
GO-09, GO-10, GO-11, GO-12, GO-14, GO-15	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
GO-13	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11	No change required	
0-01	EPO 1 to 11				No change required	
0-02	EPO 1 to 11				No change required	
O-03	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
U-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11	No change required	
<u>Lisbealad</u>						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 9			EPO 1 to 8 and 10,11	No change required	
Ownahinchy	l			l		1
DB-01	EPO 1,8,9,10			EPO 2 to 7, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11.	No change required	
DB-03, DB-05, DB-07	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
DB-04	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-06	EPO 1 to 11				No change required	
DB-08	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1,4 and 6 to 11.	No change required	
X-01, X-02, X-03	EPO 1,9			EPO 2 to	No change required	

Objectives	Positive (+)	Negati ve (-)	Uncertai n (?)	Neutral (Ne)	SEA Recommendation	LAP Response
				8, 10,11.		
X-04	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11.	No change required	
0-01	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11.	No change required	
U-01, U-02	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
Poundlick						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,10			EPO 3 to 9, 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 9			EPO 1 to 8 and 10,11	No change required	
Tragumna						
DB-01	EPO 1,2,8,9, 10			EPO 3 to 7 and 11.	No change required	
DB-02	EPO 1 to 10			EPO 11	No change required	
DB-03	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11	No change required	
DB-04	EPO 2,3,5			EPO 1, 4 and 6 to 11.	No change required	
X-01	EPO 1,2			EPO 3 to 11	No change required	

# 6.3 Mitigation/Recommended Changes

- 6.3.1 This section will outline the mitigation measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of the Municipal District arising from the implementation of the LAP. This section seeks to tie together the SEA process. Environmental issues have been identified in Section 3 and the impact of the plan is outlined in Section 6, as a result of this analysis and in light of the SEA process, certain mitigation measures have been identified.
- 6.3.2 Mitigation involves ameliorating significant negative effects. Where the environmental assessment identifies significant adverse effects, consideration is given in the first instance to preventing such impacts or where this is not possible to lessening or offsetting those effects. Mitigation measures can be generally divided into those that:
  - Avoid effects,
  - Reduce the magnitude or extent, probability and/or severity of effect,
  - · Repair effects after they have occurred,
  - Compensate for effects, by balancing out negative impacts with positive ones.

#### Mitigation measures could include:

- The choice of an alternative, with less significant environmental effect,
- The addition of policies to the plan to reduce likely impacts from other policies,
- Refining policy/objective wording,
- Adding new policy criteria,
- Creating Supplementary Planning Guidance to add more detail to the Plan.
- 6.3.3 The following issues were identified and recommended mitigation measures were proposed:

#### Issue One - The Correlation between Sustainable Population Growth and the provision of Infrastructure,

In the Municipal District the towns in particular have been allocated substantial target growths. However, in many instances water services infrastructure is at over capacity or reaching capacity and there is no provision/indication made for how the infrastructure will be provided to secure the sustainable population growth on the towns.

#### **Mitigation Measures - Recommendations**

Where appropriate, include a general objective, which sets out a clear strategy of how a settlement can meet the provision of appropriate and sustainable water and wastewater infrastructure in order to secure the sustainable population growth and supporting development proposed.

#### Issue Two - Flood Risk

In the Municipal District, there is a number of existing land-use zonings which are zoned for development and have now been shown to be significantly at risk of flooding.

#### **Mitigation Measures - Recommendations**

Delete the affected zonings and apply a more appropriate water compatible land use zoning objective.

# **Section 7: Monitoring and Next Steps**

Sub-Section

- 7.1 Introduction
- 7.2 Next Steps
- 7.3 How to make a Submission

# 7 Monitoring and Next Steps

# 7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 The SEA Directive requires that the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans are monitored in order to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action. Monitoring can also be used to analyse whether the Local Area Plan is achieving its environmental protection objectives and targets, whether such objectives need to be re-examined and whether the proposed mitigation measures are being implemented.
- 7.1.2 Section 4 identifies the Strategic Environmental Protection Objectives used in the assessment of the Draft Plan. The Section also identifies a number of indicators that will be used to assess the environmental Impact of implementing the plan. In addition to the indicators set out in this Section, the evaluation of the plan also sets out additional indicators that can be used to monitor the impacts of the plan. A completed list of indicators that will be used to monitor the predicted environmental impacts of implementing the plan will be set out in the Environmental Statement that will be prepared in the final stages of the SEA process.

# 7.2 Next Steps

7.2.1 This Environmental Report forms a key element of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). However, the preparation of the environmental report does not bring the SEA process to an end. The SEA process should continue from the time the environmental report is completed through to the time Cork County Council monitors the implementation of the Municipal District Local Area Plan and will act as an important reference point for the continuing SEA of all policies, plans, strategies and programmes carried out by the Council.

Table 6 1: General	Overview of the	Process after the	<b>Environmental Report</b>
Table 6.1: General	Overview of the	Process after the	Environmental Report

- A Preparing the Environmental Report
- B Consulting on the Environmental Report and Draft Local Area Plan
- C Response of Consultation Authorities and the Public
- D Taking Account of Consultation Opinion
- E Adopting Local Area Plan
- F Providing Information
- G Monitoring plan

#### **Preparing the Environmental Report**

7.2.2 This Environmental Report has been produced to comply with the requirements of the Guidance for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities on the Implementation of the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC). The Baseline analysis outlined the current state of the environment and was prepared using the most up to date information from a wide variety of state agencies. The evaluation of the plan as set out in Section 6, identifies a number of concerns with policies as they are presented in the draft plan and has suggested a number of changes that should be incorporated into the Draft Local Area Plan before publication.

# Consulting on the Environmental Report and the Draft Plan

7.2.3 Consultation is an important element of the SEA process. The Environmental Report will be part of the consultation exercise for the Draft Municipal District Local Area Plan. Consultation will be carried out with a range of statutory bodies, including the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the public. As well as having an opportunity to comment on the Draft Plan, these bodies will have an opportunity to comment on the content of the environmental report and the overall SEA process.

# Taking account of the consultation opinion

7.2.4 It is recognised that the opinion expressed through the public consultation exercise can be very useful in improving the quality of the plan being prepared. In order to track these changes, the consultation exercise will aim to include documentation of all the comments and the changes made.

# **Adopting Plan**

7.2.5 The overriding aim of the SEA process is to improve the quality of the Draft Municipal District Local Area Plan and to ensure that it protects the environment; it is important that the relevant findings in the environmental report and any outcomes from the consultation process are incorporated into the plan before its adoption.

# **Providing information**

- 7.2.6 Once the Draft Municipal District Local Area Plan is adopted a number of post-adoption steps are required to conclude the SEA process. The essence of this stage is to provide information regarding the difference the SEA process has made to the plan. This will involve the publication of an Environmental Statement which will specify: -
  - How environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan;
  - How the environmental report has been taken into account;
  - How opinions expressed during various consultations have been taken into account;
  - The reasons for choosing the plan as adopted in the light of other reasonable alternatives;
     and
  - Measures to monitor significant environmental effects.

# **Monitor Plan**

7.2.7 Once the plan is adopted and the necessary information is provided, the County Council will seek to monitor the significant environmental effects identified through the SEA process. The detail of the monitoring process will be included in the environmental statement. The framework for monitoring used in the environmental report /statement will be used to identify unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage so that, if necessary, the appropriate remedial action can be undertaken.

#### 7.3 How to make a Submission

- 7.3.1 The Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan is available from the Council website at www.corkcoco.ie. If required, a hard copy of the document may be inspected between the hours of 9.30 a.m. and 4.00p.m, from Wednesday 16th November 2016 to Friday 06th January 2017 at the following locations:
  - Planning Department, Floor 1, County Hall, and Cork.
  - Planning Department, Norton House, Skibbereen, Co. Cork.
  - Cork County Council Offices, Mallow.
  - Public Libraries Please check libraries regarding opening times and availability.
- 7.3.2 CD copies of the documents may be requested by phone (Tel: 021-4285900) or collected from the Planning Department, Floor 1, County Hall between the hours of 9.30am and 4.00pm during the above period.
- 7.3.3 Submissions or observations regarding the Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan document are hereby invited from members of the public, children, or groups or associations representing the interests of children and other interested parties during the period Wednesday 16th November 2016 to 4pm on Friday 06th January 2017.
- 7.3.4 Submissions may be made in either of the following two ways:
  - On-line via www.corkcoco.ie following the instructions provided
     OR
  - In written form to the Senior Planner, Planning Policy Unit, Cork County Council, Floor 13, County Hall, Cork. T12R2NC.
- 7.3.5 All such submissions lodged within the above period and prior to the close of business at 4.00pm on Friday 06th January 2017, will be taken into consideration in the finalisation of the West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan.

# **Section 8: Non Technical Summary**

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- 8.2 The Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan
- 8.3 Environmental Baseline
- 8.4 Environmental Protection Objectives
- 8.5 Alternatives
- 8.6 Evaluation of the Draft Local Area Plan
- 8.7 Monitoring

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# 8 Non Technical Summary

# 8.1 Introduction

- 8.1.1 This is the non technical summary of the Environmental Report of the Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan 2016, Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The purpose of this summary report is to provide a clear synopsis of the overall findings of the SEA process in relation to the Draft Amendment and outline the key likely environmental consequences of policies and objectives. Correspondingly, the findings of each chapter are dealt with below.
- 8.1.2 The SEA is being carried out in order to comply with the provisions of the SEA Regulations and in order to improve the planning and environmental management of the area. This report should be read in conjunction with the Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan 2016. A Strategic Environmental Assessment is an important mechanism in promoting sustainable development and in raising awareness of significant environmental issues and in ensuring that such issues are addressed within the capacity of the planning system. It seeks to inform the decision making process before a decision is made to adopt the draft plan.

# 8.2 The Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan

- 8.2.1 In accordance with the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, a planning authority may at any time, and for any particular area within its functional area, prepare a local area plan in respect of that area.
- 8.2.2 The current series of Local Area Plans were adopted in 2011 and must be replaced by end of July 2017. On the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015 the Council commenced a review by publishing a Preliminary Consultation Document for each of the 8 Municipal Districts and placing notices in the press to advise the public of the commencement of a 6 week period of public consultation. Submissions received were considered and included in a Chief Executive's Report to the Elected Members of the Council in April 2016. This was followed up by a series of briefing sessions to allow for consultation with members on issues raised and what needed to be addressed in the Draft Plan.

# 8.3 Environmental Baseline

- 8.3.1 This section of the Environmental Report summarises the environmental baseline in the Municipal District. The baseline assessment methodology contains the following steps:
  - Description of the current state of the environment,
  - The primary environmental issues of relevance to the Plan,
  - The characteristics of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the Plan,
  - The evolution of the environment in the absence of the Plan,
  - The interaction between environmental topics.

- 8.3.2 The baseline has been compiled using all available datasets and in conjunction with indicators suggested during scoping. The main sources of data used in the compilation of this baseline were (amongst others):
  - Scoping Responses from the Environmental Authorities,
  - Existing databases such as the EPA, Cork County Council and the (CSO),
  - Information supplied by Cork County Council during the SEA scoping stage.
- 8.3.3 The characteristics of the existing environment are described under the following headings:
  - Biodiversity/Flora and Fauna,
  - Soil and Geology,
  - Water Resources,
  - Air and Climate,
  - Cultural Heritage including Architectural and Archaeological Heritage,
  - Landscape.
- 8.3.4 There are also a number of maps included in this section to highlight the baseline environment of the area, the majority of which indicate the existing situation for the environmental issues identified above. A cumulative sensitivity map at the Municipal District level has also been provided as effects cannot be considered in isolation.

# 8.4 Environmental Protection Objectives

8.4.1 This section aims to identify the relevant Environmental Protection Objectives (EPOs). SEA objectives are used to help show whether the objectives of the plan are beneficial for the environment, to compare the environmental effects of alternatives, or to suggest improvements. The Environmental Protection Objectives set out in this section are set out under a range of topics and are used as the standards against which the future development scenarios, strategic aims, strategic principles and development objectives of the plan can be evaluated, to help to identify areas in which significant adverse impacts are likely to occur, if unmitigated.

# 8.5 Alternatives

8.5.1 The following section identifies and describes the alternative scenarios considered during the drafting process of the Draft Local Area Plan. Article 5 of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive requires the Environmental Report to consider "reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan. The alternative population growth scenarios that were considered included an employment-focused approach; a public transport focused approach and a balanced approach and the preferred scenario from an environmental perspective is provided. Mitigation measures which attempt to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the environment of implementing the preferred alternative are identified in this chapter where applicable.

#### 8.6 Evaluation of the Draft Local Area Plan

8.6.1 This chapter outlines in a tabular form the likely positive and negative impacts of the Local Area Plan policies on the EPO objectives detailed in Section 4. It is considered that the majority of the policies will either improve the state of the EPO or else are unlikely to interact with them adversely. However, a certain amount of policies are more likely to have either an uncertain or negative impact and in these cases it is recommended that mitigation objectives be included so as to minimise damage to the relevant EPO.

#### **Recommended Changes**

8.6.2 This section will outline the possible mitigation measures or changes envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment, identified in Section 5 arising from the implementation of the Plan and as such seeks to tie together the SEA process. As a result of this analysis and in light of the SEA process, certain mitigation measures have been identified although, in general, it is considered that where potential conflict or uncertainty has been demonstrated, adequate compensatory objectives are proposed that will seek to negate any potential significant impacts from proposed policies.

# 8.7 Monitoring

8.7.1 The SEA Directive requires that the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans are monitored in order to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action. Monitoring can also be used to analyse whether the Strategy is achieving its environmental protection objectives and targets, whether such objectives need to be re-examined and whether the proposed mitigation measures are being implemented.

# **Appendices**

Appendix A: Sample Settlement Enhancement Measures

16<sup>th</sup> November 2016

### **Settlement Enhancement Measures**

A sample of potential measures for enhancing the sustainability of these settlements is set out in Table D1 below. The key areas where the Plan can deliver enhanced sustainability outcomes are in the areas of transportation and Water and wastewater. The Plan's transportation policies now place a strong emphasis on modal shift targets to sustainable forms of movement especially prioritising walking and cycling for shorter trips and better access to public transport within the towns. A number of towns scored poorly in terms of settlement walkability and recommendations are made to undertake a movement audit at these locations. The audit of the pedestrian and cycling environment of the town should focus on improving the quality, safety, connectivity and attractiveness of the movement network within the town together with a complementary set of traffic calming and parking measures.

The provision of good quality public transport provision is inherently linked to density within the service catchment of an operator. Most of the County is starting from a low public transport base but a revised approach to density in the Plan should make the delivery of a more extensive high frequency bus service viable within the Metropolitan area where the largest proportion of the target growth is allocated. The integration of public transport services is also a key consideration at some locations to encourage modal shift together with the provision of stops at convenient locations. The delivery of these enhancement measures will help increase a modal shift to green travel modes and should consequently reduce car based commuting and associated CO2 emissions.

The Plan has identified the infrastructure status of all the main settlements allocated growth within the County. Where deficiencies have been identified the Plan has specified that development may only proceed where appropriate infrastructure is available which satisfies the environmental regulations and complies with EPA licensing. Water conservation is also identified as a key priority area of investment in the Plan and a number of Category 3 settlements in North Cork have been identified with significant water leakage issues. While investment in these deficiencies will be outside the scope of the Council, the Plan will not exacerbate the existing situation.

**Table D1: Sample Sustainability Enhancement Measures** 

Town	SDI score	L	ivability	Infrastructu	re & Location		Water & Wastewate	er	Populatio Fo	n & Urban rm	Transport &	Energy
		Provide public park	Local employment opportunities	Improve infrastructure Capacity	Provision of recycling facilities	Improve water quality	Compliance with Urban wastewater treatment	Water conservation measures	Address Housing Vacancy	Increase pop density	Improve walking & cycling network	Improve public transport
Ballincollig	1											Х
Blarney	1										X	
Carrigaline	1			X								Х
Carrigtwohill	1					Х	X				X	Х
Midleton	1			X	X	Х			Х		X	
Cobh	1		X	X	X			X			X	Х
Bandon	1	Х	X								Х	Х
Mallow	1		X				X			Х	X	Х
Glanmire	1				X		X				Х	Х
Bantry	1	Х		X								Х
Clonakilty	2		X	X			X					Х
Kinsale	2				X						Х	Х
Fermoy	2					Х						Х
Passage West	2			X	X						Х	Х
Macroom	2			X					Х	Х		
Buttevant	2		Х	X					Х	Х		
Schull	2			X					Х	Х		
Mitchelstown	2		Х	X				Х				
Charleville	3		X						Х	Х	X	Х
Newmarket	3			X								Х
Skibbereen	3			X						Х		
Youghal	3		Х									Х
Dunmanway	3			Х			Х	Х	Х	Х		Х
Castletownbere	3	Х		Х			Х			Х		
Millstreet	3	Х		X				Х				
Kanturk	3		Х	X			Х	Х	Х	Х		

# Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan 2016

**Strategic Flood Risk Assessment** 

16<sup>th</sup> November 2016

#### How to make a Submission

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November 2016 to Friday 06th January 2017 at the following locations:

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OR

• In written form to the Senior Planner, Planning Policy Unit, Cork County Council, Floor 13, County Hall, Cork. T12R2NC.

All such submissions lodged within the above period and prior to the close of business at <u>4.00pm on Friday 6th January 2017</u>, will be taken into consideration in the finalisation of the West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan.

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Cork County Council

**Planning Policy Unit** 

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#### Section 1 Introduction

#### 1.1 Scope

- 1.1.1 This Strategic Flood Risk Assessment of the Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan 2016 has been prepared in accordance, in so far as is practicable, with 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management: Guidelines for Planning Authorities', published in November 2009 by the DEHLG and the OPW, and having specific regard to the areas, within the settlements of this Municipal District, that have been identified as being at risk of flooding.
- 1.1.2 This report sets out how the Flood Risk Assessment was undertaken, as well as how its findings were addressed and integrated into the Draft Local Area Plan. The report should be read in conjunction with the West Cork Municipal District Draft Local Area Plan, and the associated maps.

## 1.2 Report Structure

- 1.2.1 Section 2 of this report provides a brief introduction to the West Cork Municipal District, identifying the settlement hierarchy and the key population and household growth targets for the respective categories of settlement with the settlement hierarchy.
- 1.2.2 Section 3 examines the main sources of flood risk within the Municipal District and recent flood events.
- 1.2.3 Section 4 examines how the issue of managing flood risk was addressed in the review of the Local Area Plan and outlines the main provisions of the flood risk management strategy.
- 1.2.4 Section 5 sets out what this assessment has achieved in terms of managing the adverse effects of flooding within the West Cork Municipal District. It also identifies how information on flood risk will be reviewed and monitored over the lifetime of the plan.

#### 1.3 The Planning System and Flood Risk

1.3.1 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management: Guidelines for Planning Authorities', published in November 2009, describe flooding as a natural process that can occur at any time and in a wide variety of locations. Flooding can often be beneficial and many habitats rely on periodic inundation. However, when flooding interacts with human development, it can threaten people, their property and the environment. Flooding may be from rivers, the sea, groundwater, sewers or overland flow caused by intense or prolonged periods of rainfall. Climate change effects suggest that the frequency and severity of flooding is likely to increase in the

future.

- 1.3.2 The Guidelines describe good flood risk practice in planning and development management and seek to integrate flood risk management into the planning process, thereby assisting in the delivery of sustainable development. Planning Authorities are directed to have regard to the Guidelines in the preparation of Development Plans and Local Area Plans, and for development management purposes. For this to be achieved, flood risk must be assessed as early as possible in the planning process.
- 1.3.3 Paragraph 1.6 of the Guidelines states that the core objectives are to:
  - avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding;
  - avoid new developments increasing flood risk elsewhere, including that which may arise from surface run-off;
  - ensure effective management of residual risks for development permitted in floodplains;
  - avoid unnecessary restriction of national, regional or local economic and social growth;
  - · improve the understanding of flood risk among relevant stakeholders; and
  - ensure that the requirements of EU and national law in relation to the natural environment and nature conservation are complied with at all stages of flood risk management".
- 1.3.4 The Guidelines aim to facilitate 'the transparent consideration of flood risk at all levels of the planning process, ensuring a consistency of approach throughout the country. The Guidelines work on a number of key principles, including:
  - Adopting a staged and hierarchical approach to the assessment of flood risk;
  - Adopting a sequential approach to the management of flood risk, based on the frequency of flooding (identified through Flood Zones) and the vulnerability of the proposed land use.

#### 1.4 Definition of Flood Risk

- 1.4.1 Prior to discussing the management of flood risk, it is helpful to understand what is meant by the term. It is also important to define the components of flood risk in order to apply the principles of the Guidelines in a consistent manner.
- 1.4.2 Flood risk is generally accepted to be a combination of the likelihood of flooding and the potential consequences arising, and is normally expressed in terms of the following relationship:

#### Flood risk = Probability of flooding x Consequences of flooding

- 1.4.3 Likelihood of flooding is normally defined as the percentage probability of a flood of a given severity occurring in any given year. For example, a 1% probability indicates the severity of a flood that is expected to be exceeded on average once in 100 years, i.e. it has a 1 in 100 chance of occurring in any given year.
- 1.4.4 In the Local Area Plan, flood risks are defined in relation to the following zones;
  - **Flood Zone A**: where the probability of flooding from rivers and the sea is highest (greater than 1% or 1 in 100 for river flooding or 0.5% or 1 in 200 for coastal flooding);
  - Flood Zone B: where the probability of flooding from rivers and the sea is moderate (between 0.1% or 1 in 1000 and 1% or 1 in 100 for river flooding or between 0.1% or 1 in 1000 and 0.5% or 1 in 200 for coastal flooding);
  - Elsewhere, sometimes referred to as Zone C, the probability of flooding from rivers and the sea is low (less than 0.1% or 1 in 1000 for both river and coastal flooding). This zone covers all areas of the Plan which are not in zones A or B.
- 1.4.5 Consequences of flooding depend on the hazards caused by flooding (depth of water, speed of flow, rate of onset, duration, wave-action effects, water quality) and the vulnerability of receptors (type of development, nature, e.g. age-structure, of the population, presence and reliability of mitigation measures etc).
- 1.4.6 The 'Planning System and Flood Risk Management: Guidelines for Planning Authorities', provides three vulnerability categories, based on the type of development, detailed in Table 3.1 of the Guidelines, and are summarised as:
  - <u>Highly vulnerable</u>, including residential properties, essential infrastructure and emergency service facilities;
  - <u>Less vulnerable</u>, such as retail and commercial and local transport infrastructure
  - <u>Water compatible</u>, including open space, outdoor recreation and associated essential facilities, such as changing rooms.

## Section 2 Local Study Area

#### 2.1 Introduction: The West Cork Municipal District

- 2.1.1 The West Municipal District lies entirely within the West Strategic Planning area as defined in the County Development Plan 2014. It is a predominantly rural Municipal District that accommodates an extensive network of settlements as follows:
  - Six Main Settlements comprising Bantry, Castletownbere, Clonakilty, Dunmanway, Schull and Skibbereen.
  - **Ten Key Villages** comprising Baltimore, Ballydehob, Courtmacsherry, Drimoleague, Durrus, Glengarriff, Leap, Rosscarbery, Timoleague, Union Hall.
  - Seven West Cork Island Communities comprising Bere Island, Dursey Island, Heir Island, Long Island, Oilean Chleire, Sherkin Island, Whiddy Island.
  - Twenty Eight Villages comprising Allihies, Ahakista, Ardfield, Ardgroom, Ballinascarthy Ballingurteen, Ballylickey, Ballynacarriga, Butlerstown, Cappeen, Castletownkenneigh, Castletownshend, Clogagh, Crookhaven, Drinagh, Eyeries, Glandore, Goleen, Kealkill, Kilcrohane, Kilmichael, Lissavard, Rathbarry (Castlefreke) Reenascreena, Ring, Rossmore, Shannonvale Teerelton.
  - Nineteen Village Nuclei comprising Abbeystrowry, Adrigole, Caheragh, Church Cross, Connonagh, Coomhola, Drombeg, Dromore, Johnstown, Kilcoe, Lislevane, Lowertown, Lyre, Pearson's Bridge, Rathmore, Rossmackowen/ Waterfall, Togher, Toormore, Urhan.
  - **Nine Other Locations** comprising Ardnageehy Beg, Ballinglanna, Barleycove, Darkwood, Inchydoney, Lisbealad, Ownahinchy, Poundlick, Tragumna.



# 2.2 Population and Household Growth

e 2:1 Housing requiremanth West மேர் மூர்விக்கிரிக்கிரும் strict the County Plan provides for growth in

	Housing	Requirement	5 5, 5,55 <b>1</b> be		umber of housef	Housing Sup		
	Census 2011	Population Target 2022	Total New Households 2011-2022	New Units Required 2011-2022	Net Estimated Requirement (ha)	Est. Net Residential area zoned in LAP / TCP (ha)	Estimated Housing Yield (LAPs and TCPs)(Units)	n rity hich llage
try	3,348	5,484	1,080	1,241	69	103.85	1,393	
letownbere	912	1,439	271	309	17	37.75	443	n
akilty	4,721	7,218	1,309	1,500	83	94.53	1,600	om o
manway	1,585	1,976	254	273	15	36.84	593	
ıll	658	748	75	87	5	12.60	205	Iso
bereen	2,670	3,035	306	332	18	75.33	1,300	
n Towns	13,894	19,900	3,295	3,741	208	360.90	5,534	
iges	10,793	14,867	2,314	2,531	-	-	1,944	
al	31,843	28,713	542	623	-	-	-	
al Villages & al	42,636	43,581	2,856	3,155	-	-	1,944	
al for rict	56,530	63,481	6,151	6,896	208	360.90	7,478	

ent Estimated Strategic Land Reserve (LAPs and TCPs) for this Municipal District is 153 Ha

rce: Cork County Development Plan 2014- Appendix B, Table B 11

#### **Flood Risk Assessment**

	Table 2.2. West Cork Municipal District						
	Housing F	Requirement				Housing Sup	ply
	Census 2011	Population Target	Total New Households	New Units Required	Net Estimated Requirement (ha)	Est. Net Residential area zoned in LAP / TCP (ha)	Estimated Housing Yield (LAPs and TCPs) (Units)
Total Villages & Rural	42,636	43,581	2,856	3,155			1,944
Total for District	56,530	63,481	6,151	6,896	208	360.90	7,478

Current Estimated Strategic Land Reserve (LAPs and TCPs) for this Municipal District is 154 Ha

Source: Extract from Cork County Development Plan 2014- Appendix B, Table B 13

#### 2.3 Environment and Heritage

- 2.3.1 European and National Legislation now protect the most valuable of our remaining wild places, through designation of sites as proposed Natural Heritage Area, Natural Heritage Areas, candidate Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas. The designation of these sites at a national level is the responsibility of the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment but it is the responsibility of all of us to protect these sites. The process of designation of such sites is ongoing, with new sites being added, redesignated and boundaries of existing sites being adjusted.
- 2.3.2 There are 7 SPAs, 20 SAC's, 6 NHA's and numerous pNHA's dispersed throughout the West Cork MD. The reasons for designation range from ecological, plants, ornithological, woodland, heath, bats and vegetation. In addition, there are two designated Nature Reserves at Lough Hyne (0097) which is both a cSAC and a pNHA and Glengarriff harbour and woodland (0090) which is both a cSAC and a pNHA. There are also designated Refuge for Fauna at Bull Rock and Cow Rock.

