

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE ATHA CLIATH THEAS

SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Business and Chief Executive Orders

**Clonburris-Balgaddy Strategic Development Zone (SDZ)
Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination under:
Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)
Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2017**

For: Proposed Material Alterations to the Clonburris - Balgaddy SDZ Draft Planning Scheme

Pursuant to the requirements of the above, South Dublin County Council has made an AA Screening Determination, in accordance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive in relation to the Proposed Material Alterations to the Clonburris - Balgaddy SDZ Draft Planning Scheme (the Draft Scheme).

Section 169 (4) (ba) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, requires, inter alia, a determination to be made as to whether the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Scheme warrant the undertaking of AA. Such a determination pursuant to Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive assess whether or not a plan or project would adversely affect the integrity of a European site.

In carrying out this Appropriate Assessment Screening, the South Dublin County Council is taking into account the relevant matters specified under Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), including:

- The Draft Scheme and associated AA Screening and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) reports;
- The SEA Screening Determination on the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Scheme; and
- The AA Screening Statement for the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Scheme.

Following an examination, analysis and evaluation of the objective information provided in the "*Clonburris SDZ AA Screening of Material Amendments to the Draft Planning Scheme*" report prepared by Scott Cawley Ltd, South Dublin County Council, as the Competent Authority determines that the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Scheme, individually and in combination with other plans and projects, does not require a Stage 2 AA, as it has been concluded that it is possible to rule out likely significant effects on all European sites.

The principal reasons supporting this determination include:


- The incorporation of attenuation ponds in the drainage design for the overall scheme to reduce the risk of flood events and the proposed requirement for the inclusion of SUDs features for all proposed development within the amended SDZ scheme area, will limit the discharge of waters from the site. This will serve to prevent flood events and reduce the risk of contamination of local watercourses and drainage networks;
- The known potential for waters in Dublin Bay to rapidly mix and assimilate pollutants (Wilson & Jackson, 2011);
- Irish Water's intention to upgrade the wastewater treatment infrastructure at Ringsend to facilitate