Table 2:3 Special Areas of Conservation West Cork MD					
Name	Environmental Designation	Settlement			
Bandon River	cSAC 2171	Dunmanway			
Clonakilty Bay	cSAC 91	Clonakilty; Inchydoney			
Courtmacsherry Estuary	cSAC 1230	Courtmacsherry, Timoleague			
Castletownshend	cSAC 1577	Castletownshend			
Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes	cSAC 1061	Rosscarbery; Castlefreke			
Lough Hyne nature reserves and environs	cSAC 97	Skibbereen; Baltimore; Castletownshend			
Myross Wood	cSAC 1070	Leap			
Barley Cove to Ballyrisode Point	cSAC 1040	Crookhaven			
Caha Mountains	cSAC 93	Glengarriff; Adrigole			
Cleanderry Wood	cSAC 1043	Ardgroom			
Derryclogher Knockboy Bog	cSAC 1873	Bantry			
Dunbeacon Shingle	cSAC 2280	Durrus			
Farranamanagh Lough	cSAC 2189	Kilcrohane			

Glengarriff Harbour and woodland	cSAC 90	Glengarriff
Kenmare River	cSAC 2158	Allihies
Reen Point Shingle	cSAC 2281	Durrus
Roaringwater Bay and Islands	cSAC 101	Ballydehob; Schull
Sheep's Head	cSAC 102	Bantry; Kilcrohane; Ahakista
Three castle Head to Mizen Head	cSAC 109	Crookhaven; Barleycove
Glanmore Bog	cSAC 1879	Ardgroom

Name	<b>Environmental Designation</b>	Settlement
Beara Peninsula	SPA 4155	Castletownbere
Bull and the Cow Rocks	SPA 4066	Allihies
Sheep's Head to Toe Head	SPA 4156	Crookhaven; Baltimore
Galley Head to Duneen point	SPA 4190	Ardfield
Clonakilty Bay	SPA 4081	Clonakilty
Seven Heads	SPA 4191	Courtmacsherry
Courtmacsherry Bay	SPA 4219	Courtmacsherry

Table 2.5 Natural heritage Area	Table 2.5 Natural heritage Areas					
Name	<b>Environmental Designation</b>	Settlement				
Pulleen Harbour Bog	NHA 2416	Castletownbere				
Hungry Hill	NHA 1059	Adrigole				
Trafrask Bog	NHA 2371	Adrigole				
Leahill Bog	NHA 2417	Adrigole; Glengarriff				
Conigar Bog	NHA 2386					
Dereennatra (cutaway) Bog	NHA 2105	Ballydehob				
Barley Cove to Ballyrisode point	pNHA 1040	Crookhaven; Barleycove				
Bull and Cow Rocks	pNHA 80	Allihies				
Caha Mountains	pNHA 93	Glengarriff				
Cappul Bridge	pNHA 1284	Ardgroom				
Carriganass Castle near Kealkill	pNHA 2099	Kealkill				
Cleanderry Wood	pNHA 1043	Ardgroom				
Currakeel	pNHA 1826	Glengarriff				
Dereen Upper Bog	pNHA 1887	Adrigole				
Derryclogher Knockboy Bog	pNHA 1873	Bantry				
Domestic Dwelling	pNHA 2049	Glengarriff				
Dursey Island	pNHA 86	Allihies				
Eyeries Island	pNHA 1050	Eyeries				
Firkeel Gap	pNHA 1051	Allihies				
Garnish Point	pNHA 1986	Allihies				
Glanmore Bog	pNHA 1879	Ardgroom				
Glengarriff (thatched Shooting Lodge in Forest Park)	pNHA 88	Glengarriff				
Glengarriff harbour and woodland	pNHA 0090	Glengarriff				
Kilcatherine Heath	pNHA 593	Ardgroom				

# Flood Risk Assessment

Kilkinnikin	pNHA 1985	Allihies
Lough Namaddra and Lough West	pNHA 1069	Glengarriff
Loughavaul	pNHA 98	Glengarriff
Orthons Island Adrigole Harbour	pNHA 1028	Adrigole
Owens' Island	pNHA 1071	Ahakista
Roancarrigbeg and Roancarrigmore	pNHA 1073	Castletownbere
Roaringwater Bay and Islands	pNHA 101	Ballydehob; Baltimore; Schull
Rossnashunsoge	pNHA 1537	Glengarriff
Sheelane Island	pNHA 1977	Glengarriff
Sheep's Head	pNHA 102	Kilcrohane
Three Castle Head to Mizen Head	pNHA 109	Crookhaven; Barleycove
Trafrask bog	NHA 2371	Adrigole; Trafrask
Trafrask Bog	pNHA 2371	Trafrask
Whiddy Island	pNHA 110	Bantry
Bandon River	pNHA 1035	Dunmanway
Bateman's Lough	pNHA 1037	Clonakilty; Ballinascarthy
Castletownshend (Gate Lodge)	pNHA 84	Castletownshend
Castletownshend	pNHA 1547	Castletownshend
Clonakilty Bay	pNHA 91	Clonakilty
Cloonties Lough	pNHA 1044	Glandore
Courtmacsherry Estuary	pNHA 1230	Timoleague; Courtmacsherry
Dirk Bay	pNHA 1498	Clonakilty
Gallanes Lough	pNHA 1052	Clonakilty
Galley Head to Duneen Point	pNHA 4190	Clonakilty
Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes	pNHA 1061	Castlefreke
Killaneer House Glen	pNHA 1062	Ballineen; Enniskeane

Lough Hyne Reserve and Environs	pNHA 97	Castletownshend; Baltimore
Myross Wood	pNHA 1070	Leap

- 2.3.3 To date, sites of geological interest have not been comprehensively covered by the existing nature conservation designations. Cork County Council recognises the importance of geological heritage and to this end has listed the important geological features within the County, in the County Development Plan 2014, with the intention of maintaining their possible conservation value.
- 2.3.4 In terms of built heritage, there are numerous recorded monuments and protected structures throughout the Municipal District and these are also detailed in the County Development Plan 2014.

#### 2.4 Infrastructure

- 2.4.1 The Cork County Development Plan 2014 has identified improvements to the N71 (Cork Clonakilty Skibbereen Bantry) road as a key regional priority. Other strategic road infrastructural improvements identified in the Municipal District include the R 586 (Bandon to Bantry) and R 572 (Glengarriff to Castletownbere). Public Transport in the Municipal District is limited to bus services.
- 2.4.2 Within the Municipal District, in many cases, the water services infrastructure needed to deliver the 2011 housing targets in the main towns, villages and smaller settlements, is often not in place. In general, the Councils approach to this is that where Irish Water already have water services infrastructure in a town or village, then Irish Water will need to upgrade that infrastructure as necessary to meet the demands of current and future customers in the settlement.

## Section 3 Flood Risk in the West Cork Municipal District

#### 3.1 Sources of Flooding

- 3.2.1 This SFRA has primarily reviewed flood risk from fluvial and coastal sources. Other flood risks from pluvial and groundwater sources or from It also considered flooding from drainage systems, reservoirs and canals and other artificial or man-made systems have not been considered in detail in this study and such risks will need to be assessed at the project stage.
- 3.2.2 This approach has been adopted for two main reasons. Firstly, the review of flooding in the West Cork Municipal District Area shows rivers and coastal flooding to be the most common source of damage. It is these sources of flooding that have been taken account of in the Local Area Plan process. Other sources of flooding are considered to present a lesser risk in this Municipal District Area but should be considered at the planning application stage. Secondly, Flood Zones in the 'Planning System and Flood Risk Management' are defined on the basis of fluvial, and where appropriate, tidal flood risk.

#### 3.2 Fluvial Flooding

- 3.4.1 Flooding of watercourses is associated with the exceedance of channel capacity during higher flows. The process of flooding on watercourses depends on a number of characteristics associated with the catchment including; geographical location and variation in rainfall, steepness of the channel and surrounding floodplain and infiltration and rate of runoff associated with urban and rural catchments. Generally there are two main types of catchments; large and relatively flat or small and steep, the two giving two very different responses during large rainfall events.
- 3.4.2 In a large, relatively flat catchment, flood levels will rise slowly and natural floodplains may remain flooded for several days, acting as the natural regulator of the flow. In small, steep catchments, local intense rainfall can result in the rapid onset of deep and fast-flowing flooding with little warning. Such "flash" flooding, which may only last a few hours, can cause considerable damage and possible threat to life.
- 3.4.3 The form of the floodplain, either natural or urbanised, can influence flooding along watercourses. The location of buildings and roads can significantly influence flood depths and velocities by altering flow directions and reducing the volume of storage within the floodplain. Critical structures such as bridge and culverts can also significantly reduce capacity creating pinch points within the floodplain. These structures are also vulnerable to blockage by natural debris within the channel or by fly tipping and waste.
- 3.4.4 Rivers are the primary cause of flooding; with flood events attributed to fluvial sources ranging from the major rivers, including the River Bandon, the Ilen River, the Argideen, Mealagh River and the Fealge River, to the smaller tributaries, drains and natural lakes.

#### Rivers in the West Cork Municipal District Area.

- 3.4.5 There are a number of rivers which flow through settlements in the MD area which include; Bandon River (Dunmanway, Ballineen / Enniskeane), Ilen River (Skibbereen), Feagle River (Clonakilty), Argideen River, Owenkeagh River, Roury and Ruagagh River and Mealagh River (Bantry).
- 3.4.6 The Bandon River forms to the north of Dunmanway and flows to the east of Dunmanway and its course continues to the south of Ballineen / Enniskeane and to Bandon Town. The River represents a significant flood risk to parts of these settlements in addition to the wider rural area and river floodplain. The Ilen River which forms to the north of Skibbereen and through a series of tributaries which include the Ruagagh and Saivnose flows south to Skibbereen town. The River represents a significant flood risk to parts of Skibbereen town centre. The Feagle River which forms to the west of Clonakilty Town flows on an eastward path through the town and on to Clonakilty Bay. The River represents a significant flood risk to parts of Clonakilty town centre.
- 3.4.7 There are a number of rivers which flow through settlements in the MD area which include; Mealagh River (Bantry), Ovane River (Ballylickey, Pearson's Bridge & Kealkill), Glengarriff, Reenmeen and Dromgarriff Rivers (Glengarriff), Rathruane and Bawnaknocknane Rivers (Ballydehob), Four Mile Water and Ahanegavanagh Rivers (Durrus), Ahakista and Reenacappul Rivers (Ahakista), Ballydonegan River (Allihies), Kealincha River (Eyeries), Owenacappul River (Ardgroom), Coomhola River (Coomhola), Owenashinguan River (Dromore) and Rossmackowen River (Rossmackowen).

#### 3.3 Other Sources of Flooding

- 3.3.1 Other sources of flooding including pluvial, ground water, drainage systems and reservoirs are detailed below. Risks from these sources have not been specifically considered in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment undertaken for the West Cork Municipal District and need to be addressed at the planning application stage.
  - **Pluvial Flooding:** Pluvial flooding is a result of rainfall generated overland flows of water. Flooding of land from surface water runoff is usually caused by intense rainfall that may only last a few hours. The resulting water follows natural valley lines, creating flow paths along roads and through and around developments and ponding in low spots, which often coincide with fluvial floodplains in low lying areas.
  - **Groundwater Flooding:** Groundwater flooding is caused by the emergence of water originating from underground, and is particularly common in karstic landscapes. This can emerge from either point or diffuse locations. The occurrence of groundwater flooding is usually very local and unlike flooding from rivers and the sea, does not generally pose a significant risk to life due to the slow rate at which the water level rises.
  - Flooding from Drainage Systems: Flooding from artificial drainage systems occurs when flow entering a system, such as an urban storm water drainage system, exceeds its discharge capacity, it becomes blocked or it cannot discharge due to a high water level in the receiving

- watercourse. Sewer flooding problems will often be associated with regularly occurring storm events during which sewers and associated infrastructure can become blocked or fail.
- Flooding from Reservoirs, Lakes and other Artificial Sources: Reservoirs
  can be a major source of flood risk, as demonstrated in the 2009 flooding,
  when waters released from the Inniscarra Dam flooded sections of Cork
  City.

#### 3.4 Coastal Flooding

- 3.2.1 Coastal flooding, which is caused by higher sea level than normal, largely as a result of storm surge, resulting in the sea overflowing onto the land. Coastal flooding is influenced by the following three factors;
  - High tide level,
  - Storm surges caused by high winds,
  - Wave action, which is dependent upon wind speed and direction, local topography and exposure.
- 3.2.2 In the Municipal District, the areas of Clonakilty, Baltimore, Courtmacsherry, Timoleague, Rosscarberry, Union Hall, Inchydoney and Ownahinchy, Bantry, Castletownbere, Schull, Ballydehob, Durrus, Glengarriff, the West Cork Islands, Ahakista, Ballylickey, Crookhaven, Goleen, Kealkill, Adrigole and Barleycove are or may be susceptible to tidal flooding due to their coastal locations.

## Section 4 Addressing Flood Risk in the West Cork Local Area Plan

#### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section details the approach to Flood Risk Management adopted in the West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan.

#### 4.2 Collation of Flood Risk Data

- 4.2.1 In 2010, as part of the review of its Local Area Plans, and in order to meet the needs of the Strategic Environmental Assessment process and the requirements of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government / Office of Public Works Guidelines, "The Planning System and Flood Risk Management" (2009), Cork County Council undertook a county wide Strategic Flood Risk Assessment using data prepared on its behalf by JBA Consultants. The Council also conferred with OPW officials, the Lead Agency for Flood Risk Management in Ireland, in completing the county wide assessment of flood risks and in formulating the flood risk management strategy which informed the preparation the 2011 Local Area Plans.
- 4.2.2 For the purposes of the assessment, information about flood risks was collated from a number of sources including:
  - 'Floodmaps.ie' The national flood hazard mapping website operated by the Office of Public Works, where information about past flood events is recorded and made available to the public. 'Flood point' information available on this site has not been included for technical reasons.
  - 'Flood Hazard Mapping' for fluvial and tidal areas commissioned by Cork
    County Council from JBA Consulting. These indicative flood extent maps
    provided flood extent information for river catchments where a more detailed
    CFRAMS study was not available.
  - Draft River Lee Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study (Lee CFRAMS) data was used for areas within the catchment of the study.
- 4.2.3 This data was amalgamated into a single 'Indicative Flood Zone Map' for the County, which was then used as the basis for the flood risk assessment of the 2011 Local Area Plans. The flood zone map showed the areas known to be at risk of fluvial (river) or tidal flooding only. It should be noted that the flood zones are based on an undefended scenario and do not take the presence of flood protection structures such as walls or embankments into account. This is to allow for the fact that there is still a residual risk of flooding behind the defences due to overtopping or breach, and that there may be no guarantee that the defences will be maintained in perpetuity. This is accordance with the requirements of the Guidelines which specify an undefended assessment of risk.
- 4.2.4 In 2016, as part of the further review of the Local Area Plans the Council commissioned an update of the flood zone mapping used in the 2011 to take account of the information that has become available in the intervening period from other flood studies, including the outputs from the National CFRAM Programme (Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management), undertaken by the OPW.

- 4.2.5 The updated flood zone mapping provides information on the three main flood zones as follows:
  - Zone A High probability of flooding. Most areas of the County that are subject to flood risks fall into this category. Here, most types of development would be considered inappropriate. Development in this zone should be avoided and/or only considered in exceptional circumstances, such as in major urban or town centres, or in the case of essential infrastructure that cannot be located elsewhere. A Justification Test set out in Ministerial Guidelines applies to proposals in this zone. Only water-compatible development, such as docks and marinas, dockside activities that require a waterside location, amenity open space, outdoor sports and recreation, would be considered appropriate in this zone.
  - Zone B Moderate probability of flooding. In most parts of the County this designation applies only to limited areas of land. In only a few locations do significant sites fall into this category. Here, highly vulnerable development, such as hospitals, residential care homes, Garda, fire and ambulance stations, dwelling houses and primary strategic transport and utilities infrastructure, would generally be considered inappropriate. Less vulnerable development, such as retail, commercial and industrial uses, sites used for short-let for caravans and camping and secondary strategic transport and utilities infrastructure, should only be considered in this zone if adequate sites are not available in Zone C, and subject to a flood risk assessment demonstrating that the risk can be appropriately managed".
  - **Elsewhere** (referred to in the Guidelines as Flood Zone C) Localised flooding from sources other than rivers and the coast can still occur and may need to be taken into account at the planning application stage.
- 4.2.6 Extracts from the flood zone map are shown, where relevant, on the settlement maps included in the Local Area Plan. The maps are indicative in nature and are intended to primarily function as a screening tool. The areas at risk may be more or less extensive in practice than indicated in the flood mapping. The mapping may be refined where possible over time as other more detailed flood risk assessments are completed by the OPW.
- 4.2.7 Within areas not specifically identified by the plan as being at risk of fluvial or tidal flooding (i.e. within Zone C) a flood risk screening assessment may still be required to assess potential impact of development on adjoining Flood Zones A or B, particularly with respect to surface water management. An assessment of the risk of other sources of flooding such as pluvial or ground water flooding may also be needed.
- 4.2.8 The inclusion of the flood zone information on the settlement maps of the Municipal District is the first step in managing flood risk in the future. The updated mapping provides for an improved understanding of flood risk issues within the County. The maps indicate the extent of flood zones that should be safeguarded from development and will support the application of the sequential approach, and the justification test as appropriate, in areas where development is proposed.

4.2.9 As part of the review of the Local Area Plans, all zoned lands in areas at risk of flooding have been considered in the context of the updated indicative flood zone maps.

# 4.3 Flood Risk within the West Cork Municipal District

4.3.1 Flood risk to each settlement has been appraised based on the Indicative Flood Zones which cross the settlement boundary, and is summarised in Table 4.1.

Settlement	Indicative Fluvial/Coastal Flood Risk within Development Boundary	Comment
Main Settlements	,	
Clonakilty	Yes	All development proposals within the
Bantry	Yes	Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk
Skibbereen	Yes	assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e.
Dunmanway	Yes	<ul> <li>verification of Indicative Flood Zone</li> <li>mapping, compliance with the</li> <li>requirements of the Development</li> </ul>
Castletownbere	Yes	Plan Justification Test, and detailed
Schull	Yes	site specific assessment, as appropriate.
Key Villages		
Ballydehob	Yes	
Baltimore	Yes	
Courtmacsherry	Yes	<ul> <li>All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk</li> </ul>
Drimoleague	Yes	assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e.
Durrus	Yes	verification of Indicative Flood Zone
Glengarriff	Yes	<ul> <li>mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development</li> <li>Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate.</li> </ul>
Leap	Yes	
Rosscarberry	Yes	
Timoleague	Yes	
Union Hall	Yes	

Table 4.1: Flood Risk by Settlement in the West Cork Municipal District		
Settlement	Indicative Fluvial/Coastal Flood Risk within Development Boundary	Comment
Bere Island	Yes	All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need
Dursey Island	Yes	to comply with the flood risk assessment procedure detailed in
Heir Island	Yes	Section 4.6 of this report i.e.  verification of Indicative Flood Zone
Long Island	Yes	mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development
Oileán Chléire	Yes	Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as
Sherkin Island	Yes	appropriate.
Whiddy Island	Yes	
Villages		
Ahakista	Yes	All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate.
Allihies	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. See
Ardfield Village	No	Paragraph 4.2.7 regarding the need for further assessment.
Ardgroom	Yes	All development proposals within the
Ballylickey	Yes	Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk
Ballynacarriga	Yes	assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e.
Ballinascarthy	Yes	<ul> <li>verification of Indicative Flood Zone mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate.</li> </ul>
Ballingurteen	Yes	
Butlerstown	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. See Paragraph 4.2.7 regarding the need

Table 4.1: Flood Risk by Settlement in the West Cork Municipal District		
Settlement	Indicative Fluvial/Coastal Flood Risk within Development Boundary	Comment
		for further assessment.
Cappeen	Yes	All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate.
Castletownkenneigh	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. See Paragraph 4.2.7 regarding the need for further assessment.
Castletownshend	Yes	All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate.
Clogagh	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. See Paragraph 4.2.7 regarding the need for further assessment.
Crookhaven	Yes	All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as

Table 4.1: Flood Risk by Settlement in the West Cork Municipal District		
Settlement	Indicative Fluvial/Coastal Flood Risk within Development Boundary	Comment
		appropriate.
Drinagh	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. See Paragraph 4.2.7 regarding the need for further assessment.
Eyeries	Yes	All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need
Glandore	Yes	to comply with the flood risk  assessment procedure detailed in
Goleen	Yes	Section 4.6 of this report i.e.  verification of Indicative Flood Zone
Kealkill	Yes	mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development
Kilcrohane	Yes	Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as
Kilmichael	Yes	appropriate.
Lissavard	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. See Paragraph 4.2.7 regarding the need for further assessment.
Rathbarry (Castlefreke)	Yes	All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate.
Reenascreena	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. See Paragraph 4.2.7.regarding the need for further assessment.
Ring	Yes	All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development

Table 4.1: Flood Risk by Settlement in the West Cork Municipal District		
Settlement	Indicative Fluvial/Coastal Flood Risk within Development Boundary	Comment
		Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate.
Rossmore	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. See Paragraph 4.2.7 regarding the need for further assessment.
Shannonvale	Yes	All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk assessment procedure detailed in
Teerelton	Yes	<ul> <li>Section 4.6 of this report i.e.     verification of Indicative Flood Zone     mapping, compliance with the     requirements of the Development     Plan Justification Test, and detailed     site specific assessment, as     appropriate.</li> </ul>
Village Nuclei		
Abbeystrowry	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. See Paragraph 4.2.7 regarding the need for further assessment.
Adrigole	Yes	All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate.
Caheragh	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. Se Paragraph 4.2.7 regarding the need for further assessment.
Church Cross	No	
Connonagh	Yes	All development proposals within the

Table 4.1: Flood Risk by Settlement in the West Cork Municipal District		
Settlement	Indicative Fluvial/Coastal Flood Risk within Development Boundary	Comment
Coomhola	Yes	Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate.
Drombeg	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. See Paragraph 4.2.7 regarding the need for further assessment.
Dromore	Yes	All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate.
Johnstown	No	
Kilcoe	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. See
Lislevane	No	Paragraph 4.2.7 regarding the need for further assessment.
Lowertown	No	— for further assessment.
Lyre	No	
Pearson's Bridge	Yes	All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate.

Table 4.1: Flood Risk by Settlement in the West Cork Municipal District		
Settlement	Indicative Fluvial/Coastal Flood Risk within Development Boundary	Comment
Rathmore	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. See Paragraph 4.2.7 regarding the need
Rossmackowen/Waterfall	No	
Togher	No	for further assessment.
Toormore	No	
Urhan	No	
Other Locations		
Ardnageehy Beg	Yes	All development proposals within the
Ballinglanna	Yes	Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk
BarleyCove	Yes	assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e.
Darkwood	Yes	werification of Indicative Flood Zone mapping, compliance with the
Inchydoney	Yes	<ul> <li>requirements of the Development</li> <li>Plan Justification Test, and detailed</li> <li>site specific assessment, as</li> <li>appropriate.</li> </ul>
Lisbealad	Yes	
Ownahinchy	Yes	
Poundlick	No	Indicative Flood Zone Mapping does not indicate a fluvial /coastal risk. See Paragraph 4.2.7 regarding the need for further assessment.
Tragumna	Yes	All development proposals within the Indicative Flood Zone Areas will need to comply with the flood risk assessment procedure detailed in Section 4.6 of this report i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate.

### 4.4 Flood Risk Management Strategy

- 4.4.1 The assessment and management of flood risks in relation to planned future development is an important element of sustainable development. The majority of towns, villages and smaller settlements have a river or stream either running through the built-up area or close by and are inevitably exposed to some degree of flood risk when those rivers or streams overflow their normal course. Similarly, in coastal areas, flooding can periodically occur following unusual weather or tidal events.
- 4.4.2 Generally, the purpose of zoning is to indicate to property owners and members of the public the types of development which the Planning Authority considers most appropriate in each land use category. Zoning is designed to reduce conflicting uses within areas, to protect resources and, in association with phasing, to ensure that land suitable for development is used to the best advantage of the community as a whole.
- 4.4.3 The approach adopted has generally been to
  - Include, on the settlement maps, information on the areas at risk of flooding (extent of Flood Zones A and B),
  - Avoid development in areas at risk of flooding; and
  - Where development in floodplains cannot be avoided, to take a sequential approach to flood risk management based on avoidance, reduction and mitigation of risk.
- 4.4.4 In response to local circumstances, particularly where there may be some uncertainties in relation to flood risk data or where land has been zoned in a previous plan or planning permission has already been granted, the approach has been modified and lands have been zoned for development with a requirement that a detailed site specific flood risk assessment be carried out at the project stage. This is explained in more detail below.

### 4.5 The Approach to Zoning in Areas at Risk of Flooding.

- 4.5.1 Within the areas identified by the Indicative Flood Risk Mapping as being at risk (Zone A or B), all proposals for development will need to comply with the Ministerial Guidelines 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management. In this LAP, land use zoning objectives within the indicative Flood Risk Areas have been included in the plan where either:
  - The land use zoning objective has been considered in the context of the "Development Plan Justification Test" set out in the Ministerial Guidelines;
  - The zoning objective stemmed from a similar objective in a previous Plan and has been included in this Plan in order to facilitate the local verification of the indicative Flood Risk Maps at the project planning/planning application stage.
- 4.5.2 In the preparation of the Draft West Cork Municipal District LAP, proposed zonings were generally assessed relative to the provisions of the Guidelines and the Justification Test for Development Plans as detailed in the Guidelines. The Justification Test is generally required in situations where the planning authority

needs to consider future development in areas at a high or moderate risk of flooding, for uses or development vulnerable to flooding that would otherwise be inappropriate. In such circumstances, all of the following criteria must be satisfied:

- a) the urban settlement is targeted for growth in the NSS, RPGs, or statutory plans defined under the provisions of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.
- b) the zoning is required to achieve the proper planning and sustainable development of an urban settlement and is
  - Essential to facilitate the regeneration and/or expansion of the centre of the urban settlement;
  - o Comprises significant previously developed and/or under-utilised lands;
  - Is within or adjoining the core of an established or designated urban settlement;
  - Will be essential to achieving compact and sustainable urban growth;
     and
  - There are no suitable alternative lands for the particular use in areas at lower risk of flooding within or adjoining the core of the urban settlement.
- c) A flood Risk Assessment to the appropriate level of detail has been carried out as part of the SEA, which demonstrates that flood risk to the development can be adequately managed and the development will not cause adverse impacts elsewhere.
- 4.4.5 In the preparation of the Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Areas Plan the final element of the Justification Test (part (c) above), which requires a site specific flood risk assessment to be carried out, was not undertaken. In some cases, certain zonings were included in areas at risk of flooding, even when such zoning did not pass the Justification Test, as a response to a desire to retain those zonings where planning permission had been granted or where the zoning had already been made in a previous Plan.
- 4.4.6 Instead, the approach taken in the Draft Local Area Plan provides, in the first instance, for the detailed assessment of the extent of the actual flood risk relative to that indicated on the indicative mapping via a phased flood risk assessment procedure. The first stage of this assessment process provides a prospective developer with the opportunity to verify the Indicative Flood Zone Mapping in the first instance, and address any local ambiguities. Depending on the outcome of the verification stage, a prospective developer may then have the opportunity to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test and carry out a detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate. This flood risk assessment process is set out in Chapter 11 of the County Development Plan 2014.
- 4.4.7 Development proposals on lands within areas at risk of flooding will also be subject to the 'Development Management Justification Test', details of which are set out in the Guidelines.

4.4.8 The Table below lists the specific zoned sites within the West Cork Municipal District that are located within either Flood Zone A or B and the circumstances of their inclusion.

тable 4.2: Spec	таble 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or В				
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment	
Clonakilty	CK R-09	Justification Test	Not Applied		
		Existing Zonings	✓	Previously zoned for residential use in the 2009 Clonakilty Town Development Plan.	
				Part of this site is subject to flood risk.	
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.	
Clonakilty	CK R-18	Justification Test	Not Applied		
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned for residential and open space use in the 2009 Clonakilty Town Development Plan.	
				A small part of this site is subject to flood risk.	
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e.	

тable 4.2: Spec	таble 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or B					
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment		
				verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.		
Clonakilty	CK I-01	Justification Test	Not Applied			
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned for Industry in the 2011 LAP.		
				A small part of this site is subject to flood risk.		
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan,		

таble 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or В				
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment
				2014.
Clonakilty	CK T-01	Justification Test	Partially Applied	Part three of the test was not completed.
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned as Town Centre in the Clonakilty Town Development Plan 2009.
				Lands are substantially at risk of flooding.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Clonakilty	CK T-02	Justification Test	Partially Applied	Part three of the test was not completed.
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned as Town Centre in the Clonakilty Town Development Plan 2009.
				Lands are substantially at risk of flooding.  A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e.

Table 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or B					
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment	
				verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.	
Bantry	BT R-01	Justification Test	Not Applied	-	
		Existing Zonings	<b>✓</b>	Previously zoned for residential use in the 2005 and 2011 LAP's.	
				Only a small part of this site is subject to flood risk.	
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan,	

тable 4.2: Spe	Table 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or B					
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment		
				2014.		
Bantry	BT R-04	Justification Test	Not Applied	-		
		Existing Zonings		Previously zoned for residential use in the 2005 and 2011 LAP's.  Only a small part of this site is subject to flood risk.  A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.		
Bantry	BT R-05	Justification Test	Not Applied	-		
		Existing Zonings	✓	Previously zoned for residential use in the 2011 LAP.		
				Only a small part of this site is subject to flood risk.		
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements		

таble 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or B				
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment
				of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Bantry	BT R-07	Justification Test	Not Applied	-
		Existing Zonings		Previously zoned for residential use in the 2011 LAP. Only a small part of this site is subject to flood risk. A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
		Other	n/a	-

таble 4.2: Spe	Table 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or B				
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment	
Bantry	BT T-01	Justification Test	Partially Applied	Part three of the test was not completed.	
		Existing Zonings	<b>✓</b>	Previously zoned as Town Centre in the 2005 and 2011 LAP's.	
				Part of this site is subject to flood risk.	
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.	
Bantry	BT T-02	Justification Test	Partially Applied	Part three of the test was not completed.	
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned as Town Centre in the 2005 and 2011 LAP's.	
				Only a small portion of this site is subject to flood risk.	
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements	

Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment
				of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Bantry	BT X-02	Justification Test	Not applied	-
		Existing Zonings	<b>✓</b>	Previously zoned as a Special Policy Area in the 2011 LAP's.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Castletownbere	CR R-04	Justification Test	Not applied	-
		Existing Zonings	✓	Previously zoned as Residential in the 2005

тable 4.2: Spec	таble 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or В				
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment	
				and 2011 LAP's.	
				Only a small portion of this site is subject to flood risk.	
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.	
Castletownbere	CR R-06	Justification Test	Not applied	-	
		Existing Zonings	✓	Previously zoned as Residential in the 2005 and 2011 LAP's. Only a small portion of	
				this site is subject to flood risk.	
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with	

тable 4.2: Spec	Table 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or B				
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment	
				Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.	
Castletownbere	CR I-01	Justification Test	Not applied		
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned as Industry in the 2005 and 2011 LAP's.	
				Only a part of this site is subject to flood risk.	
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.	
Castletownbere	CR T-01	Justification Test	Partially Applied	Part three of the test was not completed.	
		Existing Zonings	<b>✓</b>	Previously zoned as Town Centre in the 2005 and 2011 LAP's.	
				Only a part of this site	

таble 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or В				
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment
				is subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Castletownbere	CR X-01	Justification Test	Not Applied	-
		Existing Zonings		Previously zoned as a Special Policy Area in the 2011 LAP's. Only a small part of this site is subject to flood risk. A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1

Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment
				of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Castletownbere	CR C-01	Justification Test	Not Applied	-
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned for Community Use in the 2011 LAP's.
				Only a small part of this site is subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Castletownbere	CR U-10	Justification Test	Not Applied	-
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned for Infrastructure and Utilities Use in the 2011 LAP's.
				Only a small part of this site is subject to flood risk.

тable 4.2: Spec	Table 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or B				
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment	
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.	
Schull	SC T-01	Justification Test	Partially Applied	Part three of the test was not completed.	
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned as Town Centre in the 2005 and 2011 LAP's.	
				Part of this site is subject to flood risk.	
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan,	

тable 4.2: Spec	Table 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or B					
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test & Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in LAP	Comment		
				2014.		
Schull	SC T-02	Justification Test	Partially Applied	Part three of the test was not completed.		
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned as Town Centre in the 2011 LAP's.		
				Only a part of this site is subject to flood risk.		
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.		

Table 4.2: Spe	cific land l	Jse Zonings loca	ted within Flo	od Zone A or B
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test and Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in the LAP	Comment
Dunmanway	DY R-06	Justification Test	Not Applied	
		Existing Zonings	<b>✓</b>	Previously zoned as Residential in the 200s and 2011 LAP's.
				Only a small part of this site is subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Dunmanway	DY B-01	Justification Test	Not Applied	
		Existing Zonings	✓	Previously zoned for Industry in the 2005 LAP and Business in the 2011 LAP.
				Only a small part of this site is subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific

Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test and Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in the LAP	Comment
				assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Dunmanway	DY B-02	Justification Test	Not Applied	
		Existing Zonings	✓	Previously zoned for Industry in the 2005 LAP and Business in the 2011 LAP.  Only a small part of this site is subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Dunmanway	DY I-01	Justification Test	Not Applied	_
		Existing Zonings	✓	Previously zoned for Industry in the 2005 LAP and Industry in the 2011 LAP.

Table 4.2: Spec	cific land L	Jse Zonings loca	ted within Flo	od Zone A or B
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test and Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in the LAP	Comment
				Part of this site is subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Dunmanway	DY T-01	Justification Test	Partially Applied	Part three of the test was not completed.
		Existing Zonings	•	Previously zoned as Town Centre in the 2005 and 2011 LAP's.  A small portion of this site is subject to flood risk.  A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.

Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test and Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in the LAP	Comment
Skibbereen	SK R-04	Justification Test	X	
		Existing Zonings	<b>✓</b>	Previously zoned Residential in the 2011 LAP.
				Only a small portion of this site is subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014
Skibbereen	SK R-05	Justification Test	Х	
		Existing Zonings	Х	
		Other	<b>✓</b>	Only a small portion of this site is subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements o the Development Plan Justification Test, and

Skibbereen  SK I-01  Justification Test  Existing Zonings  Previously zoned Industry in the 2005 ar 2011 LAP's.  Part of this site is subjet to flood risk.  A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zon Mapping, compliance with the requirements the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Core County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the County Development Plan Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Chap	Table 4.2: Spec	cific land L	Jse Zonings loca	ted within Flo	od Zone A or B
assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 201  Skibbereen  SK I-01  Justification Test  Existing Zonings  ✓  Previously zoned Industry in the 2005 ar 2011 LAP's.  Part of this site is subjet to flood risk.  A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verificatio of Indicative Flood Zon Mapping, compliance with the requirements the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the control of	Settlement		Plan Justification Test and Other Assessment	Inclusion in the	Comment
Existing Zonings  ✓  Previously zoned Industry in the 2005 ar 2011 LAP's.  Part of this site is subjet to flood risk.  A site specific flood risl assessment will be required i.e. verificatio of Indicative Flood Zon Mapping, compliance with the requirements the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the previously zoned Industry in the 2005 ar 2011 LAP's.  Previously zoned Industry in the 2005 ar 2011 LAP's.  Previously zoned Industry in the 2005 ar 2011 LAP's.					assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of
Industry in the 2005 ar 2011 LAP's.  Part of this site is subjet to flood risk.  A site specific flood rist assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zon Mapping, compliance with the requirements the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of 2011 and 2011	Skibbereen	SK I-01		Not Applied	
to flood risk.  A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zon Mapping, compliance with the requirements the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the control o			Existing Zonings	<b>✓</b>	Industry in the 2005 and
assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zon Mapping, compliance with the requirements the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the control					Part of this site is subject to flood risk.
Development Plan, 201					required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and
Skibbereen SK I-02 Justification Not Applied - Test -	Skibbereen	SK I-02		Not Applied	-
2011 LAP's.			Existing Zonings	<b>✓</b>	Industry in the 2005 and 2011 LAP's.
to flood risk.					
assessment will be					A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification

Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test and Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in the LAP	Comment
				of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Skibbereen	SK T-01	Justification Test	Partially Applied	Part three of the test was not completed.
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned as Town Centre in the Skibbereen Town Development Plan 2009.
				Lands are substantially at risk of flooding.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Baltimore	X-01	Justification Test	Х	-

Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test and Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in the LAP	Comment
		Existing Zonings		Previously zoned as 'Special Development Area' / 'Special Policy Area in the 2005 and 2011 LAPs. Part of this site is subject to flood risk.  A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Baltimore	X-02	Justification Test	Х	-
		Existing Zonings	<b>✓</b>	Previously zoned as 'Special Development Area' / 'Special Policy Area in the 2005 and 2011 LAPs. Part of this site is subject to flood risk.  A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in

Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test and Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in the LAP	Comment
				Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014
Baltimore	X-03	Justification Test	Х	-
		Existing Zonings	✓	Previously zoned as 'Special Development Area' / 'Special Policy Area in the 2005 and 2011 LAPs. Part of this site is subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014
Timoleague	B-01	Justification Test	X	-
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned for Industry in the 2005 LAP and Business in the 2011 LAP. A small part of this site is subject to flood risk.

Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test and Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in the LAP	Comment
				assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
		Other	n/a	-
Ahakista	B-01	Justification Test	Х	-
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned for Business (marine related development) in the 2011 LAP.  This site is subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
l				

Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test and Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in the LAP	Comment
		Test		
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned as a Special Policy Area in the 2011 LAP.
				Large parts of this site are subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014
Shannonvale	X-01	Justification Test	X	-
		Existing Zonings	<b>✓</b>	Previously zoned as a Special Policy Area in the 2011 LAP.
				Large parts of this site are subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as

Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test and Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in the LAP	Comment
				appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Barleycove	X-01	Justification Test	Х	-
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned as a Special Policy Area in the 2011 LAP.
				A small portion of this site is subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Barleycove	X-02	Justification Test	X	-
		Existing Zonings	<b>~</b>	Previously zoned as a Special Policy Area in the 2011 LAP.
				Parts of this site are subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone

Table 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or B				
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test and Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in the LAP	Comment
				Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Ownahinchy	X-01	Justification Test	Х	-
		Existing Zonings	<b>√</b>	Previously zoned as a Special Policy Area in the 2005 and 2011 LAP's.
				Parts of this site are subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.
Ownahinchy	X-03	Justification Test	Х	-

Table 4.2: Specific land Use Zonings located within Flood Zone A or B				
Settlement	Zoning Objective	Development Plan Justification Test and Other Assessment Criteria	Reason for Inclusion in the LAP	Comment
		Existing Zonings	✓	Previously zoned as a Special Policy Area in the 2005 and 2011 LAP's. Parts of this site are
				subject to flood risk.
				A site specific flood risk assessment will be required i.e. verification of Indicative Flood Zone Mapping, compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan Justification Test, and detailed site specific assessment, as appropriate, in accordance with Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2 as detailed in Chapter 11, Volume 1 of the Cork County Development Plan, 2014.

Note:

Proposals for 'open space or outdoor recreation development have not been included in Table 4.2 because these are normally water compatible forms of development and, therefore, do not need to be subjected to the 'Development Plan' Justification Test. However, an appropriate flood risk assessment will be necessary at the project planning/ planning application stage.

### 4.6 Approach to Development in Areas at Risk of Flooding

4.6.1 Where development is proposed within an area at risk of flooding, either on land that is subject to a specific zoning objective, lands within the "existing built up area" of a town or within a development boundary of a village, intending applicants need to comply with the provisions of Chapter 11 of the Cork County Development Plan 2014 and Objectives WS 6-1 and WS 6-2, as appropriate, and with the provisions of the Ministerial Guidelines – 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management'.

### 4.7 Flood Risk and Development Management

- 4.7.1 The following key requirements for the management of development in areas at risk of flooding shall be adhered to:
  - a) Minor proposals for development, for example small extensions to existing houses or changes of use, in areas at moderate to high risk of flooding should be assessed in accordance with Planning Guidelines: The Planning System and Flood Risk Management.
  - b) Where flood risk constitutes a significant environmental effect of a development proposal, a sub-threshold EIS may be triggered. Screening for EIA should be an integral part of all planning applications in areas at risk of flooding.
  - Any proposal in an area at risk of flooding that is considered acceptable in principle must demonstrate that appropriate mitigation measures can be put in place and that residual risks can be managed to acceptable levels.

    Addressing flood risk in the design of new development should consider the following:
    - Locating development away from areas at risk of flooding, where possible.
    - Substituting more vulnerable land uses with less vulnerable ones.
    - Identifying and protecting land required for current and future flood risk management, such as conveyance routes, flood storage areas and flood protection schemes etc.
    - Addressing the need for effective emergency response planning for flood events in areas of new development.
  - d) Site layout, landscape planning and drainage of new development must be closely integrated to play an effective role in flood-reduction. As such, proposals should clearly indicate:

- The use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) to manage surface water run-off.
- Water conveyancing routes free of barriers such as walls or buildings.
- The signing of floodplain areas to indicate the shared use of the land and to identify safe access routes.
- risks, proposals should demonstrate the use of flood-resistant construction measures that are aimed at preventing water from entering a building and that mitigate the damage floodwater causes to buildings. Alternatively, designs for flood resilient construction may be adopted where it can be demonstrated that entry of floodwater into buildings is preferable to limit damage caused by floodwater and allow relatively quick recovery. Such measures include the design and specification of internal building services and finishes. Further detail on flood resilience and flood resistance are included in the Technical Appendices of the Planning Guidelines, The Planning System and Flood Risk Management.

### Section 5 Managing Flood Risk in the Future

### 5.1 What has the LAP Achieved

5.1.1 The inclusion of Indicative Flood Zone maps for the settlements of the Municipal District is the first step in managing flood risk in the future. The maps are primarily intended to function as a screening tool. They are not a substitute for detailed hydraulic modelling, such as may be required to assess the level of flood risk for a specific development. The flood maps should be used to guide decision making when determining whether a detailed Flood Risk Assessment is required for any given site. The maps are intended for guidance, and cannot provide details for individual properties.

### 5.2 Monitoring and Review

5.3.1 Information in relation to flood risk will be monitored and reviewed by the Council and the Flood Risk Assessment will be updated as appropriate as new information becomes available. There are a number of key outputs from possible future studies and datasets which could inform any update of the FRA as availability allows. A list of potential sources of information which will inform an FRA review is provided in the table below.

Table 5.1 Potential Sources of Flood Risk Data			
Data	Source	Timeframe	
Ongoing CFRAM Studies	OPW	End of 2016 / Early 2017	
County Development Plan Updates	Cork County Council	2020	
Flood maps of other sources, such as canal breach and drainage networks	Various	Unknown	
Significant flood events	Various	Unknown	
Changes to Planning and / or Flood Management Policy	DoEHLG /OPW /Cork County Council	Unknown	
SFRAs for Local Area Plans	Cork County Council	Upon LAP review	
Detailed FRAs	Various	Unknown	
Flood Defence Feasibility / Design Reports	OPW primarily	Unknown	

# Habitats Directive Assessment, Screening Report

## Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan

Habitats Directive Screening Report, Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan

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### 1 Introduction

#### 1.1 Context

Cork County Council is in the process of preparing the West Cork Municipal District Electoral Area Local Area Plan. This is a plan which will set development policy for the towns, villages and other settlements within the West Cork Municipal District until 2023.

In accordance with requirements under the EU Habitats Directive (43/92/EEC) and EU Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) as provided for in part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2010, the impacts of the policies and objectives of all statutory land use plans on certain sites that are designated for the protection of nature (Natura 2000 sites1), 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 or 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.

### 1.2 Legislative Background Habitats Directive Assessment

Habitats Directive Assessment is an iterative process which runs parallel to and informs 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 and zoning proposals set out in the plan 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, programmes, policies or projects.

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 Habitats Directive Reports which are produced for at each stage of the plan making process plan. At the end of the plan making process, an Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement or Screening Conclusion Statement will be produced which will contain a summary of how ecological considerations in relation to Natura 2000 sites have been integrated into the plan. The final Habitats Directive Report and a declaration in relation to the potential for the plan to affect the integrity of Natura 2000 sites within its potential impact zone will also be produced at that time.

<sup>&</sup>lt;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.

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive identifies what is required in terms of assessment of plans of projects.

# 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.

EU and National Guidance sets out 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 contained 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.

The directive provides for a derogation procedure which can allow a plan or project to proceed in spite of a finding that the plan or project could / would give rise to adverse effects on the overall integrity of one or more Natura 2000 sites. Derogation procedures can only be progressed in very limited circumstances which are set out in Article 6(4) of the Directive (see below).

# 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.

EU and National Guidance identifies the procedures which must be followed in circumstances where a derogation from the Habitats Directive is sought to allow a project or a plan to proceed, despite a finding that it will give rise to adverse effects on the integrity of one or more Natura 2000 sites. These procedures can only been invoked where it has been shown that there are no alternative ways to implement the plan/project which avoid adverse effects on the integrity of one or more European sites, where it has been demonstrated that there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest for which the plan/project must proceed and where measures have been developed and provided to compensate for any losses to be incurred. These further stages are described 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 and that there Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest (IROPI) which can allow the plan or project to proceed. 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. The fourth stage of the Habitats Directive Assessment process involves demonstrating that Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest exist, and the assessment of the compensatory measures which are proposed to be implemented. In every case in which a local authority envisages approving or proceeding with a plan or project on grounds of IROPI, the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht must be consulted.

The assessment may stop at any of the above stages if significant impacts on Natura 2000 sites can be ruled out.

This document represents the first phase of the Habitats Directive Assessment process for the **Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan – Consultation Draft**. It contains the findings of the Habitats Directive screening assessment of this plan.

# 2 How this Report Was Prepared

# 2.1 Working Methods

The approach taken in the making of this assessment follows European Communities, Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites, Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, 2002, and on Local Government and Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland, Guidance for Planning Authorities, 2009.

# 2.2 Consultation

This report, with the **Draft West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan** and the **Environmental Report** has been referred to statutory consultees and is available for public consultation from **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2016 to Friday 06<sup>th</sup> January 2017**, so that the public or other interested stakeholders and statutory consultees have the opportunity to submit their comments and observations. These matters will then be considered and a decision made as to whether it is necessary to amend the draft plan to reflect the issues raised. The plan and this report are now available from the Council website at www.corkcoco.ie.

# 2.3 Data Sources, Gaps and Limitations

The information contained in this report is based on a desktop review of information relating to these sites and to the habitats and species that they support. References and data used are cited in the back of this report.

# 3 Draft Plan Screening

# 3.1 Screening Methodology

EU Guidelines (2001) set out a process for screening landuse plans, which involves four main steps as follows:

- Provide a description of the proposed plan.
- Identify relevant Natura 2000 sites, and compile information on their qualifying interests and conservation objectives.
- Identify the potential effects of the plan on the identified Natura 2000 sites.
- Assess of the significance of any effects on identified Natura 2000 sites, having regard to potential for 'in combination' effects.

This process is applied to all proposed plans or projects except those which are directly connected with the necessary management of a Natura 2000 site or sites. This report follows the steps set out above.

# 3.2 Description of the Draft Plan

The **West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan** is a strategic plan identifying where development is to be directed and how/where supporting infrastructure is to be provided within

the plan area from 2017 to 2023. The draft plan proposes population targets for settlements within the district and identifies where that development is proposed to be located through its zoning maps and corresponding policy objectives.

#### Section 1 Introduction

This section of the plan sets out the review process to date, the overall plan context and the overall approach/key policies that will influence the preparation of the Draft Plan namely the:

- Role of the Cork County Development Plan 2014
- Approach to deal with Town Council Development Plans
- Special Policy Areas-Framework Masterplans
- Settlement Network
- Infrastructure
- Water Services
- Flood Risk
- Regeneration Areas
- · Quality in Urban Design
- Green Belts around Towns
- Environmental Assessment including
  - Strategic Environmental Assessment
  - Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
  - o Habitats Directive Assessment

# **Section 2 Local Area Strategy**

This section sets out the overall strategy for the West Cork Municipal District. It sets out the housing requirements and zoned housing land supply for each of the six main town's, sets out the appropriate scale of growth within the village network and the current infrastructure position for all the main towns and smaller settlements within the settlement network. It assesses the current employment position in the Municipal District and the key Environment and Heritage assets within the area. The key message is that sufficient land has been provided to meet population targets but that infrastructure remains a key constraint to delivering on those targets.

### **Section 3 Main Towns**

The purpose of this section of the plan is to set out the policies and objectives including land use zoning maps for the six Main Towns of Clonakilty, Bantry, Skibbereen, Dunmanway, Castletownbere and Schull in the West Cork Municipal District. Where appropriate, Regeneration Areas have also been identified. This section of the plan sets out proposals for population growth and other development objectives for the main towns.

# **Section 4 Key Villages**

There are ten Key Villages in the West Cork Municipal District as follows Ballydehob, Baltimore, Courtmacsherry, Drimoleague, Durrus, Glengarriff, Leap, Rosscarbery, Timoleague and Union Hall. This section of the plan sets out proposed scale of growth and other development objectives for each of these main villages over the lifetime of the plan.

# **Section 5 West Cork Island Communities**

The seven West Cork Island Communities in the West Cork Municipal District are Bere Island, Dursey Island, Heir Island, Long Island, Oileán Chléire, Sherkin Island and Whiddy Island. This section of the plan sets out framework to support island communities in sustainable economic, social and cultural development, while preserving and enhancing their unique cultural, linguistic, built and natural heritage in order that the permanent population will be maintained and where possible further increased in a sustainable manner.

# Section 6 Villages, Village Nuclei and Other Locations

There are twenty eight villages, nineteen village nuclei and nine other settlements in the West Cork Municipal District. The village are Ahakista, Allihies, Ardfield, Ardgroom, Ballinascarthy, Ballingurteen, Ballylickey, Ballynacarriga, Butlerstown, Cappeen, Castletownkenneigh, Castletownshend, Clogagh, Crookhaven, Drinagh, Eyeries, Glandore, Goleen, Kealkill, Kilcrohane, Kilmichael, Lissavard, Rathbarry (Castlefreke), Reenascreena, Ring, Rossmore, Shannonvale, Teerelton. The village nuclei are Abbeystrowry, Adrigole, Caheragh, Church Cross, Connonagh, Coomhola, Drombeg, Dromore, Johnstown, Kilcoe, Lislevane, Lowertown, Lyre, Pearson's Bridge, Rathmore, Rossmackowen/ Waterfall, Togher, Toormore, Urhan. The other locations are Ardnageehy Beg, Ballinglanna, Barleycove, Darkwood, Inchydoney, Lisbealad, Ownahinchy, Poundlick and Tragumna. This section of the plan sets out proposed scale of development for each of the main villages and village nucleii and other settlements over the lifetime of the plan.

# **Section 7 Putting the Plan into Practice**

This section of the plan assigns responsibility for the implementation of the Plan's policies to various agencies including the Local Authority. It also sets out the expected timeframes for the delivery of physical and social infrastructure, including the assignment of Plan priorities and funding streams necessary to secure key development objectives. It also outlines the approach to monitoring and how the Plan will inform other Plans within its functional area.

# 3.3 Natura 2000 Sites within the Potential Impact Zone of the Plan

The West Cork Municipal District covers an area extending along western coastal areas of the county. The plan encompasses the main towns of Bantry, Castletownbere, Clonakilty, Dunmanway, Schull and Skibbereen as well as over sixty small villages and communities on its seven inhabited islands. The boundaries of the plan area are shown on **Figure 1** below. The Natura 2000 sites subject to screening are shown in **Figure 2**.

Figure 1: Cork Municipal Districts Areas



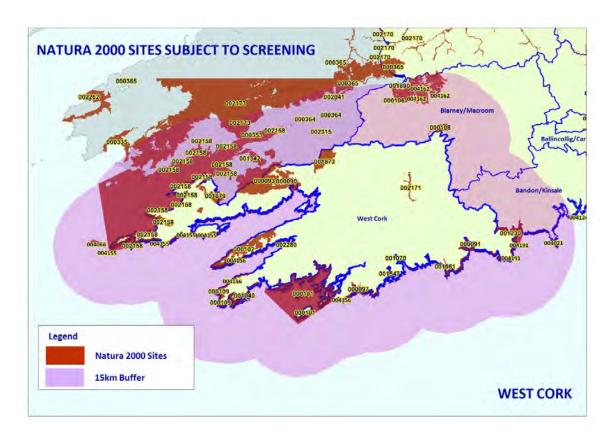


Figure 2 Natura 2000 Sites Subject to Screening

**Table 1** sets out the Natura 2000 sites which are subject to screening in this report. It includes all Natura 2000 sites within the plan boundary area and Natura 2000 sites within 15km of the plan boundary. The habitats and species for which these sites are designated are also listed in Table 1 as are their Conservation Objectives. The potential for Natura 2000 sites that are >15km from the plan boundary area to be affected by policies set out in the draft plan was also considered. This could include sites which are hydrologically connected to watercourses or water bodies within the plan boundary area. No such sites were identified.

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
0090	Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC	<ul> <li>Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]</li> <li>Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]</li> <li><i>Geomalacus maculosus</i> (Kerry Slug) [1024]</li> <li><i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]</li> <li><i>Lutra lutra</i> (Otter) [1355]</li> <li><i>Phoca vitulina</i> (Common Seal) [1365]</li> </ul>	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the following habitats and species for which the Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC is designated:  • Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles;  • Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0];  • <i>Geomalacus maculosus</i> (Kerry Slug) [1024];  • <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303];  • <i>Lutra lutra</i> (Otter) [1355]; and  • <i>Phoca vitulina</i> (Common Seal) [1365]  which are defined by attributes and targets set out in NPWS Conservation Objectives for Glengarriff Harbou and Woodland SAC 11 May 2015 available at www.NPWS.ie

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
0091	Clonakilty Bay SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]     Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]     Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]     Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]     Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]     Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea) [2150]	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the following habitats for which the Clonakilty Bay SAC is designated:  • Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140];  • Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210];  • Embryonic shifting dunes [2110];  • Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120];  • Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea) [2150];  and to restore the favourable conservation condition of (grey dunes) [2130]  which are defined by attributes and targets set out in NPWS Conservation Objectives for Clonakilty Bay SAC 27 May 2014 available at www.NPWS.ie
0093	Caha Mountains SAC	<ul> <li>Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea [3130]</li> </ul>	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected:

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
		<ul> <li>Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160]</li> <li>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]</li> <li>Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]</li> <li>Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]</li> <li>Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220]</li> <li>Geomalacus maculosus (Kerry Slug) [1024]</li> <li>Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea [3130]</li> <li>Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160]</li> <li>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010]</li> <li>Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]</li> <li>Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]</li> <li>Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220]</li> <li>Geomalacus maculosus (Kerry Slug) [1024]</li> <li>Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]</li> <li>which are set out in NPWS Conservation Objectives for Caha Mountains SAC Feb 13 2015 available at www.NPWS.ie</li> </ul>
0097	Lough Hyne Nature Reserve & Environs SAC	<ul> <li>Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]</li> <li>Reefs [1170]</li> <li>Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]</li> </ul>	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the following habitats for which the Lough Hyne Nature Reserve and Environs SAC is designated:  • Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]
			<ul><li>Reefs [1170]</li><li>Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]</li></ul>

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
			which are defined by attributes and targets set out in Conservation Objectives for Lough Hyne Nature Reserve and Environs SAC Aug 19 2015 available at www.NPWS.ie
0101	Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC	<ul> <li>Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]</li> <li>Reefs [1170]</li> <li>Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]</li> <li>European dry heaths [4030]</li> <li>Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]</li> <li>Phocoena phocoena (Harbour Porpoise) [1351]</li> <li>Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]</li> <li>Halichoerus grypus (Grey Seal) [1364]</li> </ul>	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the following habitats and species for which the Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC is designated:  • Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]; • Reefs [1170]; • Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]; • European dry heaths [4030]; • Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]; • Phocoena phocoena (Harbour Porpoise) [1351]; • Halichoerus grypus (Grey Seal) [1364]; and to restore the favourable conservation condition of • Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355] which are defined by attributes and targets set out in

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
			Islands SAC July 19 2011 available at www.NPWS.ie
0102	Sheep's Head SAC	<ul> <li>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]</li> <li>European dry heaths [4030]</li> <li>Geomalacus maculosus (Kerry Slug) [1024]</li> </ul>	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010]  • European dry heaths [4030]  • <i>Geomalacus maculosus</i> (Kerry Slug) [1024]  as set out in <u>Conservation Objectives for the Sheep's Head SAC February 13 2015</u> available at <u>www.NPWS.ie</u>
0106	St. Gobnet's Wood SAC	Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]  as set out in <u>Conservation Objectives for St. Gobnet's Wood SAC February 13 2015</u> available at <u>www.NPWS.ie</u>

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
0108	The Gearagh SAC	<ul> <li>Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]</li> <li>Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubric p.p. and Biention p.p. vegetation [3270]</li> <li>Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]</li> <li>Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]</li> <li>Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]</li> </ul>	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]  • Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubric p.p. and Biention p.p. vegetation [3270]  • Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]  • Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]  • Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]  as set out in Conservation Objectives for the Gearagh SAC available at www.NPWS.ie
0109	Three Castle Head to Mizen Head SAC	<ul> <li>Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts         [1230]</li> <li>European dry heaths [4030]</li> </ul>	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:
	Head SAC		

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
			[1230] • European dry heaths [4030]
			as set out in <u>Conservation Objectives for Three Castle</u> <u>Head to Mizen Head SAC February 13 2015</u> available at <u>www.NPWS.ie</u>
0353	Old Domestic Buildings, Dromore SAC	• Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]  as set out in Conservation Objectives for Old Domestic
			Buildings, Dromore SAC February 13 2015 available at www.NPWS.ie
0364	Kilgarvan Ice House SAC	• Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:
			• Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
			as set out in Conservation Objectives Kilgarvan Ice  House SAC February 13 2015 available at  www.NPWS.ie
0365	Killarney National Park, Magillycuddy Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC	<ul> <li>Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110]</li> <li>Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea [3130]</li> <li>Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]</li> <li>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010]</li> <li>European dry heaths [4030]</li> <li>Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]</li> <li>Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]</li> <li>Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130]</li> <li>Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayeysilt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410]</li> <li>Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]</li> <li>Depressions on peat substrates of the</li> </ul>	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110]  • Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea [3130]  • Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]  • Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010]  • European dry heaths [4030]  • Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]  • Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]  • Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130]  • Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
		<ul> <li>Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]</li> <li>Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]</li> <li><i>Taxus baccata</i> woods of the British Isles [91J0]</li> <li><i>Geomalacus maculosus</i> (Kerry Slug) [1024]</li> <li><i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029]</li> <li><i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> (Marsh Fritillary) [1065]</li> <li><i>Petromyzon marinus</i> (Sea Lamprey) [1095]</li> <li><i>Lampetra planeri</i> (Brook Lamprey) [1096]</li> <li><i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> (River Lamprey) [1099]</li> <li><i>Salmo salar</i> (Salmon) [1106]</li> <li><i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]</li> <li><i>Lutra lutra</i> (Otter) [1355]</li> <li><i>Trichomanes speciosum</i> (Killarney Fern) [1421]</li> <li><i>Najas flexilis</i> (Slender Naiad) [1833]</li> <li><i>Alosa fallax killarnensis</i> (Killarney Shad) [5046]</li> </ul>	laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410]  • Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]  • Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]  • Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]  • Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]  • Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0]  • Geomalacus maculosus (Kerry Slug) [1024]  • Margaritifera margaritifera (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029]  • Euphydryas aurinia (Marsh Fritillary) [1065]  • Petromyzon marinus (Sea Lamprey) [1095]  • Lampetra planeri (Brook Lamprey) [1096]  • Lampetra fluviatilis (River Lamprey) [1099]  • Salmo salar (Salmon) [1106]  • Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]  • Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]  • Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]  • Najas flexilis (Slender Naiad) [1833]  • Alosa fallax killarnensis (Killarney Shad) [5046]

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
			as set out in Killarney National Park, Magillycuddy Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC Conservation Objectives February 13 2015 available at www.NPWS.ie
1040	Barley Cove to Ballyrisode Point SAC	<ul> <li>Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]</li> <li>Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]</li> <li>Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]</li> <li>Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330]</li> <li>Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]</li> <li>Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]</li> <li>Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]</li> <li>European dry heaths [4030]</li> </ul>	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the following habitats for which the Barley Cove to Ballyrisode SAC is designated:  • Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]  • Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]  • Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]  • European dry heaths [4030]  and to restore the favourable conservation condition of Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330]  • Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]  • Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
			(grey dunes) [2130]
			which are defined by attributes and targets set out in Conservation Objectives for the Barley Cove to
			Ballyrisode SAC Sept 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2014 available at www.NPWS.ie
1043	Cleanderry Wood SAC	Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]  Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:
			• Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]
			• Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]
			as set out in <u>Cleanderry Wood SAC Conservation</u> <u>Objectives February 13 2015</u> available at <u>www.NPWS.ie</u>
1061	Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes SAC	<ul> <li>Coastal lagoons [1150]*</li> <li>Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]</li> <li>Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120]</li> </ul>	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:
		Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]	<ul> <li>Coastal lagoons [1150]*</li> <li>Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]</li> <li>Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila</i></li> </ul>

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
			arenaria (white dunes) [2120]  • Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation
			(grey dunes) [2130]
			as set out in Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes SAC
			Conservation Objectives February 13 2015 available at www.NPWS.ie
1070	Myross Wood SAC	• Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:
			• Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]
			as set out in Conservation Objectives for Myross Wood February 13 2015 available at www.NPWS.ie
1230	Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC	<ul> <li>Estuaries [1130]</li> <li>Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]</li> <li>Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]</li> </ul>	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the following habitats for which the Barley Cove to Ballyrisode SAC is designated:
		Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]	<ul><li> Estuaries [1130]</li><li> Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at</li></ul>
		<ul> <li>Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]</li> </ul>	low tide [1140]
		Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia	Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
		maritimae) [1330]  • Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]  • Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]  • Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]  • Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]	<ul> <li>Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]</li> <li>Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]</li> <li>Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]</li> <li>Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]</li> <li>Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]</li> <li>and to restore the favourable conservation condition of</li> <li>Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]</li> <li>Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330]</li> <li>which are defined by attributes and targets set out in Conservation Objectives for Courtmacsherry Estuary</li> <li>SAC July 9 2014 available at www.NPWS.ie</li> </ul>
1342	Cloonee and Inchiquin Loughs, Uragh Wood	<ul> <li>Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110]</li> <li>Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]</li> </ul>	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected:

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
		<ul> <li>Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]</li> <li>Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]</li> <li>Najas flexilis (Slender Naiad) [1833]</li> </ul>	sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110]  • Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]  • Geomalacus maculosus (Kerry Slug) [1024]  • Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]  • Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]  • Najas flexilis (Slender Naiad) [1833]  which are defined by attributes and targets set out in Conservation Objectives for Cloonee and Inchiquin Loughs, Uragh Wood SAC available at www.NPWS.ie
1371	Mucksna Wood	Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected:  • Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles  as set out in the Conservation Objectives for Mucksna Wood SAC available at www.NPWS.ie

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
1547	Castletownshend SAC	• Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]
			as set out in the Conservation Objectives for Castletownshend SAC February 13 2015 available at www.NPWS.ie
1873	Derryclogher (Knockboy) Bog SAC	Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]
			as set out in the Conservation Objectives for  Derryclogher (Knockboy) Bog SAC February 13 2015  available at www.NPWS.ie
1879	Glanmore Bog SAC	<ul> <li>Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110]</li> <li>Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]</li> </ul>	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
		<ul> <li>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]</li> <li>Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]</li> <li>Margaritifera margaritifera (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029]</li> <li>Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]</li> </ul>	sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110]  • Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]  • Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]  • Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]  • Margaritifera margaritifera (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029]  • Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]  as set out in the Conservation Objectives for Glanmore Bog SAC February 13 2015 available at www.NPWS.ie
1881	Maulagowna Bog SAC	Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]  as set out in the Conservation Objectives for Maulagowna Bog SAC February 13 2015 available at www.NPWS.ie

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
2041	Old Domestic Building, Curraglass Wood SAC	• Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:
			Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]  as set out in the Conservation Objectives for Old Domestic Building, Curraglass Wood SAC February 13 2015 available at www.NPWS.ie
2098	Old Domestic Building, Askive Woods SAC	• Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]  as set out in the Conservation Objectives for the Old
2158	Kenmare Bay SAC	<ul> <li>Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]</li> <li>Reefs [1170]</li> <li>Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]</li> </ul>	Domestic Building, Askive Woods SAC February 13  2015 which are available at <a href="https://www.NPWS.ie">www.NPWS.ie</a> To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the following habitats and species for which Kenmare Bay SAC is designated:

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
		Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]  Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330]  Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]  Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]  Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]  European dry heaths [4030]  Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130]  Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]  Vertigo angustior (Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail) [1014]  Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]  Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]  Phoca vitulina (Common Seal) [1365]	<ul> <li>Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]</li> <li>Reefs [1170]</li> <li>Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]</li> <li>Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]</li> <li>Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330]</li> <li>Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]</li> <li>Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]</li> <li>Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]</li> <li>European dry heaths [4030]</li> <li>Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130]</li> <li>Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]</li> <li>Vertigo angustior (Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail) [1014]</li> <li>Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]</li> <li>Phoca vitulina (Common Seal) [1365]</li> </ul>

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
			of
			<ul> <li>Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]</li> <li>which are defined by attributes and targets set out in <u>Conservation Objectives for Kenmare Bay SAC April 25</u> <u>2013</u> available at <a href="https://www.NPWS.ie">www.NPWS.ie</a></li> </ul>
2171	Bandon River SAC	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]     Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]     Margaritifera margaritifera (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029]     Lampetra planeri (Brook Lamprey) [1096]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]  • Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]  • Margaritifera margaritifera (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029]  • Lampetra planeri (Brook Lamprey) [1096]

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
2173	Blackwater River (Kerry) SAC	<ul> <li>European dry heaths [4030]</li> <li>Geomalacus maculosus (Kerry Slug) [1024]</li> <li>Margaritifera margaritifera (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029]</li> <li>Salmo salar (Salmon) [1106]</li> <li>Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]</li> <li>Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]</li> </ul>	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • European dry heaths [4030] • Geomalacus maculosus (Kerry Slug) [1024] • Margaritifera margaritifera (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029] • Salmo salar (Salmon) [1106] • Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303] • Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]
2187	Drongawn Lough	• Coastal lagoons* [1150]	as set out in the Conservation Objectives for the Blackwater River (Kerry) SAC February 13 2015 are available at www.NPWS.ie  To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
			as set out in the Conservation Objectives for Drongawn Lough which are available at www.NPWS.ie
2189	Farranamanagh Lough SAC	Coastal lagoons [1150]     Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Coastal lagoons [1150] • Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]  as set out in the Conservation Objectives for the Farranamanagh Lough SAC February 13 2015 which are available at www.NPWS.ie
2280	Dunbeacon Shingle SAC	Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]  as set out in the Conservation Objectives for Dunbeacon Shingle SAC February 13 2015 which are available at www.NPWS.ie

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
2281	Reen Point Shingle SAC	Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex I species for which this SAC has been selected:
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]  as set out in the Conservation Objectives for Reen Point Shingle SAC February 13 2015 which are available at www.NPWS.ie
2315	Glanlough Woods SAC	• Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex I species for which this SAC has been selected:  • Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]  as set out in the Conservation Objectives Glanlough Woods SAC February 13 2015 which are available at
4021	Old Head of Kinsale SPA	Kittiwake ( <i>Rissa tridactyla</i> ) [A188]     Guillemot ( <i>Uria aalge</i> ) [A199]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA:

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
			Kittiwake ( <i>Rissa tridactyla</i> ) [A188]     Guillemot ( <i>Uria aalge</i> ) [A199]
			as set out in the Conservation Objectives Old Head of Kinsale SPA February 13 2015 which are available at www.NPWS.ie
4066	Bull and the Cow SPA	<ul> <li>Storm Petrel (Hydrobates pelagicus) [A014]</li> <li>Gannet (Morus bassanus) [A016]</li> <li>Puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204]</li> </ul>	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA:
			<ul> <li>Storm Petrel (Hydrobates pelagicus) [A014]</li> <li>Gannet (Morus bassanus) [A016]</li> <li>Puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204]</li> </ul>
			as set out in the <u>Conservation Objectives for Bull and</u> <u>the Cow SPA February 13 2015</u> are available at <u>www.NPWS.ie</u>
4081	Clonakilty Bay SPA	<ul> <li>Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048]</li> <li>Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149]</li> <li>Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156]</li> </ul>	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the following bird species in Clonakilty Bay SPA:
		<ul> <li>Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]</li> <li>Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048]</li> <li>Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149]</li> <li>Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156]</li> </ul>

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
			• Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]
			and to maintain the favourable conservation condition
			of the wetland habitat in Clonakilty Bay SPA as a
			resource for the regularly-occurring migratory birds
			that utilise itas defined by attributes and targets set
			out in Conservation Objectives Clonakilty Bay SPA Oct
			17 2014 which are available at www.NPWS.ie
4109	The Gearagh SPA	• Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation
		• Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]	condition of bird species listed as Special Conservation
		• Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053]	Interests for this SPA:
		• Coot (Fulica atra) [A125]	
		<ul> <li>Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]</li> </ul>	• Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]
			• Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]
			<ul> <li>Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053]</li> </ul>
			• Coot (Fulica atra) [A125]
			and to maintain or restore the favourable condition of
			the wetland habitat at the Gearagh as a resource for
			the regularly-occurring migratory waterbirds that
			utilise it as set out in the Conservation Objectives for
			the Gearagh SPA which are available at www.NPWS.ie

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
4154	Iveragh Peninsula SPA	<ul> <li>Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]</li> <li>Peregrine (Falco peregrinus) [A103]</li> <li>Kittiwake (Rissa tridactlya) [A188]</li> <li>Guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199]</li> <li>Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]</li> </ul>	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for the SPA:  • Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009] • Peregrine (Falco peregrinus) [A103] • Kittiwake (Rissa tridactlya) [A188] • Guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199] • Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]  as set out in the Conservation Objectives for the Iveragh Peninsula which are available at www.NPWS.ie
4155	Beara Peninsula SPA	Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]     Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA:  • Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009] • Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]  as set out in the Conservation Objectives for the Beara Peninsula SPA which are available at www.NPWS.ie

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
4190	Galley Head to Duneen Point SPA	Chough ( <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> ) [A346]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA:
			• Chough ( <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> ) [A346]
			as set out in the Conservation Objectives for the Galley Head to Duneen Point SPA which are available at www.NPWS.ie
4191	Seven Heads SPA	Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA:
			• Chough ( <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> ) [A346]
			as set out in the <u>Conservation Objectives for the Seven</u> <u>Heads SPA</u> which are available at <u>www.NPWS.ie</u>
4219	Courtmacsherry Bay SPA	<ul> <li>Great Northern Diver (Gavia immer) [A003]</li> <li>Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048]</li> <li>Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050]</li> </ul>	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the following bird species in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA:
		<ul> <li>Red-breasted Merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069]</li> <li>Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]</li> <li>Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Great Northern Diver (Gavia immer) [A003]</li> <li>Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048]</li> <li>Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050]</li> </ul>

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives
		• Dunlin ( <i>Calidris alpina</i> ) [A149]	• Red-breasted Merganser ( <i>Mergus serrator</i> ) [A069]
		• Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> ) [A156]	• Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140]
		Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]	• Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]
		• Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]	Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]
		Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus)	Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> ) [A156]
		[A179]	Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]
		• Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182]	• Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]
		Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus)
			[A179]
			Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182]
			and to maintain the favourable conservation conditio
			of the wetland habitat in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA as
			resources for the regularly-occurring migratory birds
			that utilise it as defined by attributes and targets set
			out in Conservation Objectives Courtmacsherry Bay
			SPA Oct 3 2014 which are available at www.NPWS.ie

# 3.4 Screening Assessment

# **Preliminary Screening**

The purpose of this screening exercise is to identify whether any of the policies or zoning objectives set out in the draft plan could have the potential to give rise to negative effects on any of the Natura 2000 sites listed above.

As a preliminary assessment, the Natura 2000 sites were assessed to identify whether there was any hydrological or other linkage between them and the plan areas, or whether implementation of the plan would require exploitation of resources (eg water) from within any Natura 2000 site (identifying potential pathways for impact). The results of this preliminary screening are set out in **Table 2 below**.

Table 2: Preliminary Screening Assessment		
Site Name	Screening Determination	
Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC	The settlement boundary of Glengarriff overlaps with boundary of this SAC and the Glengarriff WWTP discharges to the harbour within the SAC. Further assessment is required in respect of proposals associated with	
Site Code 0090	These are three small settlements located close to SAC (Adrigole, Coomhola and Whiddy). No policies relating to these settlements direct development into this SAC and there is no hydrological linkage between the settlements and the SAC. No further assessment is required in respect of these settlements and this SAC.  Further assessment is required.	
Clonakilty Bay SAC Site Code 0091	The boundaries of the settlements of <b>Clonakilty</b> and <b>Inchydoney</b> overlap with this SAC. The WWTP for Clonakilty discharges to the bay. Further assessment is required in respect of proposals associated with these settlements.  The <b>Clonakilty Green Belt</b> and the settlements of <b>Ring, Shannonvale, Ballinglanna</b> and <b>Darrara Rural Model Village</b> lie within the catchment of the SAC and some of these have a direct hydrological connection to the SAC. Further assessment is required in respect of proposals associated with the green belt and these settlements.	

Table 2: Preliminary Screening Assessment		
Site Name	Screening Determination	
	While there are a number of other settlements located within 5km of the SAC, none of these have a direct hydrological linkage to Clonakilty Bay. None of these settlements use or propose to use resources from within or near this SAC, and no policies associated with these settlements direct development into the SAC. No further assessment is required in respect of these settlements - Lissavard, Rathbarry and Ballinglanna.	
	Further assessment is required.	
Caha Mountains SAC Site Code 0093	There are two settlements located proximal to the Caha Mountains SAC (Glengarriff and Adrigole). However, there is no hydrological linkage between the SAC and either of these settlements, and neither of these settlements use or propose to use resources from within or near this SAC. No policies in the plan direct activity into this SAC. No potential for impact on this site is identified. No further assessment is considered to be required.	
	No further assessment is required.	
Lough Hyne Nature Reserve & Environs SAC Site Code 0097	The settlement of <b>Tragumna</b> overlaps with the boundary of this SAC. This is a small settlement whose primary function relates to tourism. Intensification of development within this settlement could increase pressure on coastal habitats within the adjacent SAC. Further assessment is required in respect of this settlement.	
	While there are a number of other settlements located within 5km of the SAC, none of these have any direct hydrological linkages to the site. None of these settlements use or propose to use resources from within or near this SAC. No further assessment is required in respect of these settlements in respect of their linkages to this SAC - <b>Skibbereen</b> , <b>Baltimore</b> , <b>Poundlick</b> , <b>Rathmore</b> , <b>Church Cross</b> .	
	Further assessment is required.	
Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC	The settlements of <b>Schull, Ballydehob</b> and <b>Baltimore</b> are all located in the coastal area adjacent to this SAC and treated effluent from these settlements discharges to the SAC. Parts of <b>Sherkin, Cape Clear, Heir</b> and	

Table 2: Preliminary	Table 2: Preliminary Screening Assessment	
Site Name	Screening Determination	
Site Code 0101	Long Islands and some of the smaller settlements within the catchment have a direct hydrological linkage to the SAC. Further assessment is required in respect of proposals associated with these settlements. There are a number of other smaller settlements within the catchment of the SAC – however, no policies in the plan require resources from, or direct development into the SAC – no further assessment is required in respect of these settlements.	
	Further assessment is required.	
Sheep's Head SAC Site Code 0102	There are two settlements located proximal to the Sheep's Head SAC (Aghakista and Kilcrohane). However, there is no hydrological linkage between the SAC and either of these settlements, and neither of these settlements use or propose to use resources from within this SAC. The plan does not direct activity or development into this SAC. No potential for impact on this site is identified. No further assessment is considered to be required.	
	No further assessment is required.	
St. Gobnet's Wood SAC Site Code 0106	This SAC is located approximately 10km north of the West Cork Municipal District. None of the settlements for which policy is proposed are located within or near this SAC, and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site. The plan does not direct activity or development into this SAC. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is required in respect of these settlements in respect of this SAC.	
	No further assessment is required.	
The Gearagh SAC Site Code 0108	This SAC partially overlaps with the West Cork Municipal District. Settlements in the district which are also located within the catchment of the SAC are <b>Kilmichael</b> and <b>Teerelton</b> . These settlements have a direct hydrological connection to the Gearagh via tributaries of the River Lee. Further assessment is required in respect of these settlements and this SAC.	

Table 2: Preliminary Screening Assessment	
Site Name	Screening Determination
	Further assessment is required.
Three Castle Head to Mizen Head SAC	None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within or near this SAC, and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site. The plan does not direct activity or
Site Code 0109	development into this SAC. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is required in respect of these settlements in respect of this SAC.
	No further assessment is required.
Old Domestic Buildings, Dromore SAC	None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within or near this SAC, and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site. The plan does not direct activity or development into this SAC. No potential for impact is identified. No
Site Code 0353	further assessment is required in respect of these settlements in respect of this SAC. No further assessment is required in respect of this SAC.
	No further assessment is required.
Kilgarvan Ice House SAC	None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within or near this SAC, and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site. The plan does not direct activity or
Site Code 0364	development into this SAC. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is required in respect of these settlements in respect of this SAC. No further assessment is required in respect of this SAC.
	No further assessment is required.
Killarney National Park, Magillycuddy Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC	None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within or near this SAC, and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site. The plan does not direct activity or development into this SAC. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is required in respect of these settlements in respect of this SAC.
Site Code 0365	No further assessment is required.

Table 2: Preliminary Screening Assessment	
Site Name	Screening Determination
Barley Cove to	There are two special policy zones located at <b>Barleycove</b> adjacent to this
Ballyrisode Point SAC	SAC. These are areas of tourism activity. Intensification of activity or development within these zones could increase pressure on sensitive
	coastal habitats including dunes. Further assessment is required in
Site Code 1040	respect of proposals associated with this settlement and how it might affect this SAC.
	Further assessment is required.
Cleanderry Wood	Two of the settlements dealt with in this plan are located within 5km of
SAC	this SAC. They are <b>Eyeries</b> and <b>Ardgroom</b> . However, there is no hydrological or other ecological connectivity between the settlements
Site Code 1043	and this SAC and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the
	use of resources from within this site. The plan does not direct activity or
	development into this SAC. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is required in respect of these settlements in respect
	of this SAC.
	No further assessment is required.
Kilkeran Lake and	There are two settlements located proximal to this SAC. These are
Castlefreke Dunes	Rathbarry/Castlefreke and Owenahinchy. Rathbarry is located
SAC	immediately adjacent to Kilkeran Lake within the SAC. Further assessment is required in respect of this settlement and the SAC.
Site Code 1061	assessment is required in respect of this settlement and the SAC.
	Further assessment is required.
Myross Wood SAC	The nearest settlement to Myross Wood is Leap. However, the SAC is
	located approximately 500m from the settlement on the other side of
Site Code 1070	Glandore Harbour. There are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site or which propose activity within the
	site. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is
	required in respect of these settlements in respect of this SAC.
	No further assessment is required.
Courtmacsherry	The villages of Timoleague, Courtmacsherry and Kilbrittain are all located

Table 2: Preliminary Screening Assessment	
Site Name	Screening Determination
Estuary SAC Site Code 1230	along the coast adjacent to this SAC and waste water from these settlements discharges to the estuary. Further assessment is required in respect of these settlements and the SAC.
	Further assessment is required.
Cloonee and Inchiquin Loughs, Uragh Wood Site Code 1342	None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within or near this SAC, and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site. The plan does not direct activity or development into this SAC. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is required in respect of these settlements in respect
	of this SAC.  No further assessment is required.
Mucksna Wood Site Code 1371	None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within or near this SAC, and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site. The plan does not direct activity or development into this SAC. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is required in respect of these settlements in respect of this SAC.
	No further assessment is required.
Castletownshend SAC Site Code 1547	The settlement of <b>Castletownshend</b> is located just south of this SAC. This SAC is designated for the protection of the protection of the Annex I species Killarney Fern which occurs within Castletownshend Wood. There are no proposals in the plan which direct activity into the woods or which require use of resources from within the SAC. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is required in respect of this SAC.
	No further assessment is required.
Derryclogher (Knockboy) Bog SAC	There are a number of small settlements located around this SAC. The closest of these is over 2km from the SAC ( <b>Coomhola</b> ). There are no proposals in the plan which direct activity into the SAC or which require
Site Code 1873	use of resources from within it. No potential for impact is identified. No

Table 2: Preliminary Screening Assessment	
Site Name	Screening Determination
	further assessment is required in respect of this SAC.
	No further assessment is required.
Glanmore Bog SAC	The settlement of <b>Ardgroom</b> partially overlaps with the boundary of this
Site Code 1879	SAC and treated effluent from the Ardgroom WWTP is discharged to the Owenagappul River within the SAC. The water supply for the <b>Castletownbere</b> and other settlements in the Beara area is provided from Glenbeg Lough within this SAC.
	Further assessment is required.
Maulagowna Bog SAC	None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within or near this SAC, and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site. There are no proposals in the plan which
Site Code 1881	direct activity into the SAC or which require use of resources from within it. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is required in respect of this SAC.
	No further assessment is required.
Old Domestic	None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within or near
Building, Curraglass Wood SAC	this SAC, and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site. There are no proposals in the plan which direct activity into the SAC or which require use of resources from within
Site Code 2041	it. No potential for impact is identified.
	No further assessment is required.
Old Domestic	None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within or near
Building, Askive	this SAC, and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of
Woods SAC	resources from within this site. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is required in respect of this SAC.
Site Code 2098	
	No further assessment is required.
Kenmare Bay SAC	There are a number of settlements located along the southern shoreline

Table 2: Preliminary Screening Assessment	
Site Name	Screening Determination
Site Code 2158	of Kenmare Bay which are adjacent to or overlap with the boundary of this SAC. These include <b>Allihies</b> (settlement boundary overlaps with SAC), <b>Urhin</b> , <b>Eyeries</b> and <b>Ardgroom</b> (settlement boundary overlaps with SAC). <b>Dursey Island</b> is surrounded by this SAC. Further assessment is required in respect of this SAC.
	Further assessment is required.
Bandon River SAC	Three settlements have are located within the catchment of the Bandon River SAC. These are <b>Dunmanway</b> , <b>Darkwood</b> and <b>Togher</b> . Waste water
Site Code 2171	from Dunmanay is treated in the Dunmanway WWTP and discharges to the Bandon River within the SAC. Further assessment is required in respect of this SAC.
	Further assessment is required.
Blackwater River (Kerry) SAC	This SAC is on the western shore of Kenmare Bay in Co. Kerry. None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within the catchment of this SAC. There are no proposals in the plan which relate to use of
Site Code 2173	resources from within this site. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is required.
	No further assessment is required.
Drongawn Lough	This SAC is located on the northern shore of Kenmare Bay. None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within or near this SAC, and
Site Code 2187	there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site. No potential for impact on this site are identified. No further assessment is required in respect of this SAC.
	No further assessment is required.
Farranamanagh Lough SAC	This SAC is located close to Kilcrohane on the Sheep's Head peninsula.  The plan proposes a loop walk from the village to the lake within this SAC.
Site Code 2189	Further assessment will be required in respect of this SAC.
	Further assessment is required.

Table 2: Preliminary Screening Assessment	
Site Name	Screening Determination
Dunbeacon Shingle SAC	This settlement is located approximately 3km south of Durrus. However there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site or which direct activity into the SAC. There are no
Site Code 2280	proposals in the plan which direct activity into the SAC or which require use of resources from within the SAC. No further assessment is required in respect of this SAC.
	No further assessment is required.
Reen Point Shingle SAC	This settlement is located north of <b>Ahakista</b> on the Sheep's Head peninsula. However, there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site or which direct activity into the
Site Code 2281	SAC. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is required in respect of this SAC.
	No further assessment is required.
Glanlough Woods SAC	None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within or near this SAC, and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site. No potential for impact is identified. No
Site Code 2315	further assessment is required in respect of this SAC.
	No further assessment is required.
Old Head of Kinsale SPA	The nearest settlement to this site is Ballinspittle which is over 5km from the site. There are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site or which direct activity into the SAC. No
Site Code 4021	potential for impact is identified and no further assessment is required in respect of this SPA.
	No further assessment is required.
Bull and the Cow SPA	None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within or near this SPA, and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site. No potential for impact is identified and
Site Code 4066	no further assessment is required in respect of this SPA.

Table 2: Preliminary Screening Assessment		
Site Name	Screening Determination	
	No further assessment is required.	
Clonakilty Bay SPA Site Code 4081	The boundaries of the settlements of <b>Clonakilty</b> and <b>Inchydoney</b> overlap with this SPA. The WWTP for Clonakilty discharges to the bay. Further assessment is required in respect of proposals associated with these	
	settlements.	
	The Clonakilty Green Belt and the settlements of Ring, Shannonvale, Ballinglanna and Darrara Rural Model Village lie within the catchment of the SPA and some of these have a direct hydrological connection to the SPA. Further assessment is required in respect of proposals associated with the green belt and these settlements.	
	While there are a number of other settlements located within 5km of the SPA, none of these have a direct hydrological linkage to Clonakilty Bay. None of these settlements use or propose to use resources from within or	
	near this SPA. No further assessement is required in respect of these settlements - <b>Lissavard, Rathbarry</b> and <b>Ballinglanna</b> .	
	Further assessment is required.	
The Gearagh SPA	This SPA partially overlaps with the West Cork Municipal District. Settlements in the district which are also located within the catchment of	
Site Code 4109	the SPA are <b>Kilmichael</b> and <b>Teerelton</b> . These settlements have a direct hydrological connection to the Gearagh via tributaries of the River Lee. However, there are no proposals in the plan linked to these settlements which relate to the use of resources from within this site. No potential for impact is identified. No further assessment is required in respect of this SPA.	
	Further assessment is required.	
Iveragh Peninsula SPA	None of the settlements identified in the plan are located within or near this SPA, and there are no proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this site. No potential for impact is identified.	
Site Code 4154	further assessment is required in respect of this SPA.	

Table 2: Preliminary Screening Assessment	
Site Name	Screening Determination
	No further assessment is required.
Beara Peninsula	This SPA extends along the coastal headlands of the Beara Peninsula, but
SPA	also incorporates coastal headlands on <b>Dursey Island</b> and <b>Bere Island</b> , as well as some inland areas at <b>Allihies</b> and Eagle Hill. The boundary of the
Site Code 4155	SPA overlaps with the boundaries of settlements on <b>Dursey</b> and <b>Bere Islands</b> . Further assessment will be required in respect of this SPA.
	Further assessment is required.
Galley Head to	This nearest settlement to this SPA is Ardfield. However there are no
Duneen Point SPA	proposals in the plan which relate to the use of resources from within this
	site or which direct activity into it. No further assessment is required in
Site Code 4190	respect of this SPA.
	No further assessment is required.
Seven Heads SPA	The Seven Heads SPA extends from Barry's Point West to Barry's Cove.
	The nearest settlements to the SPA are Courtmacsherry, Timoleague,
Site Code 4191	<b>Butlerstown</b> and <b>Lislevane</b> . There are objectives linked to the
	Courtmacsherry which promote the development of a looped walk which
	would extend through the SPA. Further more detailed assessment is required in respect of this proposal.
	required in respect of this proposal.
	Further assessment is required.
Courtmacsherry	The villages of <b>Timoleague</b> , <b>Courtmacsherry</b> and <b>Kilbrittain</b> are all located
Bay SPA	along the coast adjacent to this SPA. Wastewater from these settlements
	discharges to the estuary and objectives in Courtmacsherry promote the
Site Code 4219	development of walking routes within the SPA. Further assessment is
	required in respect of these settlements and the SAC.
	Further assessment is required.

Potential for significant negative effects were screened out as a result of preliminary screening for the following Natura 2000 sites:

Code	Site Name
0093	Caha Mountains Special Area of Conservation
0102	Sheep's Head Special Area of Conservation
0106	St. Gobnet's Wood Special Area of Conservation
0109	Three Castle Head to Mizen Head Special Area of Conservation
0353	Old Domestic Building Dromore Special Area of Conservation
0364	Kilgarven Ice House Special Area of Conservation
0365	Killarney National Park, Macgillycuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Catchment Special Area of Conservation
1043	Cleanderry Wood Special Area of Conservation
1070	Myross Wood Special Area of Conservation
1342	Cloonee and Inchiquin Loughs, Uragh Woods Special Area of Conservation
1371	Musksna Woods Special Area of Conservation
1547	Castletownshend Special Area of Conservation
1881	Maulagowna Bog Special Area of Conservation
1873	Derryclogher Bog Special Area of Conservation
2041	Old Domestic Building Curraglass Wood Special Area of Conservation
2098	Old Domestic Building Askive Special Area of Conservation
2173	Blackwater River (Kerry) Special Area of Conservation
2187	Drongawn Lough Special Area of Conservation
2280	Dunbeacon Shingle Special Area of Conservation
2281	Reen Point Shingle
2315	Glanlough Woods Special Area of Conservation
4021	Old Head of Kinsale Special Protection Area
4066	Bull and the Cow Special Protection Area
4154	Iveragh Peninsula
4190	Galley Head to Duneen Point Special Protection Area

# **Detailed Screening**

Further screening was then completed for the remaining sites. These are sites which are located in areas where hydrological or other possible ecological linkages have been identified between them and settlements for which policy is proposed at preliminary screening stage. Screening has been completed having regard to plan policies and zoning objectives. Particular attention has been paid in this exercise to policies which could

- direct development into areas within or adjacent to Natura 2000 sites;
- give rise to a risk of increased levels of disturbance affecting populations of species in any Natura 2000 site;
- encourage increased recreational or other human activity within or near any Natura 2000 sites;
- give rise to increased pressure on environmental resources (eg water) which could affect any Natura 2000 sites;
- increase risk of spread of invasive species within or near Natura 2000 sites; or

• influence how land within or close to Natura 2000 sites is developed and managed in the future.

The focus of detailed screening is on the following sites:

Code	Site Name
0090	Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland Special Area of Conservation
0091	Clonakilty Bay Special Area of Conservation
0097	Lough Hyne Nature Reserve and Environs Special Area of Conservation
0101	Roaringwater Bay and Islands Special Area of Conservation
0108	The Gearagh Special Area of Conservation
1040	Barley Cove to Ballyrisode Point Special Area of Conservation
1061	Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreake Dunes Special Area of Conservation
1230	Courtmacsherry Estuary Special Area of Conservation
1873	Derryclogher (Knockboy) Bog Special Area of Conservation
1879	Glanmore Bog Special Area of Conservation
2158	Kenmare Bay Special Area of Conservation
2171	Bandon River Special Area of Conservation
2189	Farranamanagh Lough Special Area of Conservation
4081	Clonakilty Bay Special Protection Area
4109	The Gearagh Special Protection Area
4155	Beara Peninsula Special Protection Area
4191	Seven Heads Special Protection Area
4219	Courtmacsherry Bay Special Protection Area

The qualifying interests and conservation objectives which have been set for each of these sites are summarised in **Appendix I.** 

The outcomes of screening assessments completed for each of these sites is set out below.

# Glengarriff Harbour and Woodlands SAC-Screening Assessment

# **SAC Description and Key Concerns**

This SAC is designated for the protection of a number of woodland habitat types and associated species including Long-eared Bat and Kerry Slug. It is also designated for the protection of marine mammal species including Grey Seal and Harbour Porpoise as well as for Otter. The qualifying features and conservation objectives are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan.

The boundary of the village of Glengarriff overlaps with the boundary of this SAC. The Glengarriff WWTP discharges directly into the harbour at Monteensudder within the SAC.

In the context of this plan, and having regard to the Conservation Objectives which apply to this site, the key concerns are to ensure that:

• zoning of land within the settlement of Glengarriff, which is also within the SAC, is

compatible with the protection of the SAC;

- policies in the plan will not result in increased nutrient loading to the harbour;
- policies in the plan do not encourage or direct development into the SAC;
- linear features (hedgerows, treelines etc) within 2.5km of Lesser Horsehoe Bat roost sites are protected and there is no significant increase in light intensity (light pollution) near roosts or along commuting lines;
- policies within the plan will not put undue recreational pressure on woodland habitats and associated species;
- policies in the plan will not put undue disturbance pressure on marine mammal species.

### Assessment

# **Boundary Issues:**

Most of the land within the town boundary which is also within the SAC is within the parcel of land zoned as open space (O-01). The zoning objective clarifies the SAC designation and discourages development in this area. However, ther are other smaller areas of land within the SAC which are within the boundary of the town, which do not have any specific zoning. The plan makes clear that development will only proceed within this settlement, where it concluded that it is compatible with the requirements of the Habitats Directive. However, it is recommended that SAC land within the settlement boundary of Glengarriff would be zoned as Open Space – not suitable for development, in the interests of protecting against pressure for development within the SAC.

# Other Issues:

Policy in the draft plan (DB-05) encourages the protection of the setting of Glengarriff including the protection of coastal woodlands. This will help to ensure the protection of bat commuting lines. The plan also proposes provision of marine related tourism and leisure uses to be developed in sustainable manner.

# **Nutrient Inputs:**

The plan proposes a population target increase for Glengarriff in accordance with the Core Strategy set out in the County Development Plan, with the expectation that deficiencies in wastewater infrastructure will be delivered over time by Irish Water. It is understood that upgrades in treatments standard and capacity will be provided to the WWTP in Glengarriff in advance of new development proposed by this plan, requiring connection to same. Adherence to General Objective GO-01(d) will be important to ensuring the protection of water quality in Glengarriff Harbour, an important component in ensuring the protection of the favourable conservation status of marine species for which this site is designated.

# Conclusion

It is recommended that SAC land within the settlement boundary of Glengarriff would be zoned

as Open Space – not suitable for development, in the interests of protecting against pressure for development within the SAC.

Other planning policies for Glengarriff and the wider plan are considered to be compatible with the protection of the Glengarriff Harbour and Woodlands SAC.

# **Clonakilty Bay SAC-Screening Assessment**

# **SAC Description and Key Concerns**

This SAC is designated for the protection of estuarine and coastal habitat types including the mudflats of the bay area and dune habitats at Inchydoney. The qualifying features and conservation objectives are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan.

The boundaries of **Clonakilty** and **Inchydoney** overlap with the SAC. Treated effluent from the Clonakilty WWTP discharges to the bay area. There is a direct hydrological linkage between the SAC and a number of smaller settlements within its catchment. These are Darrara, Inchydoney and Ring. Residences in Darrara and Ring rely on individual waste water treatment systems (no discharge to the bay), however, waste water from Inchydoney is directed to the Clonakilty WWTP.

In the context of this plan, and having regard to the Conservation Objectives which apply to the SAC, the key concerns are to ensure that:

- policy for land which lies within the settlements of Clonakilty and Inchydoney, which is also within the SAC, is compatible with the protection of the SAC;
- policies in the plan will not result in increased nutrient loading to the bay;
- policies in the plan do not encourage or direct development into the SAC;
- policies in the plan will not put undue recreational pressure on dune habitats at Inchydoney;
- policies in the plan will not hinder natural dynamic coastal hydrological processes ie prevent natural retreat of coastal habitats as sea levels rise, interfere with natural circulation of sediments or interfere with natural tidal flooding patterns.

# **Assessment**

# **Boundary Issues:**

Part of this SAC lies within the settlement boundaries of the town of Clonakilty and another part lies within the boundary of the Inchydoney settlement. The settlement of Ring lies immediately adjacent to the SAC.

SAC land within the boundary of Clonakilty town comprises the estuary itself. These lands are not zoned and it is not likely that they will not come under pressure for development. There is no conflict of zoning in respect of this area.

In relation to Inchydoney, lands in the areas zoned as open space (O-01 and O-02) lie within the SAC. The objective for these lands identifies that these lands form part of the SAC and are not suitable for development. This zoning objective is compatible with the SAC designation. The previous plan identified three special policy areas at X-01, X-02 and X-03 where it was anticipated that new tourism related initiatives could be developed. These zonings have been removed, which may be positive for the SAC, as it means that it may be less likely that recreational pressures within the SAC will intensify into the future.

The plan includes general objectives which apply to Clonakilty, Inchydoney and Ring which clarify that development will only be permitted in these settlements where it is shown to be compatible with the requirements of the Habitats Directive. Subject to adherence to these policies, it is considered that development proposed for the settlements of Clonakilty and Inchydoney can be accommodated without giving rise to a significant risk of impact on the adjacent SAC.

# **Nutrient inputs:**

Clonakilty Bay is eutrophic (WFD Moderate Status, EPA 2012) and any further development which increases nutrient rich discharges to the Bay area, has the potential to cause or contributes to negative impacts on some of the habitats for which this SAC is designated. The plan proposes a population target increase for Clonakilty as per the target established in the County Development Plan. While the town is set to grow substantially, a new WWTP has recently been opened which has capacity to cater for this additional growth. This plant also provides treatment of the settlement of Inchydoney. The plant is compliant with its license conditions and while water in the harbour is suffering from chronic eutrophication, the WWTP is stated not to be having an observable negative effect on water quality and it is stated in the 2015 AER for the plant that the reduction in nutrient discharges from the upgraded WWTP should have a positive impact in the future. Subject to continued compliance with its license conditions, it is considered that development which is proposed in the plan can be accommodated without giving rise to negative effects on the SAC.

Residences in the settlement of Ring rely on individual waste water treatment systems ie there are no waste water discharges from these settlements to the bay. New development in these zones will not increase pressure on the bay associated with nutrients.

# Protection of natural dynamic coastal hydrological processes:

The installation of coastal protection infrastructure or other physical infrastructure in the coastal zone could have the potential to affect natural hydrological processes and could thereby

interfere with the achievement of the Conservation Objectives which have been set for estuarine habitats within this SAC. Significant increases in surface water run-off to coastal estuaries could also have the potential to affect natural hydrological processes in these areas. Objective CK-GO-03 of the plan relates to the implementation of flood relief works in Clonakilty. This will involve the erection of coastal defences in and around Clonakilty Bay. The development of the scheme has been subject to both EIA and AA processes previously and has been assessed to be compatible with the protection of the Clonakilty Bay SAC.

# Conclusion

The development proposals for Clonakilty and other settlements around Clonakilty Bay are compatible with the protection of the Clonakilty Bay SAC. No changes to the draft plan are required.

# Lough Hyne Nature Reserve and Environs SAC – Screening Assessment

# **SAC Description and Key Concerns**

This coastal marine site supports a range of rare marine plant and animal species and is designated for the protection of coastal and marine habitat types. The qualifying features and conservation objectives are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan. The terrestrial portion of the site is also diverse with woodland, marsh and heath habitats and associated plant and animal species.

The boundary of the SAC lies immediately adjacent to the settlement of Tragumna in the eastern portion of the SAC. The settlement is serviced by a very small Waste Water Treatment Plant (Septic Tank - PE 11) which provides secondary treatment and discharges to Tragumna Bay under EPA Certification. Water quality status in the receiving waters was recorded to be of high status by the EPA (2012). There are no other settlements within or near Lough Hyne.

In the context of this plan and having regard to the Conservation Objectives which apply to the SAC, the key concerns are to ensure that:

- policies associated with the settlement of Traguma are compatible with the protection of the SAC;
- policies associated with the settlement of Tragumna do not pose a significant risk of impact on water quality in Tragumna Bay;
- policies in the plan do not encourage or direct development into the SAC;
- policies in the plan will not put undue recreational pressure on coastal habitats within the SAC.

# **Assessment**

# **Boundary Issues: None**

**Water Quality Issues:** In accordance with Tragumna DB-04 and GO-01(a) Other Locations, intensification of development in Tragumna will only be permitted where it is shown that it will not affect water quality in the adjacent bay. No impacts on receiving waters are predicted subject to adherence to these policies.

### **Recreational Pressure:**

The X-01 zoning at Tragumna allows for an extension to an existing caravan park. However, the DB-03 zoning clarifies that new development in the settlement must be sustainable and DB-04 identifies the proximity of Tragumna to the SAC. Any future development is likely to be small scale, and will only be permitted following assessment of risk of impact to the SAC. No changes are required.

### Conclusion

No policies in the plan have been identified which could have the potential to have negative effects on the Lough Hyne Nature Reserve and Environs SAC. No changes to the draft plan are required.

# Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC – Screening Assessment

### **SAC Description and Key Concerns**

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. The SAC is designated for the protection of marine habitats as well as coastal heath habitats and for a number of marine mammal species. The qualifying features and conservation objectives are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan.

The settlements of **Schull, Ballydehob** and **Baltimore** are all located in the coastal area adjacent to or overlapping with this SAC, and treated effluent from these settlements discharges to the SAC.

Parts of the **Sherkin**, **Cape Clear**, **Heir** and **Long Islands** are located within the SAC. Dwellings etc on the islands are served by individual waste water treatment systems – ie there are no public systems on the islands and no discharges of treated effluent to the bay area from the islands.

In the context of this plan and having regard to the Conservation Objectives which apply to the SAC, the key concerns are to ensure that:

development policies and zonings associated with the settlements bounding or

overlapping with the SAC are compatible with site protection;

- policies in the plan will not result in increased nutrient loading to the bay;
- policies in the plan will not put undue pressure on water quality within the bay;
- policies in the plan will not put undue recreational pressure on coastal habitats or species within the SAC.

# Assessment

# **Boundary Issues:**

While the boundary of the SAC overlaps with the boundary of some of the settlements around the coast, there are no lands zoned for residential or other development within the SAC, and SAC lands within the towns comprises of intertidal areas only, where there is unlikely to be any pressure for development. In addition, policy for each of the settlements includes a general objective which clarifies that new development within these settlements will only be permitted following assessment and where it is shown that the development proposal is compatible with the requirements of the Habitats Directive and the protection of this site. Subject to adherence to this objective, it is considered that new development proposed by this plan will not give rise to negative implications for this SAC.

Much of the land on the islands lies within the SAC. However, a relatively small proportion of these lands support annexed habitat for which the SAC is designated, and policy for the islands includes general objectives which clarify that new development within these settlements will only be permitted following assessment and where it is shown that the development proposals are compatible with the requirements of the Habitats Directive and the protection of this site. Subject to adherence to this objective, it is considered that there will be no negative implications for this SAC.

### **Nutrients Issues:**

The plan sets out development policy for a number of settlements around the bay as well as the islands within the bay area including those with treatment plants discharging to the bay - Schull, Ballydehob and Baltimore. The population targets accord with those established in the County Development Plan 2014, and no new lands are zoned for development in any of these settlements.

The treatment plants in Schull and Baltimore have capacity to cater for the population growth which is proposed and the plants are operating in compliance with their license conditions, however Ballydehob is served by a Septic Tank which a discharges to the Ballydehob Bay. While the treatment system has spare capacity, the discharge from the plant is not compliant with EPA license conditions and is noted as possibly having a negative effect on water quality in the bay which forms part of the greater SAC. The plan identifies the need to upgrade this treatment plant to accommodate the proposed future development of the village and zoning objective GO-O1(c) – Section 4 which applies to all villages, clarifies that growth of the villages will only occur

when appropriate waste water infrastructure is available. Subject to adherence to this objective, it is considered that development which is proposed in this plan for Schull, Baltimore and Ballydehob can progress without giving rise to negative effects on nutrient sensitive habitats for which the SAC is designated.

Residences on Sherkin Island, Cape Clear Island, Heir Island and Long Island rely on individual septic tanks with no discharge to the bay. No issue in relation to nutrients inputs arises for these settlements.

### Conclusion

No policies in the plan have been identified which could have the potential to have negative effects on the Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC. No changes to the draft plan are required.

# The Gearagh SAC - Screening Assessment

# **SAC Description and Key Concerns**

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. It is designated for the protection of wetland and woodland habitat types as well as for Otter. The maintenance of stable hydrological processes is critical to ensuring the protection of the priority habitat Residual Alluvial Woodland for which this site is so important. The qualifying features and conservation objectives are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan.

There are two settlements within the West Cork Municipal District which are also in the catchment of the Gearagh, these are **Kilmichael** and **Teerelton** and they both have a direct hydrological connection to the SAC.

In the context of this plan and having regard to the Conservation Objectives which apply to the SAC, the key concerns are to ensure that:

- policies in the plan will not result in an increased risk of surface water run-off which could interfere with hydrological processes within the SAC;
- policies in the plan will not pose a risk to water quality which could have the potential to affect downstream habitats within the SAC.

# **Assessment**

Development in the settlements of Teerelton and Kilmichael is proposed to be limited to a small number of dwellings relying on their own treatment systems for the lifetime of the plan, and will therefore no give rise to any risk to water quality within the catchment of the SAC.

It will be important to ensure that surface water arising from new development in these settlements is attenuated to prevent any increase in surface water run-off. General objectives (GO-01 (d) and (e) in Section 6 of the plan provide for these requirements and subject to adherence to these policies, no implications for this site are identified.

### Conclusion

No policies in the plan have been identified which could have the potential to have negative effects on the Gearagh SAC. No changes to the draft plan are required.

# Barley Cove to Ballyrisode SAC – Screening Assessment

# **SAC Description and Key Concern**

This site is situated on the Mizen Peninsula. It is a coastal site, important for estuarine habitats, dune and heath habitat types. 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 Rockrose. It is also an important site for Chough, and the boundaries of the SAC overlap with the Sheep's Head to Toe Head SPA. The qualifying features and conservation objectives for which the SAC is designated are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan.

Two parcels of land adjacent to the SAC have development zonings. These are the hotel/chalet/apartment complex (X-01) and an existing caravan park (X-02). Policy in the plan supports the continued development of these zones for tourism purposes.

In the context of this plan, and having regard to the Conservation Objectives which apply to the SAC, the key concerns are to ensure that policies associated with these zones will not increase recreational pressures on dune or heath habitats within the SAC which could result in damage to these habitat types.

# Assessment

The primary consideration from an ecological perspective, in terms of permitting new development in these zones will be to assess the condition of habitats for which the SAC is designated to assess their condition, and to consider whether new development proposals could result in increased additional recreational pressures and whether this could have the potential to cause habitat damage within the SAC.

Zoning objectives DB-01 and DB-02 for this settlement clarify that development in these zones will only be permitted where it is shown that it is compatible with the requirements of the Habitats Directive and where appropriate wastewater infrastructure is in place. It will be important that these policies are implemented, to ensure that new development in these zones

does not result in impacts on habitats within this SAC. The plan does not propose any significant intensification of tourism uses in this area. It is considered that development in this area could be accommodated provided it is designed sensitively, and provided regard is had during planning and development stage to the protection of the SAC.

### Conclusion

Policies associated with the X-01 and X-02 sites at Barley Cove could have the potential to increase pressure on sensitive dune habitats within the SAC. These will be assessed on a case by case basis at project level. Development which could result in negative effects on these habitats will not be permitted. No changes in plan policy are required.

# Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes SAC - Screening Assessment

# **SAC Description and Key Concerns**

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 previously supported large numbers of waterfowl as well as breeding ducks and swans — however, numbers have reduced, possibly due to poor visibility as a result of eutrophication. The source of eutrophication is attributed to agricultural practises in the surrounding areas but individual waste water systems could also be contributing to the eutrophic status of the lagoon.

The qualifying features and conservation objectives for which the SAC is designated are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan. There are two settlements within the plan area which are located adjacent to (but not overlapping with) the SAC. These are **Rathbarry/Castlefreke** and **Owenahinchy**. Residences in Rathbarry are served by individual waste water treatment systems while foul water from the Owenahinchy settlement is directed to the Rosscarbery WWTP.

In the context of this plan, and having regard to the Conservation Objectives which apply to the SAC, the key concerns are to ensure that

- policies associated with tourism related development at Owenahinchy will not increase recreational pressures on dune or heath habitats within the SAC which could result in damage to these habitat types;
- policies associated with the settlement of Rathbarry do not pose a risk of impact on water quality in Kilkeran Lake which is located downstream of the settlement.

### Assessment

The plan identifies the limited potential for growth of up to ten new residences in the settlement of Rathbarry. These will be serviced by individual waste water treatment systems. The primary consideration from an ecological perspective will be to ensure that any such development would not pose a risk of impact on Kilkeran Lake. It will be essential to demonstrate that new WWTPs in this settlement do not pose a risk of impact to water quality at Kilkeran Lake. This is provided for by zoning objectives DB-03 and DB-04 for Rathbarry which clarify that development will only be permitted where it is shown that it is compatible with the requirements of the Habitats Directive and with the protection of Kilkeran Lake. Subject to adherence to these policies, it is considered that the development proposed for Rathbarry can be progressed without fear on impact on this SAC.

The plan promotes redevelopment of tourism resources including an old hotel and a caravan site at Owenahinchy. This could bring additional tourists into the area and could increase pressure on fragile dune systems within the SAC. However, the Owenahinchy settlement is located at the non designated Ownahinchy Strand and Little Island Strand, and it is anticipated that the majority of recreational activity associated with the settlement will be directed to these areas rather than to dunes systems within the SAC which are approximately one km from the settlement.

Development/enhancement of tourism infrastructure at Owenahinchy is considered to be unlikely to significantly increase recreational pressures within the SAC.

# Conclusion

No policies in the plan have been identified which could have the potential to have negative effects on the Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes SAC. No changes to the draft plan are required.

# **Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC – Screening Assessment**

# **SAC Description and Key Concerns**

This is another significant coastal site which supports estuarine habitats including extensive mudflats and saltmarsh, as well as dune habitat types. The rare plant Sea-kale occurs within the site. This SAC overlaps with Courtmacsherry Estuary SPA, and is an important site for wintering waterfowl. The qualifying features and conservation objectives for which the SAC is designated are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan.

The villages of Timoleague, Courtmacsherry and Kilbrittain (Bandon-Kinsale MD LAP Area) are located along the coast adjacent to this SAC, and waste-water from these settlements is discharged to the bay. There is an overlap of the Courtmacsherry settlement boundary with the

# SAC.

The settlements of Shannonvale and Ballinascarthy are served by septic tanks with discharge under license to the Argideen and Owenkeagh Rivers which flow into Courtmacsherry Estuary.

In the context of this plan, having regard to the Conservation Objective which apply to the SAC, the key concerns are to ensure that:

- zoning of land within the settlement of Courtmacsherry, which is also within the SAC, is compatible with the protection of the SAC;
- policies in the plan will not result in increased nutrient loading to the estuary;
- policies in the plan do not encourage or direct development into the SAC;
- policies within the plan will not put undue recreational pressure on coastal habitats;
- policies in the plan will not put undue disturbance pressure on marine mammal species.

# **Assessment**

### **Nutrients Issues:**

The settlements of Courtmacsherry and Timoleague are currently served by two overloaded septic tanks with a discharge to the estuary, while there is no treatment system at all in Timoleague (collected waste water discharges directly to the estuary without treatment). These settlements will shortly be served by a new waste water treatment plant which has recently been granted planning permission. Construction is expected to commence on this plant in 2017 and the plant is expected to be up and running in 2018. The new plant will be sufficiently sized to cater for the new growth provided for in the plan and will provide for nutrient removal. It is predicted that the new plant will contribute to improvements to water quality in the estuary which is assessed to be eutrophic and meeting Moderate status only (EPA, 2012). New development supported by this plan which is to provided for in the settlements of Timoleague and Courtmacsherry will not negatively affect this SAC provided that it does not commence until the new plant is operational.

The plan also proposes additional growth in Shannonvale and Ballinascarthy – however, wastewater treatment infrastructure is inadequate to cater for any additional growth in either of these settlements. It is not envisaged that waste water infrastructure will be upgraded in Ballinascarthy and so development in this settlement is likely to be limited to a smaller number of houses than proposed in the Core Strategy of the CDP, these to be served by their own treatment systems. Development provided for in these settlements cannot proceed until these deficiencies are resolved – this is clarified in zoning objective GO-01(d) Section 6. Subject to adherence to this policy, it is considered that development as proposed for these settlements can be progressed without giving rise to risk of impacts associated with nutrient inputs on the SAC.

# **Boundary Issues:**

The settlement boundary of Courtmacsherry overlaps with the boundary of the SAC, however land within the SAC comprises estuarine habitat and is not suitable for development. DB-03 identifies that development within the settlement will only be permitted if it can be shown that it is compatible with the protection of this SAC. There is an area of land which is zoned for business development which is located immediately adjacent to the SAC. The zoning objective (B-01) highlights the proximity of the area to the SAC and encourages developers to take account of the SAC at design stage when progressing new proposals in this area. Subject to adherence to these policies, it is considered that development as proposed for these settlements can be progressed without giving rise to risk of impacts on the SAC.

#### Conclusion

No policies in the plan have been identified which could have the potential to have negative effects on the Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC. No changes to the draft plan are required.

# Glanmore Bog SAC - Screening Assessment

# **SAC Description and Key Concerns**

This diverse site on the Beara Peninsula. The site is designated for the protection of the Annex II species Killarney Fern and Freshwater Pearl Mussel. It is also designated for the protection of Blanket Bog and Wet Heath habitat types as well as for lake (associated with Glenbeg Lough) and riverine habitats (associated with the Owenagappul River). 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. The qualifying features and conservation objectives for which the SAC is designated are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan.

The settlement of Ardgroom partially overlaps with the boundary of this SAC, and some of the land within the SAC has been developed. Part of the undeveloped land within the settlement boundary which is also within the SAC is zoned as Open Space. The remainder of undeveloped SAC land within the settlement boundary has no zoning.

The water supply for Castletownbere is provided from Glenbeg Lough within the SAC.

Treated waste water from the Ardgroom WWTP discharges to the Owenagappul River within the SAC and onwards to Kenmare Bay. The discharge point is located on the Owenagappul River within the village of Ardgroom. The Owenagappul River population of Freshwater Pearl Mussel is known to extend along the length of the river including in areas downstream of the WWTP discharge point.

In the context of this plan, having regard to the Conservation Objectives which apply to the SAC, the key concerns are to ensure that:

- policies in the plan do not increase the volume of water abstractions from Glenbeg Lough;
- policies in the plan will not increase nutrient loading to the Owenagappul River;
- policies in the plan will not increase pressure (eg recreational pressures) on sensitive peatland habitats;
- policies in the plan will not encourage development within the SAC.

### Assessment

The primary issues of concern in relation to this site relate to

- the drinking water abstraction from Glenbeg Lough to supply Castletownbere;
- the location of the discharge point for the Ardgroom WWTP which is within the SAC upstream from known locations of Freshwater Pearl Mussel; and
- the overlap of the settlement boundary of Ardgroom with the SAC.

# **Drinkingwater Abstraction Glenbeg Lough:**

In accordance with the Core Strategy as set out in the 2014 CDP the plan proposes development of up to 309 new dwellings in Castletownbere. However, it is clarified in the plan (Table 2.3 Notes) that new development in Castletownbere and any other settlements whose drinking water is supplied from Glenbeg Lough requiring a connection to the public water supply cannot be permitted if it will result in an increase in abstraction rates from the lake. Subject to adherence to this policy, it is considered that proposed development provided for in this plan will not result in increased levels of abstraction from Glenbeg Lough.

### **Nutrient Issues:**

In accordance with the Core Strategy as set out in the 2014 CDP the plan proposes new development of up to 29 new dwellings within the settlement of Ardgroom. However, there is a concern that development in this settlement requiring a connection to the WWTP could result in the introduction of increased nutrients to the protected Owenagappul River upstream of a population of Pearl Mussel. Scientific assessment will be required to determine whether this is the case or no, and whether the discharge is interfering with the achievement of the Conservation Objectives which have been established for this site. It is clarified in the notes of Table 2.3 and in the policies associated with Ardgroom (DB-07), that new development requiring a connection to the WWTP is on hold until such time as this issue is resolved. Subject to adherence to this policy, it is considered that proposed development provided for in this plan will not result in increased increased nutrient inputs to the Owenagappul River.

# **Boundary Issues:**

Objectives DB-02, DB-03 and DB-06 (Ardgroom) clarify that new development within the settlement of Ardgroom will only proceed where it concluded that it is compatible with the requirements of the Habitats Directive. However, it is recommended that SAC land within the settlement boundary of Ardgroom would be zoned as Open Space — not suitable for development, in the interests of protecting against pressure for development within the SAC.

#### Conclusion

In the interest of clarity and to protect against pressure for development within the SAC, it is recommended that undeveloped SAC land within the boundary of Ardgroom be zoned as Open Space - not suitable for development.

# **Kenmare Bay SAC-Screening Assessment**

# **SAC Description and Key Concerns**

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 site is also designated for a number of protected species including Marsh Snail, Lesser Horseshoe Bat, Otter and Harbour Seal. Of the habitats and species for which the site is designated, the Cork portion of the site supports coastal and estuarine habitats including reefs, sea cliffs and saltmarshes, heath habitat, Calaminarian grassland, Otter and Harbour Seal.

The bay supports a breeding population of Arctic/Common Tern, and overlaps with the Beara Peninsula SPA which is designated for a breeding population of Chough. The qualifying features and conservation objectives for which the SAC is designated are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan.

There are a number of settlements located along the southern shoreline of Kenmare Bay which are adjacent to or overlap with the boundary of this SAC. These include **Ardgroom** (settlement boundary overlaps with SAC) as well as **Urhin** and **Eyeries** (settlements are adjacent to the SAC). In addition **Dursey Island** is surrounded by this SAC.

In the context of this plan, having regard to the Conservation Objectives which apply to the SAC, the key concerns are to ensure that

- policies in the plan will not result in increased nutrient loading to Kenmare Bay;
- policies in the plan will not increase pressure (eg recreational pressures) on the very rare grassland habitat type associated with Allihies mines or on heath habitats along the coastline;

 policies in the plan do not encourage or direct development or non sustainable tourism or recreational activities within the SAC.

### **Assessment**

# **Nutrient Issues:**

Treated wastewater for the settlements of Ardgroom and Allihies discharges to the Kenmare Bay SAC. The plan identifies that upgrades to these treatment systems are required to facilitate the proposed growth and that development with the settlements will only be permitted where it is shown to be compatible with the requirements of the Habitats Directive (Adrgroom DB-07), Allihies (DB-10). Subject to adherence to this policy, it is considered that development provided for in this plan will not pose any risk of impact on this SAC.

# **Boundary Issues:**

Objectives DB-09 (Allihies) clarifies that new development within the village will only proceed where it is concluded that it is compatible with the requirements of the Habitats Directive. However, it is recommended that SAC land within the settlement boundary of Allihies would be zoned as Open Space – not suitable for development, in the interests of protecting against pressure for development on particularly sensitive habitats within within the SAC.

### Conclusion

In the interest of protecting against pressure for development in the SAC, it is recommended, that consideration be given at the amendments stage to zoning SAC land within the boundary of Allihies as Open Space - not suitable for development.

# **Bandon River SAC-Screening Assessment**

# **SAC - Description and Key Concerns**

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 two freshwater species including the Freshwater Pearl Mussel and Brook Lamprey. 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 species. The qualifying features and conservation objectives for which the SAC is designated are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan.

In the context of this plan, having regard to the Conservation Objectives which apply to the SAC, the key concerns are to ensure that

- policies in the plan will not result in increased nutrient loading to the Bandon River;
- policies in the plan will not affect natural hydrological processes in the river or in the

alluvial woodland habitat;

• policies in the plan will not direct development into the SAC.

# Assessment

# **Boundary Issues:**

Dunmanway Town is located immediately adjacent to the section of the Bandon River within the SAC and there is a slight overlap of the town boundary with the SAC boundary, however SAC land within the town boundary has been previously developed. There is no undeveloped SAC land within the settlement boundary – no changes to the plan are required.

#### **Nutrient Issues:**

Water quality in the Bandon River downstream of Dunmanway is assessed to be of Moderate status. Treated effluent from the WWTP discharges to the Bandon River within the SAC. While the WWTP is operating in compliance with its license conditions, water quality in the receiving system is not meeting the standard required to ensure compatibility with the requirements of the Habitats Directive, in particular to ensure the maintenance of a healthy population of Freshwater Pearl Mussel.

The plan proposes the development of an additional 273 dwellings in the town of Dunmanway. There is a concern that that the discharge of treated effluent into the Bandon River is having a negative effect on water quality in the SAC portion of the Bandon River, and any further increase in nutrient loadings arising from growth in population in the town would further contribute to such effects and would not be compatible with the achievement of the Conservation Objective which has been set for Freshwater Pearl Mussel, a species for which this SAC is designated. This is recognised and acknowledged in the plan (section 3.5.27) and it is stated in the Plan (Section 2, Table 2.3 Notes and Obj's DY-GO-02 and DY-GO-03) that any new development in Dunmanway which discharges into the Bandon River SAC is on hold until such time as issues relating to the outfall location for this WWTP are resolved. As development in Dunmanway is effectively on hold until such time as issues relating to the discharge point of the WWTP are resolved, it is considered that the plan does not pose any risk of impact on this SAC.

### Conclusion

New development in Dunmanway is effectively on hold until issues relating to the discharge of treated effluent from the public WWTP are resolved. It is essential that this position is maintained to ensure that this plan is compatible with the requirements of the Habitats Directive.

# Farranamanagh Lough SAC-Screening Assessment

# **SAC Description and Key Concerns**

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 of vegetated stony bank habitat. The site also supports heath, wet grassland, freshwater marsh, scrub and woodland habitats. Kerry Slug has been recorded within the site. The qualifying features and conservation objectives for which the SAC is designated are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan.

The settlement of Kilcrohane lies west of this SAC.

In the context of this plan, having regard to the Conservation Objectives which apply to the SAC, the key concerns are to ensure that:

- policies in the plan will not increase pressure on water quality in the lagoon;
- policies in the plan do not encourage non sustainable tourism or recreational activities within the SAC

### **Assessment**

The nearest settlement to Farranamanagh Lake is Kilcrohane. This settlement is served by a WWTP which discharges to Dunmanus Bay and will not affect the lagoon. The plan proposes a loop walk from the village to the lake. However, It is considered that the proposed loop walk within the SAC such a walk can be developed without affecting the Conservation Objectives for which apply to the site, provided it is designed sensitively. Objectivej DB-05 Kilcrohane clarifies that the walk will only be permitted where it is shown that it will not affect the SAC.

# Conclusion

No policies in the plan have been identified which could have the potential to have negative effects on the Farranamanagh Lough SAC. No changes to the draft plan are required.

# **Clonakilty Bay SPA-Screening Assessment**

# **SPA Description and Key Concerns**

This is a coastal wetland site which supports a range of coastal / estuarine habitats, brackish grasslands and freshwater marsh. Over 8,000 birds of a variety of species are recorded in the estuary annually. The site is designated for the protection of a number of species of bird which occur in significant numbers in the bay including Shelduck, Dunlin, Black-tailed Godwit, Curlew and for protection of the wetland habitats that support them. This site overlaps with Clonakilty Bay SAC. The qualifying features and conservation objectives for which the SAC is designated are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan.

The boundaries of **Clonakilty** and **Inchydoney** overlap with the boundary of the SPA. Treated effluent from the Clonakilty WWTP discharges to the bay area. There is also a direct hydrological linkage between the SAC and a number of smaller settlements within its catchment. These are **Darrara**, **Inchydoney** and **Ring**.

In the context of this plan, and having regard to the Conservation Objectives which have been set for this SPA, the key concerns are to ensure that

- policy for development zones which lie within the settlements of Clonakilty and Inchydoney, which is also within the SPA, is compatible with the protection of the SPA;
- policies in the plan will not result in increased nutrient loading to the bay;
- policies in the plan do not support recreational / amenity uses of the bay area which would have a high risk of causing disturbance to species for which the SPA is designated.

### Assessment

### **Boundary Issues:**

Part of this SPA lies within the settlement boundaries of the town of Clonakilty and another part lies within the boundary of the Inchydoney settlement. The settlement of Ring lies immediately adjacent to the SPA.

SPA land within the boundary of Clonakilty town comprises the estuary itself. These lands are not zoned and are not anticipated to be likely to come under pressure for development. There is no conflict of zoning in respect of this area.

In relation to Inchydoney, lands in the areas zoned as open space (O-01 and O-02) lie within the SPA. The objective for these lands identifies that these lands form part of the SPA and are not suitable for development. This zoning objective is compatible with the SPA designation. The previous plan identified three special policy areas at X-01, X-02 and X-03 where it was anticipated that new tourism related initiatives could be developed. These zonings have been removed, which may be positive for the PA as it means that it may be less likely that recreational pressures within the area will intensify into the future.

The plan includes general objectives which apply to Clonakilty, Inchydoney and Ring which clarify that development will only be permitted in these settlements where it is shown to be compatible with the requirements of the Habitats Directive.

### **Nutrient Inputs:**

Elevated levels of nutrients are a less critical issue for estuarine birds than they are for estuarine habitats, as increased nutrients in mudflat systems can result in increased food availability for

birds, notwithstanding the fact that the conservation condition of the habitat is reduced. Elevated levels of nutrients can in some circumstances result in a decrease in food availability for birds by causing an increase in the spread of algal mats over these areas.

The provision of adequate waste water treatment infrastructure is a key requirement to ensuring the protection of mudflat habitats for which the Clonakilty Bay SAC is designated and will also contribute towards the maintenance of healthy populations of invertebrate communities of mudflat habitats upon which birds for which this SPA is designated, feed.

Clonakilty Bay is eutrophic (WFD Moderate Status, EPA 2012) and any further development which increases nutrient rich discharges to the Bay area, has the potential to cause or contributes to negative impacts on some of the habitats for which this SPA is designated. The plan proposes a population target increase for Clonakilty as per the target established in the County Development Plan. While the town is set to grow substantially, a new WWTP has recently been opened which has capacity to cater for this additional growth. This plant also provides treatment of the settlement of Inchydoney. The plant is compliant with its license conditions and while water in the harbour is suffering from chronic eutrophication, the WWTP is stated not to be having an observable negative effect on water quality and it is stated in the 2015 AER for the plant that the reduction in nutrient discharges from the upgraded WWTP should have a positive impact in the future. Subject to continued compliance with its license conditions, it is considered that development which is proposed in the plan can be accommodated without giving rise to negative effects on the SPA.

Residences in the settlements of Darrara and Ring rely on individual waste water treatment systems i.e. there are no waste water discharges from these settlements to the bay.

# Protection of natural dynamic coastal hydrological processes:

The installation of coastal protection infrastructure or other physical infrastructure in the coastal zone could have the potential to affect natural hydrological processes and could thereby interfere with the achievement of the Conservation Objectives which have been set for estuarine habitats within this SPA. Significant increases in surface water run-off to coastal estuaries could also have the potential to affect natural hydrological processes in these areas. Objective CK-GO-03 of the plan relates to the implementation of flood relief works in Clonakilty. This will involve the erection of coastal defences in and around Clonakilty Bay. The development of the scheme has been subject to both EIA and AA processes previously and has been assessed to be compatible with the protection of the Clonakilty Bay SPA.

# Conclusion

The development proposals for Clonakilty and other settlements around Clonakilty Bay are compatible with the protection of the Clonakilty Bay SPA. No changes to the draft plan are required.

# **Beara Peninsula SPA-Screening Assessment**

# **SPA Description and Key Concerns**

This SPA includes sea cliffs and the land behind these as well as several upland areas further inland of the coast on the Beara Peninsula and Bere Island. The site is designated for the protection of Chough and Peregrine Falcon. 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. The qualifying features and conservation objectives for which the SAC is designated are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan.

This SPA extends along the coastal headlands of the **Beara Peninsula**, but also incorporates coastal headlands on **Dursey Island** and **Bere Island**, as well as some inland areas near **Allihies** and Eagle Hill. The boundary of the SPA overlaps with the boundaries of settlements on **Dursey** and **Bere Islands**.

In the context of this plan, and having regard to the Conservation Objectives which have been set for this site, the key concerns are to ensure that

- policies in the plan will not pose any risk of disturbance impact on species for which the SPA is designated;
- policies in the plan do not support recreational / amenity uses within the SPA which would have a high risk of causing disturbance to species for which the SPA is designated.

#### Assessment

The primary objectives for the West Cork Islands are set out in Section 5 of the plan. In short, the plan supports the provision of new houses on the islands where these are to be used for permanent year round occupation, supports the provision of public services and facilities on the island, supports the sustainable development of new business and enterprises for the islands as well as the development of tourism opportunities on same. No specific policies in the plan direct development towards the SPA and any new development on the islands is likely to be of a low scale and non-intensive.

The plan recognises the value of the natural heritage resources of the islands and commits to their protection. General Objective GO-01(c) for the islands clarifies that development on the islands will only be permitted where it is shown that it is compatible with the protection of sites designated or proposed to be designated for the protection of natural heritage. There are also specific objectives for the relevant islands where this commitment is repeated. Subject to

adherence to these objectives, it is considered that vision for development on the islands can be achieved without posing any significant risk of impact on this SPA.

# Conclusion

It is considered that provided development proposals and tourism etc initiatives for the settlements on the Beara Peninsula and Dursey and Bere Islands are designed sensitively, then significant negative effect on the Beara Peninsula SPA can be avoided. The plan highlights environmental sensitivities of the islands and clarifies the proposed approach to new development proposals on the islands in the context of protection of Natura 2000 sites. No changes to the draft plan are required.

# **Seven Heads SPA-Screening Assessment**

# **SPA Description and Key Concerns**

This site is located south-west of Courtmacsherry. 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.

The nearest settlements to the SPA are **Courtmacsherry**, **Timoleague**, **Butlerstown** and **Lislevane**. The qualifying features and conservation objectives for which the SAC is designated are listed in **Appendix I** of this plan.

In the context of the plan, and having regard to the Conservation Objectives which apply, the key concerns are to ensure that:

- policies in the plan will not pose any risk of disturbance impact on species for which the SPA is designated;
- policies in the plan do not support recreational / amenity uses within the SPA which
  would have a high risk of causing disturbance to species for which the SPA is
  designated.

#### Assessment

There is an objective linked to the settlement of Courtmacsherry which promote the development of a walk which would extend through the SPA (U-01). It is considered that this walk could be developed without affecting the Conservation Objectives for which apply to the SPA, provided it is designed sensitively. The objective clarifies this. Subject to adherence to this objective, it is considered that the proposals for this walk can be achieved without giving rise to a significant risk of impact on this SPA.

### Conclusion

It is considered that the proposed loop walk within the SPA can be developed without affecting the Conservation Objectives for which apply to the site, provided it is designed sensitively. No policies in the plan have been identified which could have the potential to have negative effects on the Seven Heads SPA. No changes to the draft plan are required.

# **Courtmacsherry Bay SPA**

# **SPA Description and Key Concerns**

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.

The villages of Timoleague, Courtmacsherry and Kilbrittain (Bandon-Kinsale MD LAP area) are located along the coast adjacent to this SAC, and waste-water from these settlements is discharged to the bay. There is an overlap of the Courtmacsherry settlement boundary with the SAC.

The settlements of Shannonvale and Ballinascarthy are served by septic tanks with discharge under license to the Argideen and Owenkeagh Rivers which flow into Courtmacsherry Estuary.

In the context of the plan, and having regard to the Conservation Objectives which apply, the key concerns are to ensure that

- policies in the plan will not pose any risk of disturbance impact on species for which the SPA is designated;
- policies in the plan do not support recreational / amenity uses within the SPA which
  would have a high risk of causing disturbance to species for which the SPA is
  designated; and
- policies in the plan will not result in an increased nutrient loading within the bay.

#### **Assessment**

### **Nutrients Issues:**

Elevated levels of nutrients are a less critical issue for estuarine birds than they are for estuarine habitats, as increased nutrients in mudflat systems can result in increased food availability for birds, notwithstanding the fact that the conservation condition of the habitat is reduced. Elevated levels of nutrients can in some circumstances result in a decrease in food availability for birds by causing an increase in the spread of algal mats over these areas.

The provision of adequate waste water treatment infrastructure is a key requirement to ensuring the protection of mudflat habitats for which the Blackwater River SAC is designated and will also contribute towards the maintenance of healthy populations of invertebrate communities of mudflat habitats upon which birds for which this SPA is designated, feed.

The settlements of Courtmacsherry is currently served by two overloaded septic tanks with a discharge to the estuary, while there is no treatment system at all in Timoleague (collected waste water discharges directly to the estuary without treatment). These settlements will shortly be served by a new waste water treatment plant which has recently been granted planning permission. Construction is expected to commence on this plant in 2017 and the plant is expected to be up and running in 2018. The new plant will be sufficiently sized to cater for the new growth provided for in the plan and will provide for nutrient removal. It is predicted that the new plant will contribute to improvements to water quality in the estuary which is assessed to be eutrophic and meeting Moderate status only (EPA, 2012). New development supported by this plan which is to provided for in the settlements of Timoleague and Courtmacsherry will not negatively affect this SPA provided that it does not commence until the new plant is operational.

The plan also proposes additional growth in Shannonvale and Ballinascarthy – however, wastewater treatment infrastructure is inadequate to cater for any additional growth in either of these settlements. It is not envisaged that waste water infrastructure will be upgraded in Ballinascarthy and so development in this settlement is likely to be limited to a smaller number of houses than proposed in the Core Strategy of the CDP, these to be served by their own treatment systems. Development provided for in these settlements cannot proceed until these deficiencies are resolved – this is clarified in zoning objective GO-01(d) Section 6. Subject to adherence to this policy, it is considered that development as proposed for these settlements can be progressed without giving rise to risk of impacts associated with nutrient inputs on the SAC.

# **Boundary Issues:**

The settlement boundary of Courtmacsherry overlaps with the boundary of the SAC, however land within the SAC comprises estuarine habitat and is not suitable for development. DB-03 identifies that development within the settlement will only be permitted if it can be shown that it is compatible with the protection of this SAC. There is an area of land which is zoned for business development which is located immediately adjacent to the SAC. The zoning objective (B-01) highlights the proximity of the area to the SAC and encourages developers to take account of the SAC at design stage when progressing new proposals in this area. Subject to adherence to these policies, it is considered that development as proposed for these settlements can be progressed without giving rise to risk of impacts on the SAC.

# Conclusion

No policies in the plan have been identified which could have the potential to have negative effects on the Courtmacsherry Estuary SPA. No changes to the draft plan are required.

# 4 Screening Conclusions and Recommendations

Draft West Cork Municipal	District Local Area Plan - Screening Conclusion
Natura 2000 sites subject	Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC 0090
to Screening for	Clonakilty Bay SAC 0091
Appropriate Assessment	Caha Mountains SAC 0093
	Lough Hyne Nature Reserve and Environs SAC 0097
	Roaringwater bay and Islands SAC 0101
	Sheep's Head SAC 0102
	St. Gobnet's Wood SAC 0106
	The Gearagh SAC 0108
	Three Castle Head to Mizen Head SAC 0109
	Old Domestic Buildings Dromore SAC 0353
	Kilgarvan Ice House SAC 0364
	Killarney National Park, Magillycuddy Reeks and Caragh River
	Catchment SAC 0365
	Barley Cove to Ballyrisode Point SAC 1040
	Cleanderry Wood SAC 1043
	Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes SAC 1061
	Myross Wood SAC 1070
	Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC 1230
	Cloonee and Inchiquin Loughs, Uragh Wood SAC 1342
	Mucksna Wood SAC 1371
	Castletownshend SAC 1547
	Derryclogher (Knockboy) Bog SAC 1873
	Glanmore Bog SAC 1879
	Maulagowna Bog SAC 1881
	Old Domestic Building, Curraglass Wood SAC 2041
	Kenmare Bay SAC 2158
	Bandon River SAC 2171
	Blackwater River (Kerry) SAC 2173
	Drongawn Lough 2187
	Farranamanagh Lough SAC 2189
	Dunbeacon Shingle SAC 2280
	Reen Point Shingle SAC 2281

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	Glanlough Woods SAC 2315
	Old Head of Kinsale SPA 4021
	Bull and the Cow SPA 4066
	Clonakilty Bay SPA 4081
	The Gearagh SPA 4109
	Iveragh Peninsula SPA 4154
	Beara Peninsula SPA 4155
	Galley Head to Duneen Point SPA 4190
	Seven Heads SPA 4191
	Courtmacsherry Bay SPA 4219
Description of the Plan	See Section 2 of this report.
•	·
Is the Plan Directly	No
Connected with Or	
Necessary to the	
Management of the	
Natura 2000 sites	
identified above	
Are there other projects	Other plans that set land use policy and promote the
or plans that together	intensification of economic, tourism, agriculture and forestry
with this plan could give	activity in within the catchments of Cork Harbour, South East Cork
rise to cumulative	and the Blackwater River, may include policies whose
impacts on any of the	implementation could result in negative 'in combination' effects
above listed sites.	on habitats and species for which the above listed sites are
	designated include inter alia:
	Atlantic Gateways Initiative 2006
	Common Agricultural Policy (2014-2020)
	Cork Area Strategic Plan (2008)
	Draft Kanturk Mallow MD LAP 2016
	Draft Kinsale-Bandon MD LAP 2016
	Draft Blarney-Macroom MD LAP 2016
	Forests, products and people – Irelands forest policy-a
	renewed vision 2014
	Harvest 2020-A Vision for Irish Agri-Food and Fisheries
	Kerry County Development Plan 2015-2021
	Marine Leisure Infrastructure Strategy for the Southern
	Division of Cork County 2010-2020
	· ·
	National Climate (2007-2012) Climate Adaptation

#### Framework (2012)

- National Development Plan 2007-2013
- National Renewable Energy Action Plan
- National Spatial Strategy
- Tourism Action Plan 2016-2018
- National Waste Management Plan 2004-2009
- North and West Cork Strategic Plan 2002-2020
- Smarter Travel. A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009-2020
- South Western Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022
- West Cork Islands Integrated Development Strategy 2010

#### The primary issues of concern are

- policies which could result in increased pressure for development within Natura 2000 sites;
- policies resulting in an increased pressure on water quality in sensitive catchments;
- policies which may hinder natural hydrological processes in freshwater systems;
- policies which could result in significant disturbance to birds within SPAs

#### **Assessment of Significant Effects**

## Describe how the plan (alone or in combination is likely to affect Natura 2000 sites)

The key policy areas which were identified at the draft plan screening stage which could have the potential to give rise to impacts on the Natura 2000 networks were:

- policies which could result in increased pressure for development within Natura 2000 sites;
- policies resulting in an increased pressure on water quality in sensitive catchments;
- policies which may hinder natural hydrological processes within the in freshwater systems;
- policies which could direct activity into SPAs which could have the potential to cause disturbance to birds at wintering grounds or breeding sites.

# Recommended changes to the plan

A number of recommendations for modifications to the draft plan are proposed to ensure compliance with the Habitats and Birds

	Directives. These are summarised below.
	Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC - Zone undeveloped SAC land identified as existing built up area in Glengarriff as Open Space not suitable for development.  Clonakilty Bay SAC - No changes required.  Lough Hyne Nature Reserve and Environs SAC - No changes required.  Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC - No changes required.  The Gearagh SAC - No changes required.  Barleycove to Ballyrisode SAC - No changes required.  Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes SAC - No changes required.  Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC - No changes required.  Glanmore Bog SAC - Zone undeveloped SAC land identified as existing built up area in Ardgroom as Open Space not suitable for development.  Kenmare Bay SAC - Zone undeveloped SAC land identified as existing built up area in Allihies as Open Space not suitable for development.  Bandon River SAC - No changes to the plan required.  Farranamanagh Lough SAC - No changes to the plan required.  Clonakilty Bay SPA - No changes to the plan required.  Seven Heads SPA - No changes to the plan required.  Courtmacsherry Bay SPA - No changes to the plan required.
List of Agencies Consulted	The draft plan and this report will be referred to all of the relevant Statutory Authorities and will available for consideration by the general public from November 16 <sup>th</sup> 2016.
Conclusion	Subject to adherence to protective policies in the plan relating to provision of appropriate waste water infrastructure and management of surface water, and to adoption of recommended changes as set out above, it is considered that potential for this plan to give rise to significant negative effects on the Natura 2000 network can be screened out.
Data Collected to Carry Out	the Assessment
Who carried out the	Planning Policy Unit Cork County Council

assessment	
Sources of Data	See references
Level of Assessment Completed	Screening for Appropriate Assessment
Where can the full results of the assessment be accessed and viewed	Habitats Directive Assessment will continue through the process of making this plan. All documents associated with the process will be available at <a href="https://www.corkcoco.ie">www.corkcoco.ie</a>

## 5 Next Steps

#### 5.1 Post Consultation

Submissions or observations regarding the **West Cork Municipal District Draft Local Area Plan** document and to the Environmental Report and Habitats Directive Screening Report are now welcome up to 4pm on Friday 06th January 2017.

All such submissions lodged within the above period and prior to the close of business at 4.00pm on Friday 06th January 2017, will be taken into consideration in the finalisation of the Local Area Plan, and proposed amendments will be published during a second round of public consultation which will commence in the spring of 2017. Proposed amendments will be subject to Habitats Directive Screening Assessment and the findings of that assessment will be published alongside the proposed amendments.

#### 6 Sources of Information

#### 6.1 National Parks and Wildlife Service Data

Information relating to individual Natura 2000 sites including Article 17 Conservation Assessment Reports for Habitats and Species in Ireland (2013), individual site synopses, Natura 2000 data forms, and information relating to the qualifying features and conservation objectives of individual sites was sourced from the NPWS database (www.NPWS.ie)

#### 6.2 Guidance

Guidance used in the preparation of this report included the following:

European Communities, Managing Natura 2000 sites. The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. European Communities, 2000.

European Communities, Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites. Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. European Communities, 2001.

Environment, Heritage and Local Government. Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities. 2009.

## **Appendix I Natura 2000 Site Data**

#### **Glengarriff Harbour and Woodlands SAC**

## **Qualifying Interests**

91A0 Old sessile oak woods with *llex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles

91E0 Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)

1024 Kerry Slug Geomalacus maculosus1303 Lesser Horseshoe Bat Rhinolophus hipposideros

1355 Otter Lutra lutra1365 Common Seal Phoca vitulina

#### **Conservation Objectives - Attributes and Targets (summary)**

#### Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles in the Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC

Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Woodland size	Woodland structure: cover and height	Woodland structure: community diversity and extent	Woodland Structure: natural regeneration
Area stable or increasing subject to natural processes: 127.5ha	No decline	Area stable or increasing. Where topographically possible 'large' woods at least 25ha in size and 'small woods' at least 3	Diverse structure with a relatively closed canopy containing mature trees; sub-canopy layer with semi-mature trees and shrubs; and well	Maintain diversity and extent of community types	Seedlings, saplings and pole age-classes occur in adequate proportions to ensure survival of woodland canopy

|--|

#### Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0] cont'd

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles in the Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC

#### Attribute/Target

Woodland Structure: dead wood	Woodland Structure: veteran trees	Woodland Structure: indicators of local distinctiveness	Vegetation composition: native tree cover	Vegetation composition: typical species	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species
At least 30m3/ha of fallen timber greater than 10cm diameter; 30 snags/ha; both categorical should include stems greater than 40cm diameter	No decline	No decline	No decline. Native tree cover not less than 95%	A variety of typical native species present, depending on woodland type, including oak and birch	Negative indicator species, particularly non-native invasive species, absent or under control

Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) in the Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC

Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Woodland size	Woodland structure: cover and height	Woodland structure: community diversity and extent	Woodland Structure: natural regeneration	Hydrological regime: Flooding depth/height of water table
Area stable or increasing subject to natural processes: 127.5ha	No decline	Area stable or increasing. Where topographically possible 'large' woods at least 25ha in size and 'small woods' at least 3 ha in size	Diverse structure with a relatively closed canopy containing mature trees; sub canopy layer with semi- mature trees and shrubs; and well developed herb layer	Maintain diversity and extent of community types	Seedlings, saplings and pole age- classes occur in adequate proportions to ensure survival of woodland canopy	At least 30m3/ha of fallen timber greater than 10cm diameter; 30 snags/ha; both categorical should include stems greater than 40cm diameter

#### Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0] cont'd

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) in the Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC

#### Attribute/Target **Woodland structure:** Woodland structure: **Woodland structure:** Vegetation Vegetation Vegetation indicators of local composition: negative dead wood veteran trees composition: native composition: typical distinctiveness species indicator species tree cover No decline No decline No decline. Native tree A variety of typical **Negative indicator Negative indicator** native species present, species, particularly cover not less than 95% species, particularly depending on non-native invasive non-native invasive woodland type, species, absent or species, absent or

including oak and birch

under control

under control

#### **Kerry Slug Geomalacus maculosus**

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Kerry Slug *Geomalacus maculosus* in the Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC

#### Attribute/Target

Distribution: occupied 1km grid	Habitat extent: woodland area	Habitat quality: woodland	Habitat quality: non-native species
squares			
Number of occupied 1km squares at	Stable or increasing, subject to	Proportion of sessile oak in canopy at	Rhododendron in woodland absent
least stable	natural processes	least stable	or under control

#### Lesser Horseshoe Bat Rhinolophus hipposideros

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Lesser Horseshoe Bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros* in the Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC

Population per roost	Winter roosts	Summer roosts	Number of auxiliary roosts	Extent of potential foraging habitat	Linear Features	Light Pollution
Minimum number of 232 bats for the summer roost; minimum of 266 for the artificial hibernaculum and minimum number of 111 for the paired winter	No decline	No decline	No decline	No significant decline within 2.5km of roost sites	No significant loss, within 2.5km of qualifying roosts	No significant increase in artificial light intensity adjacent to named roosts or along commuting routes within 2.5km of those roosts

roosts			

#### Lutra Lutra (Otter)

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Lutra Lutra (Otter) in the Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC

	Attribute/Target						
Distribution	Extent of terrestrial	Extent of marine habitat	Extent of freshwater	Extent of freshwater (lake/lagoon)	Couching sites and holts	Fish biomass available	Barriers to connectivity
	habitat		(river) habitat	habitat			
No significant	No significant	No significant	No significant	No significant	No significant	No significant	No significant
decline	decline – area -	decline – area -	decline – length	decline – area 2ha	decline	decline	increase
	56ha	137ha	23.5km				

#### Phoca vitulina (Common Seal)

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Phoca vitulina (Common Seal) in the Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC

		Attribute/Target		
Access to suitable habitat	Breeding behaviour	Moulting behaviour	Resting behaviour	Disturbance
Species range within the	Conserve the breeding sites	Conserve the moult haul out	Conserve the resting haul out	Human activities should not
SAC should not be restricted	in a natural condition	sites in a natural condition	sites in a natural condition	occur at levels that do not
by artificial barriers to site				adversely affect the harbour
use				seal population at the SAC

NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives: Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC 0090. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

#### Clonakilty Bay SAC (Site Code 0091) - Site Data

#### **Qualifying Interests**

Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]

Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]

Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]

Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]

Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]

Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea) [2150]

#### **Conservation Objectives - Attributes and Targets (summary)**

#### Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide in Clonakilty Bay SAC

Attribute/Target				
Habitat Area	Community Distribution			
The permanent habitat area is stable or increasing subject to natural processes (313ha).	Conserve the following community type in a natural condition: Sand to sandy mud with <i>Tubificoides benedii</i> and <i>Peringia ulvae</i> community complex.			

#### Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Annual vegetation of drift lines in Clonakilty Bay SAC

Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species
Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession	No decline, or change in habitat distribution, subject to natural processes	Maintain the natural circulation of sediment and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession	Maintain the presence of species-poor communities with typical species: sea rocket, sea sandwort, prickly saltwort and orache	Negative indicator species (including non- natives) to represent less than 5% cover

## Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Embryonic shifting dunes in Clonakilty Bay SAC

	Attribute/Target									
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation composition: plant health of foredune grasses	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species				
Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession (1.62ha)	No decline, subject to natural processes	Maintain the natural circulation of sediment and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession	More than 95% of sand couch grass and/or lyme grass should be healthy (i.e. green plant parts above ground and flowering heads present	Maintain the presence of species poor communities with typical species: sand couch grass and/or lyme grass	Negative indicator species (including non-native species) to represent less than 5% cover				

#### Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria in Clonakilty Bay SAC

Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical structure: functionality and sediment supply	Attribute/Targe Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation composition: plant health of dune grasses	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species
Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession (0.72ha)	No decline, or change in habitat distribution, subject to natural processes	Maintain the natural circulation of sediment and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession	95% of marram grass and/or lyme grass should be healthy (i.e. green plant parts above ground and flowering heads present)	Maintain the presence of species poor communities dominated by marram grass and/or lyme grass	Negative indicator species (including non-native species) to represent less than 5% cover

## Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) in Clonakilty Bay SAC

Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical Structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation structure: bare ground	Vegetation structure: sward height	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species	Vegetation composition; scrub/trees
Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession (16.3ha)	No decline, or change in habitat distribution, subject to natural processes	Maintain the natural circulation of sediment and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession	Bare ground should not exceed 10% of fixed dune habitat, subject to natural processes	Maintain structural variation within sward	Maintain range of sub communities with typical species	Negative indicator species to represent less than 5% cover	No more than 5% cover or under control

#### Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea) [2150]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea) in Clonakilty Bay SAC

Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical Structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation structure: bare ground	Vegetation structure: sward height	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub- communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species	Vegetation composition; scrub/trees
Area stable	No decline, or	Maintain the	Maintain the	Bare ground	Maintain	Maintain range	Negative	No more than
or increasing,	change in	natural	range of	should not	structural	of sub	indicator	5% cover or
subject to	habitat	circulation of	coastal	exceed 10%	variation	communities	species to	under control

natural	distribution,	sediment and	habitats	of fixed dune	within sward	with typical	represent less	
processes,	subject to	organic matter,	including	habitat,		species	than 5% cover	
including	natural	without any	transitional	subject to				
erosion and	processes	physical	zones, subject	natural				
succession		obstructions	to natural	processes				
			processes					
			including					
			erosion and					
			succession					

NPWS [2014] Conservation Objectives: Clonakilty Bay SAC 0091. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

#### Lough Hyne Nature Reserve and Environs SAC (Site Code) 0097

#### **Qualifying Interests**

Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]

Reefs [1170]

Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]

#### **Conservation Objectives**

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

Code	Description
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays
1170	Reefs
8330	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves

NPWS (2014) Conservation objectives for Lough Hyne Natura Reserve and Environs SAC [0097]. Generic Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

#### Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC (Site Code 0101)

#### **Qualifying Interests**

Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]

Reefs [1170]

Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]

European dry heaths [4030]

Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]

Phocoena phocoena (Harbour Porpoise) [1351]

Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]

Halichoerus grypus (Grey Seal) [1364]

#### **Conservation Objectives - Attributes and Targets (summary)**

Large	shallow	inlets	and hav	/5	[1160]
Laige	SHAHOW	IIIIEra	allu bay	13	TTOOL

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Large shallow inlets and bays in Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC

Habitat Area	Community Extent	Shoot density	Community Structure	Community Distribution
The permanent habitat area	The extent of the Zostera	The quality of Zostera	Tha quality of maerl	The following communities
is stable or increasing,	dominated and maerl	dominated communities	dominated communities	should be conserved in a
subject to natural processes.	dominated communities	should be conserved, subject	should be conserved, subject	natural condition: Muddy
	should be conserved, subject	to natural processes	to natural processes	sand with bivalves and
	to natural processes			polychaetes community
				complex; mixed sediment
				community complex; shallow
				sand/mud community
				complex

#### Reefs [1170]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of reefs in Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC

Attribute/Target								
Habitat Distribution	Habitat Area	Community Structure	Community Extent	Community Structure				
The distribution of reefs should remain stable subject to natural processes.	The permanent habitat area is stable, subject to natural processes.	The following reef community complexes should be maintained in a natural condition: Exposed to moderately exposed intertidal reef; Exposed sub tidal reef below 20m; Sheltered reef.	The extent of <i>Laminaria</i> dominated communities should be conserved, subject to natural processes.	The biology of <i>Laminaria</i> dominated communities should be conserved, subject to natural processes.				

## Vegetated Sea Cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts in Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC

	Attribute/Target								
Habitat Length	Habitat Distribution	Physical structure: functionality and hydrological regime	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation structure: vegetation height	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub- communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species	Vegetation composition: bracken and woody species		
Area stable,	No decline	No alteration to natural	Maintain range	Maintain the	Maintain the	Negative	Cover of bracken		
subject to	subject to	functioning of	of sea cliff	structural	range of sub	indicator species	on grassland		
natural	natural	geomorphological and	habitat	variation	communities with	(including non	and/or heath less		

processes,	processes	hydrological processes	zonations	within sward	typical species	natives) to	than 10%. Cover
including		due to artificial	including		listed in the Irish	represent less	of woody species
erosion.		structures	transitional		Sea Cliff Survey	than 5% cover	on grassland
Total length			zones, subject				and/or heath less
of cliff			to natural				than 20%
section			processes due				
21.01km			to natural				
			processes				
			including				
			erosion and				
			succession				

## European Dry Heaths [4030]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of European dry heaths in Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC

## Attribute/Target

Vegetation composition: rare/scarce heath species	Vegetation structure: disturbed bare ground	Vegetation structure: burning
No decline in distribution or population sizes of rare/scarce species, including hairy birdsfoot trefoil, bird's-foot, spotted rock-rose, soft clover, pale dog-violet, bird's-foot clover, heath pearlwort.	Cover of disturbed bare ground less than 10% (but if peat soil less than 5%)	No signs of burning within sensitive areas

Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of submerged or partially submerged sea caves in Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC

Attribute/Target				
Distribution	Community Structure			
The distribution of sea caves occurring in the site should remain stable, subject to natural processes	Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the ecology of sea caves at the site			

Phocoena phocoena (Harbour Porpoise) [1351]						
Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Harbour Porpoise in Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC						
Attribute/Target						
Access to suitable habitat	Disturbance					
Species range within the site should not be restricted by artificial barriers to	Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the					
site use	harbour porpoise community at the site					

Lutra Lutra (Otter) [1355]							
Conservation Obje	Conservation Objective: To restore the favourable conservation condition of Otter in Roaringwater Bay and Island SAC						
Attribute/Target							
Distribution	Extent of terrestrial habitat	Extent of marine habitat	Extent of freshwater (river) habitat	Couching sites and holts	Fish biomass available	Barriers to connectivity	
No significant decline	No significant decline – area – 171ha above high water mark; 3ha along river	No significant decline length mapped and calculated as 1562ha.	No significant decline. Length mapped and calculated as 0.74km	No significant decline	No significant decline	No significant increase	

banks/around			
ponds		<u> </u>	

## Grey Seal (Halichoerus grypus) [1364]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Grey Seal in Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC

## Attribute/Target

Access to suitable habitat	Breeding behaviour	Moulting behaviour	Resting behaviour	Population Composition	Disturbance
Species range within the SAC should not be restricted by artificial barriers to site use	The breeding sites should be maintained in a natural condition	The moult haul-out sites should be maintained in a natural condition	The resting haul-out sites should be maintained in a natural condition	The grey seal population occurring within this site should contain adult, juvenile and pup cohorts annually	Human activities should not occur at levels that do not adversely affect the grey seal population at the site

NPWS (2011) Conservation Objectives: Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC 0101. Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

#### The Gearagh SAC (Site Code 0108)

#### Site Data

#### **Qualifying Interests**

Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260] Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubric p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270] Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles [91A0] Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0] *Lutra lutra* (Otter) [1355]

#### **Conservation Objectives - Attributes and Targets (summary)**

Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitricho-Batrachion* vegetation in the Gearagh SAC which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

	Attribute/Target						
Habitat area	Habitat distribution	Hydrological regime: river flow	Hydrological regime: groundwater discharge	Substratum: variety and extent	Water quality: nutrients	Water quality: biological indicators	
Area stable or increasing subject to natural processes	No decline, subject to natural processes	Maintain appropriate hydrological regime necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	Maintain the appropriate groundwater contribution to support the typical species and vegetation	Maintain the variety and extent of substratum necessary to support the typical species and vegetation	Maintain the concentration of nutrients in the water column necessary to support the typical species and vegetation	Maintain good or high biological status necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the	

	composition of the	composition of the	composition of the	habitat
	habitat	habitat	habitat	

Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260] cont'd

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitricho-Batrachion* vegetation in the Gearagh SAC which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

#### Attribute/Target

Vegetation composition: typical species	Vegetation composition: vegetation communities	Fringing Habitats	Floodplain Connectivity
Maintain typical species in good condition, including appropriate distribution and abundance	Maintain vegetation communities/zonation/mosaic characteristic of the site	Maintain marginal fringing habitats that support the typical species that support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	Maintain floodplain connectivity necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat

Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubric p.p. and Bidention p.p vegetation 3270

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubric p.p. and Bidention p.p vegetation in the Gearagh SAC, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets.

Habitat area	Habitat	Hydrological	Soil/substratum	Soil/substratum	Physical	Water quality:	Typical species
	distribution	regime:	type: variety and	nutrient status:	structure: Bare	nutrients;	
		groundwater	extent	nitrogen and	ground	phytoplankton	

		contribution; flood duration, flood frequency, flood area and depth		phosphorus		biomass	
Area stable or increasing subject to natural fluctuations	No decline, subject to natural processes.	Maintain appropriate hydrological regime necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	Maintain variety and extent of substratum necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	Maintain nutrient status necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	Maintain sufficient wet bare ground to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	Maintain water quality necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	Maintain typical species in good condition, including appropriate distribution and abundance

#### Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubric p.p. and Bidention p.p vegetation 3270 cont'd

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubric p.p. and Bidention p.p vegetation in the Gearagh SAC, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets.

Vegetation Composition: vegetation zonation	Fringing Habitats	Floodplain Connectivity
Maintain vegetation zonation/mosaic characteristic of the site	Maintain marginal fringing habitats that support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	Maintain floodplain connectivity necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat

Old sessile oak woods	with Ilex and Blechnum	in the British Isles

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Old Sessile Oak Woods in the Gearagh SAC

	Attribute/Target						
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Woodland Size	Woodland Structure: cover and height	Woodland Structure; community diversity and extent	Woodland Structure: natural regeneration		
Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes (Toon Bridge Wood 10.4ha)	No decline	Area stable or increasing. Where topographically possible, "large" woods at least 25ha in size and "small" woods at least 3ha in size	Diverse structure with a relatively closed canopy containing mature trees; sub- canopy layer with semi- mature trees and shrubs; and well- developed herb layer	Maintain diversity and extent of community types	Seedlings, saplings and pole age-classes occur in adequate proportions to ensure survival of woodland canopy		

Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles cont'd

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Old Sessile Oak Woods in the Gearagh SAC

	Attribute/Target						
Woodland Structure: dead wood	Woodland Structure: veteran trees	Woodland Structure: indicators of local	Vegetation composition: native	Vegetation composition: typical	Vegetation composition: negative		
		distinctiveness	tree cover	species	indicator species		
At least 30m <sup>3</sup> /ha of	No decline	No decline	No decline. Native tree	A variety of typical	Negative indicator		
fallen timber greater			cover not less than 95%	native species present,	species, particularly		
than 10cm diameter;				depending on	non-native invasive		
30 snags/ha; both				woodland type, oak	species , absent or		
categories should				(Quercus petraea) and	under control		
include stems greater				birch ( <i>Betula</i>			

than 40cm diameter		pubescens)	

Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]

Conservation Objective: To restore the favourable conservation condition of Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) in the Gearagh SAC

#### Attribute/Target

Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Woodland size	Woodland structure: cover and height	Woodland structure: community diversity and extent	Woodland Structure: natural regeneration
Area stable or increasing subject to natural processes, at least 101.2ha for sites surveyed	No decline	Area stable or increasing. Where topographically possible 'large' woods at least 25ha in size and 'small woods' at least 3 ha in size	Diverse structure with a relatively closed canopy containing mature trees; subcanopy layer with semimature trees and shrubs; and well developed herb layer	Maintain diversity and extent of community types	Seedlings, saplings and pole age-classes occur in adequate proportions to ensure survival of woodland canopy

Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0] cont'd

Conservation Objective: To restore the favourable conservation condition of Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) in the Gearagh SAC

Hydrological regime: Flooding depth/height of water table	Woodland structure: dead wood	Woodland structure: veteran trees	Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness	Vegetation composition: native tree cover	Vegetation composition: typical species	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species
Appropriate hydrological regime necessary for maintenance of alluvial vegetation	At least 30m³/ha of fallen timber; 30 snags/ha; both categories should include stems greater than 40cm diameter (greater than 20cm diameter in the case of alder)	No decline	No decline.	No decline. Native tree cover not less than 95%	A variety of typical native species present, depending on woodland type, including oak, ash, birch, alder and willows.	Negative indicator species, particularly non-native invasive species, absent or under control

Lutra Lutra (Otter)						
Conservation Objective	e: To restore the favoural	ole conservation condi	ition of Lutra Lutra ( <i>O</i>	tter) in the Gearagh	SAC	
	Attribute/Target					
Distribution	Extent of terrestrial habitat	Extent of freshwater (river) habitat	Extent of freshwater (lake) habitat	Couching sites and holts	Fish biomass available	Barriers to connectivity
No significant decline	No significant decline. Area mapped and calculated as 103ha above HWM; 1165.7ha along river	No significant decline. Length mapped and calculated as 10.6km	No significant decline. Area mapped and calculated as 129.5ha	No significant decline	No significant decline	No significant increase

banks/around ponds			

NPWS (2016) Conservation objectives for The Gearagh SAC [0093]. Generic Version 1.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

#### Barley Cove to Ballyrisode SAC (Site Code 1040)

#### **Qualifying Interests**

Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]

Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]

Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]

Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330]

Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]

Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]

Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]

European dry heaths [4030]

#### **Conservation Objectives - Attributes and Targets (summary)**

Mudflats and sandflats not covered b	v seawater at low tide	[1140]
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Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide for the Barley Cove to Ballyrisode SAC

Attribute/Target				
Habitat Area	Community Distribution			
The permanent habitat is stable or increasing subject to natural processes (66ha)	Conserve the following community types in a natural condition: Sand with Eurydice pulchra community complex; Coarse sediment with Tubificoides benedii community.			

Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Perennial vegetation of stony banks for the Barley Cove to Ballyrisode SAC

Attribute/Target						
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub- communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species	
Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession	No decline, or change in habitat distribution, subject to natural processes.	Maintain the natural circulation of sediment and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession	Maintain the typical vegetated shingle flora including the range of sub-communities within the different zones	Negative indicator species (including non- natives) to represent less than 5% cover	

Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand for the Barley Cove to Ballyrisode SAC

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Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical Structure: sediment supply	Physical structure: creeks and pans	Physical structure: flooding regime	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation structure: height	Vegetation structure: vegetation cover	Vegetation composition : typical species and sub- communities	Vegetation structure: negative indicator species – Spartina anglica
Area stable	No decline or	Maintain, or	Maintain/res	Maintain	Maintain the	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain the	No cordgrass
or increasing	change in	where	tore creek	natural tidal	range of	structural	more than	presence of	has been

0.48ha	habitat	necessary	and pan	regime	coastal	variation in	90% of area	species-poor	recorded at
	distribution	restore,	structure,		habitats	sward	outside	communities	this site and
		natural	subject to		including		creeks	listed in SMP	it should be
		circulation of	natural		transitional		vegetated		prevented
		sediments	processes,		zones,				from
		and organic	including		subject to				establishing
		matter,	erosion and		natural				
		without any	succession		processes				
		physical			including				
		obstructions			erosion and				
					succession				

Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand for the Barley Cove to Ballyrisode SAC

		Attribut	te/Target		
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical Structure: sediment supply	Physical structure: creeks and pans	Physical structure: flooding regime	Vegetation structure: zonation
Area stable or increasing 0.48ha	No decline or change in habitat distribution	Maintain, or where necessary restore, natural circulation of sediments and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain/restore creek and pan structure, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession	Maintain natural tidal regime	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession

Atlantic Salt Meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) 1330 cont'd

Conservation Objective: To restore the favourable conservation condition of Atlantic Salt Meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) for the Barley

Cove to Ballyrisode SAC									
Attribute/Target									
Vegetation structure: height	Vegetation structure: vegetation cover	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities	Vegetation structure: negative indicator species – Spartina anglica						
Maintain structural variation in sward	Maintain more than 90% of area outside creeks vegetated	Maintain range of sub-communities with typical species listed in SMP	No common cordgrass has been recorded at this site and it should be prevented from establishing						

Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]

Conservation Objective: To restore the favourable conservation condition of Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) for the Barley Cove to Ballyrisode SAC

	Attribute/Target										
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical Structure: sediment supply	Physical structure: creeks and pans	Physical structure: flooding regime							
Area stable or increasing subject to natural processes including erosion and succession – Barley Cove 0.10ha, Dough 5.51ha	No decline or change in habitat distribution subject to natural processes	Maintain natural circulation of sediments and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain/restore creek and pan structure, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession	Maintain natural tidal regime							

Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410] cont'd

Conservation Objective: To restore the favourable conservation condition of Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) for the Barley Cove to Ballyrisode SAC

Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation structure: height	Vegetation structure: vegetation cover	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub- communities	Vegetation structure: negative indicator species – Spartina Alnglica
Maintain range of saltmarsh habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession	Maintain structural variation in sward	Maintain more than 90% of area outside creeks vegetated	Maintain range of sub- communities with typical species listed in SMP	No common cordgrass has been recorded at this site and it should be prevented from establishing

Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]

Conservation Objective: To restore the favourable conservation condition of Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria for the Barley Cove to Ballyrisode SAC

	Attribute/Target											
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation composition: plant health of dune grasses	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species						

Area stable or	No decline, or	Maintain the natural	Maintain the	95% of marram grass	Maintain the	Negative indicator
increasing,	change in habitat	circulation of	range of coastal	and/or lyme grass	presence of species	species (including
subject to	distribution, subject	sediment and	habitats including	should be healthy (ie	poor communities	non-native species)
natural	to natural	organic matter,	transitional zones,	green plant parts	dominated by	to represent less
processes,	processes	without any physical	subject to natural	above ground and	marram grass and/or	than 5% cover
including		obstructions	processes	flowering heads	lyme grass	
erosion and			including erosion	present)		
succession -			and succession			
Barley Cover						
0.54ha						

Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]

Conservation Objective: To restore the favourable conservation condition of Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) for the Barley Cove to Ballyrisode SAC

				Attribute/Tai	get			
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical Structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation structure: bare ground	Vegetation structure: sward height	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub- communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species	Vegetation composition; scrub/trees
Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession (18.31ha)	No decline, or change in habitat distribution, subject to natural processes	Maintain the natural circulation of sediment and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and	Bare ground should not exceed 10% of fixed dune habitat, subject to natural processes	Maintain structural variation within sward	Maintain range of sub communities with typical species	Negative indicator species to represent less than 5% cover	No more than 5% cover or under control

			succession					
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#### European dry heaths [4030]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of European dry heaths for the Barley Cove to Ballyrisode Point SAC

			Attribu	te/Target			
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Ecosystem Function: soil nutrient status	Vegetation Composition: positive indicator species	Vegetation Composition: bryophyte and non-crustose lichen species	Vegetation Composition: rare/scarce species	Vegetation Composition: dwarf shrub species	Vegetation Composition: negative indicator species
Area stable or increasing (at least 50% of SAC)	No decline from current habitat distribution	Maintain soil nutrient status within natural range	At least 2 positive indicator sp with combined cover of at least 50%	At least 3 bryophyte or non-crustose lichen sp present, excluding campyylopus and Polytrichum moss sp	No decline in distribution or population size of rare, threatened or scarce species associated with habitat	Cover of bog myrtle, creeping willow and western gorse collectively less than 50%	Cover of negative indicator weedy specie collectively less than 1%

European dry heaths [4030] (cont'd)

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of European dry heaths for the Barley Cove to Ballyrisode Point SAC

Vegetation Composition: non native species	Vegetation Composition: native trees and shrubs	Vegetation Composition: bracken	Vegetation Composition: soft rush	Vegetation Structure: senescent ling	Vegetation Structure: growth phases of ling	Vegetation structure: signs of browsing	Vegetation Structure: burning	Vegetation Structure: disturbed bare ground
Cover of non native species less than 1%	Cover of scattered native trees and shrubs less than 20%	Cover of bracken less than 10%	Cover of soft rush less than 10%	Senescent portion of ling less than 50% cover	Outside boundaries of sensitive areas, all growth phases of ling should occur throughout, with at least 10% of cover in mature phase	Last complete growing season's shoots of ericoids showing signs of browsing collectively less than 33%	No signs of burning in sensitive areas	Cover of disturbed bare ground less than 10%

NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives: Barley Cove to Ballyrisode Point SAC 001040. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

#### Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes SAC (Site Code 1061)

#### **Qualifying Interests**

Coastal lagoons [1150]

Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]

Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]

Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]

#### **Conservation Objectives**

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

Code	Description
1150	Coastal lagoons
2110	Embryonic shifting dunes
2120	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)
2130	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)

NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes SAC [1061]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

### **Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC (Site Code 1230)**

## **Qualifying Interests**

Estuaries [1130]

Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]

Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]

Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]

Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]

Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330]

Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]

Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]

Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]

Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]

## **Conservation Objectives - Attributes and Targets (summary)**

Estuaries [1130]									
Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Estuaries for Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC									
Attribute/Target									
Habitat Area	Community Distribution								
Permanent habitat area is stable or increasing, subject to natural processes (490ha)	Conserve the following community types in natural conditions: Sandy mud with <i>Hediste diversicolor and Tubificoides benedii;</i> Sand to mixed sediment with oligochaetes community complex; Sand with <i>Nephytys cirrosa</i> community complex								

Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide for Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC

Attribute/Target						
Habitat Area	Community Distribution					
The permanent habitat area is stable or increasing, subject to natural processes	Conserve the following community types in a natural condition: Sandy mud to mixed sediments with <i>Tubificoides benedii</i> and <i>Hediste diversicolor</i> community complex; Sand to mixed sediment with oligochaetes community complex; Sand with <i>Nephytys cirrosa</i> community complex.					

## Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Annual vegetation of drift lines for Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC

	Attribute/Target										
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub- communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species						
Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession (0.14ha)	No decline, or change in habitat distribution, subject to natural processes	Maintain the natural circulation of sediment and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession	Maintain the presence of species-poor communities with typical species: sea rocket, sea sandwort, prickly saltwort and oraches	Negative indicator species (including non- natives) to represent less than 5% cover						

## Perennial vegetation of stony banks

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Perennial vegetation of stony banks for Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC

		Attribut	te/Target		
Habitat Area	fui se		Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species
Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession	No decline, or change in habitat distribution, subject to natural processes	Maintain the natural circulation of sediment and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession	Maintain the typical vegetated shingle flora including the range of sub communities within the different zones – population of yellowhorned poppy	Negative indicator species (including non- natives) to represent less than 5% cover

# Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand

**Conservation Objective:** To restore the favourable conservation condition of *Salicornia* and other annuals colonising mud and sand for Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC

	Attribute/Target										
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical Structure: sediment supply	Physical structure: creeks and pans	Physical structure: flooding regime	Vegetation structure: donation	Vegetation structure: height	Vegetation structure: vegetation cover	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub- communities	Vegetation structure: negative indicator species – Spartina anglica		
Area increasing subject to natural processes, including erosion	No decline or change in habitat distribution subject to natural processes	Maintain or where necessary restore, natural circulation of sediments	Maintain creek and pan structure, subject to natural processes,	Maintain natural tidal regime	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones,	Maintain structural variation in sward	Maintain more than 90% of area outside creeks vegetated	Maintain the presence of species-poor communities listed in SMP	No significant expansion of common cordgrass with an annual		

(1.18ha)	and organic	including	subject to		spread of
	matter,	erosion and	natural		less than 1%
	without any	succession	processes		where it is
	physical		including		known to
	obstructions		erosion and		occur
			succession		

## Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) in the Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC

	Attribute/Target											
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical Structure: sediment supply	Physical structure: creeks and pans	Physical structure: flooding regime	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation structure: height	Vegetation structure: vegetation cover	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub- communities	Vegetation structure: negative indicator species – Spartina anglica			
Stable or increasing subject to natural processes including erosion and succession – Harbour View-10.79ha	No decline or change in habitat distribution subject to natural processes	Maintain natural circulation of sediments and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain creek and pan structure, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession	Maintain natural tidal regime	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession	Maintain structural variation in sward	Maintain more than 90% of area outside creeks vegetated	Maintain range of sub- communities with typical species listed in SMP	No significant expansion of common cordgrass with an annual spread of less than 1% where it is known to occur			

## Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) for Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC

				Attribute	/Target	1	1		1
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical Structure: sediment supply	Physical structure: creeks and pans	Physical structure: flooding regime	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation structure: height	Vegetation structure: vegetation cover	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities	Vegetation structure: negative indicator species – Spartina anglica
Stable or increasing subject to natural processes including erosion and succession – Harbour View-3.45ha	No decline subject to natural processes	Maintain/restore natural circulation of sediments and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain creek and pan structure, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession	Maintain natural tidal regime	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession	Maintain structural variation in sward	Maintain more than 90% of area outside creeks vegetated	Maintain range of sub- communities with typical species listed in SMP	No significant expansion of common cordgrass with an annual spread of less than 1% where it is known to occur

## Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Embryonic shifting dunes for Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC

# Attribute/Target

Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation composition: plant health of foredune grasses	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species
Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession – Harbour View 0.65ha	No decline, subject to natural processes	Maintain the natural circulation of sediment and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession	More than 95% of sand couch grass and/or lyme grass should be healthy (i.e. green plant parts above ground and flowering heads present	Maintain the presence of species poor communities with typical species: sand couch grass and/or lyme grass	Negative indicator species (including non-native species) to represent less than 5% cover

## Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria in Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC

	Attribute/Target										
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation composition: plant health of dune grasses	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species					

Area stable or	No decline, or	Maintain the natural	Maintain the	95% of marram grass	Maintain the	Negative indicator
increasing,	change in habitat	circulation of	range of coastal	and/or lyme grass	presence of species	species (including
subject to natural	distribution, subject	sediment and	habitats including	should be healthy	poor communities	non-native species)
processes,	to natural	organic matter,	transitional zones,	(i.e. green plant parts	dominated by	to represent less
including erosion	processes	without any physical	subject to natural	above ground and	marram grass and/or	than 5% cover
and succession		obstructions	processes	flowering heads	lyme grass	
(0.41ha)			including erosion	present)		
			and succession			

# Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]

**Conservation Objective:** To maintain the favourable conservation condition Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) in Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC

	Attribute/Target										
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical Structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation structure: bare ground	Vegetation structure: sward height	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species	Vegetation composition; scrub/trees			
Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession (4.31ha)	No decline, or change in habitat distribution, subject to natural processes	Maintain the natural circulation of sediment and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and succession	Bare ground should not exceed 10% of fixed dune habitat, subject to natural processes	Maintain structural variation within sward	Maintain range of sub communities with typical species	Negative indicator species to represent less than 5% cover	No more than 5% cover or under control			

NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives: Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC 1230. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

## **Glanmore Bog SAC (Site Code 1879)**

#### **Site Data**

#### **Qualifying Interests**

Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110]

Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]

Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]

Blanket bogs (\* if active bog) [7130]

Margaritifera margaritifera (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029]

Trichomanes speciosum (Killarney Fern) [1421]

## **Conservation Objectives**

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

Code	Description							
3130	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea							
3260	Water courses of plain to	montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation						
4010	Northern Atlantic wet hea	aths with Erica tetralix						
7130	Blanket bogs (* if active b	og)						
Code	Common Name	Scientific Name						
1029	Freshwater Pearl Mussel	Margaritifera margaritifera						
1421	Killarney Fern	Trichomanes speciosum						

NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Glanmore Bog SAC [1879]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

## **Kenmare Bay SAC (Site Code 2158)**

#### **Qualifying Interests**

Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]

Reefs [1170]

Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]

Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]

Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330]

Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]

Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]

Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]

European dry heaths [4030]

Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130]

Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]

Vertigo angustior (Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail) [1014]

Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]

Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]

Phoca vitulina (Common Seal) [1365]

#### **Conservation Objectives - Attributes and Targets (summary)**

## Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]

## Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Large shallow inlets and bays in Kenmare Bay SAC

Attribute/Target									
Habitat Area	Community Extent	Community Structure:	Community Structure	Community Distribution					
		Zostera density							
The permanent habitat area	Maintain the extent of the	Conserve the high quality of	Conservation the quality of	Conserve the following					
is stable or increasing,	Zostera and Maërl	the Zostera dominated	the <i>Pachycerianthus</i>	communities in a natural					
subject to natural processes	dominated communities and	community, subject to	multiplicatus community	condition: Intertidal mobile					
(39,322ha).	the <i>Pachycerianthus</i>	natural processes.	subject to natural processes.	sand community complex;					

multiplicatus community		Muddy find sands dominated
subject to natural processes.	Conserve the high quality of	by polychaetes and
	the <i>Maërl</i> -dominated	Amphiura filiformis
	community, subject to	community complex; Fine to
	natural processes.	medium sand with
		crustaceans and polychaetes
		community complex; Coarse
		sediment dominated by
		polychaetes community
		complex; Single; Intertidal
		reef community complex;
		Subtidal reef with
		echinoderms and faunal turf
		community complex and
		Laminaria dominated
		community complex.

# Reefs [1170]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Reefs in Kenmare Bay SAC

Attribute/Target								
Habitat Distribution	Habitat Area	Community Structure						
The distribution of reefs should remain stable subject to natural processes.	The permanent habitat area is stable, subject to natural processes.	Conserve the following community types in a natural condition: Intertidal reef community complex; Subtidal reef with echinoderms and faunal turf community complex; and <i>Laminaria</i> dominated community complex.						

Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]

		Attribut	te/Target		
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub- communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species
Area stable or ncreasing, subject to natural processes ncluding erosion and succession	No decline, or change in habitat distribution, subject to natural processes.	Maintain the natural circulation of sediment and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including erosion and	Maintain the typical vegetated shingle flora including the range of sub-communities within the different zones	Negative indicator species (including non- natives) to represent less than 5% cover

Vegetated Sea Cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts in Kenmare Bay SAC

	Attribute/Target												
Habitat Length	Habitat Distribution	Physical structure: functionality and hydrological regime	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation structure: vegetation height	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub-communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species	Vegetation composition: bracken and woody species						
Area stable,	No decline	No alteration to	Maintain	Maintain the	Maintain the	Negative	Cover of bracken						
subject to natural	subject to	natural functioning of	range of sea	structural	range of sub	indicator species	on grassland						
processes,	natural	geomorphological and	cliff habitat	variation	communities	(including non	and/or heath						
including erosion.	processes	hydrological processes	zonations	within sward	with typical	natives) to	less than 10%.						
Lamb's Head –		due to artificial	including		species listed in	represent less	Cover of woody						
4.4km;		structures	transitional		the Irish Sea Cliff	than 5% cover	species on						

Commatloukane	zones, subject	Survey	grassland and/or
West – 0.5km;	to natural		heath less than
Reenearagh –	processes due		20%
0.5km; Dog's Bay	to natural		
to Kilcatherine	processes		
Point – 17.3km;	including		
Cod's Head-	erosion and		
25.1km; Garnish	succession		
Point and Crow			
Head – 13.4km;			
Dursey Island-			
10.5km			

Atlantic Salt Meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) 1330

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Atlantic Salt Meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) for Kenmare Bay SAC

	Attribute/Target										
Habitat	Habitat	Physical	Physical	Physical	Vegetation	Vegetation	Vegetation	Vegetation	Vegetation		
Area	Distribution	Structure: sediment supply	structure: creeks and pans	structure: flooding regime	structure: zonation	structure: height	structure: vegetation cover	composition: typical species and sub- communities	structure: negative indicator species – Spartina anglica		
Area stable	No decline or	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	No common		
or	change in	natural	creek and	natural tidal	range of	structural	more than	range of sub-	cordgrass has		
increasing	habitat	circulation of	pan	regime	coastal	variation in	90% of area	communities	been		
subject to	distribution	sediments	structure,		habitats	sward	outside	with typical	recorded at		
natural	subject to	and organic	subject to		including		creeks	species listed	this site and		
processes	natural	matter,	natural		transitional		vegetated	in SMP	it should be		

including	processes	without any	processes,	zones,		prevented
erosion and		physical	including	subject to		from
succession		obstructions	erosion and	natural		establishing
– Dereen			succession	processes		
House				including		
0.26ha;				erosion and		
Dinish				succession		
0.07ha;						
Tahilla-						
0.01ha;						
West Cove-						
0.08ha						

Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) for Kenmare Bay SAC

				Attribu	te/Target				
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical Structure: sediment supply	Physical structure: creeks and pans	Physical structure: flooding regime	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation structure: height	Vegetation structure: vegetation cover	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub- communities	Vegetation structure: negative indicator species – Spartina Anglica
Area stable or increasing subject to natural processes	No decline or change in habitat distribution subject to natural	Maintain natural circulation of sediments and organic matter,	Maintain creek and pan structure, subject to natural	Maintain natural tidal regime	Maintain range of saltmasrh habitats including transitional	Maintain structural variation in sward	Maintain more than 90% of area outside creeks vegetated	Maintain range of sub- communities with typical species listed in SMP	No common cordgrass has been recorded at this site and it should be

including	processes	without any	processes,	zones,		prevented
erosion and		physical	including	subject to		from
succession		obstructions	erosion and	natural		establishing
– Dereen			succession	processes		
House				including		
8.93ha;				erosion and		
Dinish-				succession		
0.04ha;						
Tahilla-						
0.27ha;						
West Cove-						
1.54ha						

Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria in Kenmare Bay SAC

	Attribute/Target												
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation composition: plant health of dune grasses	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species							

Area stable or	No decline, or	Maintain the natural	Maintain the	95% of marram grass	Maintain the	Negative indicator
increasing,	change in habitat	circulation of	range of coastal	and/or lyme grass	presence of species	species (including
subject to	distribution,	sediment and	habitats including	should be healthy	poor communities	non-native species)
natural	subject to natural	organic matter,	transitional zones,	(i.e. green plant parts	dominated by	to represent less
processes,	processes	without any physical	subject to natural	above ground and	marram grass and/or	than 5% cover
including erosion		obstructions	processes	flowering heads	lyme grass	
and succession			including erosion	present)		
Derrynane-			and succession			
1.67ha						

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) in Kenmare Bay SAC

	Attribute/Target										
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical Structure: functionality and sediment supply	Vegetation structure: zonation	Vegetation structure: bare ground	Vegetation structure: sward height	Vegetation composition: typical species and sub- communities	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species including Hippophae rhamnoides	Vegetation composition; scrub/trees			
Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession Derrynane	No decline, or change in habitat distribution, subject to natural processes	Maintain the natural circulation of sediment and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Maintain the range of coastal habitats including transitional zones, subject to natural processes including	Bare ground should not exceed 10% of fixed dune habitat, subject to natural processes	Maintain structural variation within sward	Maintain range of sub communities with typical species	Negative indicator species to represent less than 5% cover	No more than 5% cover or under control			

20.41 ha		erosion and			
		succession			

## European dry heaths [4030]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of European dry heaths in the Kenmare Bay SAC

	Attribute/Target									
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical Structure: free- draining, acid, low nutrient soil; rock outcrops	Vegetation structure: dwarf shrub indicator species	Vegetation structure: senescent Calluna vulgaris	Vegetation structure: browsing	Vegetation structure: native trees and shrubs	Vegetation composition: positive indicator species			
Area stable or increasing subject to natural processes	No decline from current habitat distribution, subject to natural processes	No significant change in soil nutrient status, subject to natural processes. No increase or decrease in area of natural rock outcrop	Cover of characteristic dwarf shrub indicator species, typically heather, bell heather and Western gorse at least 25%	Cover of senescent heather less than 50%	Long shoots of bilberry with signs of browsing collectively less than 33%	Cover of scattered native trees and shrubs less than 20%	At least two positive indicator species eg bell heather and western gorse, with combined cover of at least 60%			

# European dry heaths [4030] cont'd

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of European dry heaths in the Kenmare Bay SAC

Attribute/Target								
Vegetation         Vegetation         Vegetation         Vegetation         Vegetation								
composition:	composition:	composition:	composition: non	composition	structure:	structure: burning		

bryophyte and non-	bracken	weedy/negative	native species	rare/scarce heath	disturbed bare	
crustose lichen		indicator species		species	ground	
species						
At least two	Cover of bracken	Cover of	Cover of non-native	No decline in	Cover of disturbed	No signs of burning
bryophyte or non-	less than 10%	agricultural weed	species less than 1%	distribution or	bare peat less than	in sensitive areas
crustose lichen		species less than 1%		population sizes of	5%	
species present				rare/scarce species,		
				including protected		
				species Kerry lily		
				and betony and		
				uncommon species		
				juniper.		

Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of *Calaminarian* grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130] in Kenmare Bay SAC

	Attribute/Target								
Habitat Area	Habitat Distribution	Physical structure: bare ground	Soil toxicity: copper content	Vegetation structure: height and cover	Vegetation composition: metallophyte bryophytes				
No decline subject to natural processes (3.1ha)	No decline, subject to natural processes	Maintain adequate open ground	Maintain high copper levels in soil	Maintain low and open cover	Maintain diversity and populations of metallophyte bryophytes				

Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of submerged or partially submerged sea caves in Kenmare Bay SAC						
Attribute/Target						
Distribution	Community Structure					
The distribution of sea caves occurring in the site should remain stable, subject to natural processes	Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the ecology of sea caves at the site					

## Vertigo angustior (Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail) [1014]

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Vertigo angustior (Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail) in Kenmare Bay SAC

Attribute/Target								
Distribution: occupied	Presence	Abundance Transect habitat		Transect optimal	Habitat extent			
sites			quality	wetness				
No decline. There is	Adult or sub-adult	At least 2 samples on	At least 20m of habitat	Soils, at time of	1.5ha of sub-optimal			
one known site for this	snails are present in at	the transect have more	along the transect is	sampling are damp	with optimal areas			
species in the SAC.	least 3 places on the	than 10 V. angustior	classed as optimal or	(optimal wetness) and				
	transect where optimal	individuals (min 5	sub-optimal	covered with a layer of				
	or sub-optimal habitat	samples)		humid thatch for at				
	occurs (min 5 samples)			least 20m along the				
				transect				

#### Lesser Horseshoe Bat Rhinolophus hipposideros Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Lesser Horseshoe Bat Rhinolophus hipposideros in the Kenmare Bay SAC Attribute/Target Number of auxiliary **Extent of potential Light Pollution** Population per Winter roosts Summer roosts **Linear Features** foraging habitat roost roosts No significant No significant loss, No significant Minimum number No decline No decline No decline increase in artificial of for the winter decline within within 2.5km of

roost at Dunkerron		2.5km of roost sites	qualifying roosts	light intensity
souterrain is 138;				adjacent to named
Minimum of 100				roosts or along
for summer roost				commuting routes
(Foleys cottage)				within 2.5km of
				those roosts

## Lutra Lutra (Otter) [1355]

Conservation Objective: To restore the favourable conservation condition of Otter in Kenmare Bay SAC

			Attrik	oute/Target			
Distribution	Extent of terrestrial habitat	Extent of marine habitat	Extent of freshwater (river) habitat	Extent of freshwater (lake/lagoon) habitat	Couching sites and holts	Fish biomass available	Barriers to connectivity
No significant decline	No significant decline – area – mapped and calculated as 268ha above hwm; 40ha along river banks around ponds.	No significant decline length mapped and calculated 2748 ha	No significant decline. Length mapped and calculated as 18.9km	No significant decline. Area mapped and calculated as 25.1ha	No significant decline	No significant decline	No significant increase

## Phoca vitulina (Common/Harbour Seal)

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Phoca vitulina (Common Seal) in the Kenmare Bay SAC

Attribute/Target							
Access to suitable habitat Breeding behaviour Moulting behaviour Resting behaviour Disturbance							
Species range within the	Conserve the breeding sites	Conserve the moult haul out	Conserve the resting haul out	Human activities should not			

SAC is not restricted by	in a natural condition	sites in a natural condition	sites in a natural condition	occur at levels that do not
artificial barriers to site use				adversely affect the harbour
				seal population at the SAC

NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Kenmare Bay SAC 2158. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

## **Bandon River SAC (Site Code 2171)**

## **Qualifying Interests**

Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260] Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0] *Margaritifera margaritifera* (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029] *Lampetra planeri* (Brook Lamprey) [1096]

## **Conservation Objectives**

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

Code	Description
3260	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation
91E0	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno–Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)*
*denote	es a priority habitat

Code	Common Name Scie	ntific Name
1029	Freshwater Pearl Musse	l Margaritifera margaritifera
1096	Brook Lamprey	Lampetra planeri

NPWS (2015) Conservation objective for Bandon River SAC [2171]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

## Farranamanagh Lough SAC (Site code 2189)

## **Qualifying Interests**

Coastal lagoons [1150]\*
Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]

## **Conservation Objectives**

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

Code	Description
1150	Coastal lagoons *
1220	Perennial vegetation of stony banks

<sup>\*</sup> denotes a priority habitat

NPWS (2015) Conservation objective for Farranamanagh Lough SAC [2189]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

## Clonakilty Bay SPA 004081

#### **Qualifying Interests**

Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]
Dunlin (Calidris alpine alpina) {A149}
Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) {A156}
Curlew (Numenius arquata) {A160}
Wetland and Waterbirds {A999}

## **Conservation Objectives - Attributes and Targets (summary)**

## [A149] Dunlin Calidris alpina alpina

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Dunlin in Clonakilty Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or	Waterbird population trends are
		increasing	presented in part four of the
			conservation objectives supporting
			document
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the
	areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey
		teal, other than that occurring from	programme is discussed in part five
		natural patterns of variation	of the conservation objectives
			supporting document

#### [A156] Black-tailed Godwit Limosa limosa

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Black-tailed Godwit in Clonakilty Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or	Population trends are presented in
		increasing	part four of the conservation
			objectives supporting document
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the
	areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey
		Black-tailed Godwit, other than that	programme is discussed in part five
		occurring from natural patterns of	of the conservation objectives
		variation	supporting document

## [A160] Curlew Numenius arquata

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Curlew in Clonakilty Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or increasing	Population trends are presented in part four of the conservation objectives supporting document
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of areas	No significant decrease in the range, timing or intensity of use of areas by curlew, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation	Waterbird distribution from the 2010/2011 waterbird survey programme is discussed in part five of the conservation objectives supporting document

# [A999] Wetlands

Conservation Objective: To maintain the favourable conservation condition of wetland habitat in Clonakilty Bay SPA, as a resource for the regularly

occurring migratory birds that utilise it. This is defined by the following attribute and target:					
Attribute	Attribute Measure Target Notes				
Habitat area	Hectares	The permanent area occupied by the	The wetland habitat area was		
		wetland habitat should be stable and	estimated as 281ha using OSi data		
		not significantly less than the area of	and relevant orthophotographs. For		
		281 hectares, other than that	further information see part three of		
		occurring from natural patterns of	the conservation objectives		
		variation	supporting document		

## The Gearagh SPA 004109

## **Qualifying Interests**

Wigeon Anas penelope {A050}
Teal Anas crecca {A052}
Mallard Anas platyrhynchos {A053}
Coot Fulica atra {A125}

## **Conservation Objectives**

To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the wetland habitat at The Gearagh SPA as a resource for the regularly occurring migratory waterbirds that utilise it:

Code	Common Name	Scientific Name
A050	Wigeon	Anas penelope
A052	Teal	Anas crecca
A053	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos
A125	Coot	Fulica atra

NPWS 2016 Conservation objectives for The Gearagh SPA (4109) Generic Version 5.0. Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs

#### Beara Peninsula SPA 004155

## **Qualifying Interests**

Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009] Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) {A346}

## **Conservation Objectives**

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

Code	Common Name	Scientific Name
A009	Fulmar	Fulmarus glacialis
A346	Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax

NPWS (2016) Conservation objective for Beara Peninsula {4155}. Generic Version 5.0. Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs

#### Seven Heads SPA 004191

# **Qualifying Interests**

Chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax* {A346}

# **Conservation Objectives**

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

Code	Common Name	Scientific Name
A346	Chough	Pyrrohocorax pyrrhocorax

NPWS (2016) Conservation objective for Seven Heads SPA {4191}. Version 5. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs

## **Courtmacsherry Bay SPA 004219**

## **Qualifying Interests**

Great Northern Diver (Gavia immer) {A003}

Shelduck (Todorna tadorna) [A048]

Wigeon (Anas Penelope) {A050}

Red-breasted Meranser (Mergus serrator) {A069}

Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) {A140}

Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) {A142}

Dunlin (Calidris alpine) {A149}

Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa ) [A156]

Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) {A157}

Curlew (Numenius arquata) {A160}

Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) {A179}

Common Gull (Larus canus) {A182}

Wetland and Waterbirds (A999)

## Conservation Objectives for: Courtmacsherry Bay SPA (004219)

#### A003 Great Northern Diver Gavia immer

To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Great Northern Diver in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or increasing	Waterbird population trends are presented in part four of the conservation objectives supporting document
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the

areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey
	great northern diver, other than	programme is discussed in part five
	occurring from natural patterns of	of the conservation objective
	variation	supporting document.

A048 Shelduck Tadorna tadorn	na			
To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Shelduck in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:				
Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes	
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or	Waterbird population trends are	
		increasing	presented in part four of the	
			conservation objectives supporting	
			document	
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the	
	areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey	
		Shelduck, other than occurring from	programme is discussed in part five	
		natural patterns of variation	of the conservation objective	
			supporting document.	

A050 Wigeon Anas penelope					
To maintain the favourable con	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Wigeon in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:				
Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes		
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or	Waterbird population trends are		
		increasing	presented in part four of the		
			conservation objectives supporting		
			document		
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the		
	areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey		
		Wigeon, other than occurring from	programme is discussed in part five		
		natural patterns of variation	of the conservation objective		
			supporting document.		

## A069 Red-breasted Merganser Mergus serrator

To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Red-breasted Merganser in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or	Waterbird population trends are
		increasing	presented in part four of the
			conservation objectives supporting
			document
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the
	areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey
		Red-breasted mergaser, other than	programme is discussed in part five
		occurring from natural patterns of	of the conservation objective
L		variation	supporting document.

## A140 Golden Plover Pluvialis apricaria

To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Golden Plover in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or	Waterbird population trends are
		increasing	presented in part four of the
			conservation objectives supporting
			document
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the
	areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey
		golden plover, other than occurring	programme is discussed in part five
		from natural patterns of variation	of the conservation objective
			supporting document.

A142 Lapwing Vanellus vanellus					
To maintain the favourable cons	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Lapwing in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:				
Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes		
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or	Waterbird population trends are		
		increasing	presented in part four of the		
			conservation objectives supporting		
			document		
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the		
	areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey		
		lapwing, other than occurring from	programme is discussed in part five		
		natural patterns of variation	of the conservation objective		
			supporting document.		

A149 Dunlin Calidris alpina alpina				
To maintain the favourable conse	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Dunlin in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:			
Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes	
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or	Waterbird population trends are	
		increasing	presented in part four of the	
			conservation objectives supporting	
			document	
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the	
	areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey	
		dunlin, other than occurring from	programme is discussed in part five	
		natural patterns of variation	of the conservation objective	
			supporting document.	

A156 Black-tailed Godwit Limosa limosa			
To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Black tailed Godwit in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes			
and targets:			
Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes

Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or	Waterbird population trends are
		increasing	presented in part four of the
			conservation objectives supporting
			document
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the
	areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey
		black-tailed godwit, other than	programme is discussed in part five
		occurring from natural patterns of	of the conservation objective
		variation	supporting document.

## A157 Bar-tailed Godwit Limosa lapponica

To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Bar-tailed Godwit in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or	Waterbird population trends are
		increasing	presented in part four of the
			conservation objectives supporting
			document
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the
	areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey
		bar-tailed godwit, other than	programme is discussed in part five
		occurring from natural patterns of	of the conservation objective
		variation	supporting document.

A160 Curlew Numenius arquata				
To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Curlew in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:				
Attribute	Attribute Measure Target Notes			
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or	Waterbird population trends are	
		increasing	presented in part four of the	
			conservation objectives supporting	

			document
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the
	areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey
		curlew, other than occurring from	programme is discussed in part five
		natural patterns of variation	of the conservation objective
			supporting document.

# A179 Black-headed Gull Chroicocephalus ridibundus

To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Black-headed Gull in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or	Waterbird population trends are
		increasing	presented in part four of the
			conservation objectives supporting
			document
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the
	areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey
		black-headed gull, other than	programme is discussed in part five
		occurring from natural patterns of	of the conservation objective
		variation	supporting document.

## A182 Common Gull Larus canus

To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Common Gull in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes
Population trend	Percentage change	Long term population trend stable or	Waterbird population trends are
		increasing	presented in part four of the
			conservation objectives supporting
			document
Distribution	Range, timing and intensity of use of	No significant decrease in the range,	Waterbird distribution from the

areas	timing or intensity of use of areas by	2010/2011 waterbird survey
	common gull, other than occurring	programme is discussed in part five
	from natural patterns of variation	of the conservation objective
		supporting document.

## A999 Wetlands

To maintain the favourable conservation condition of wetland habitats in Courtmacsherry Bay SPA, as a recourse for the regularly – occurring migratory waterbirds that utilise it. This is defined by the following attribute and target:

Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes
Habitat area	Hectares	The permanent area occupied by the	The wetland habitat area was
		wetland habitat should be stable and	estimated as 1,299ha using OSI data
		not significantly less than the area of	and relevant orthophotographs. For
		1,299 hectares, other than that	further information see part three of
		occurring from natural patterns of	the conservation objectives
		variation	supporting documents

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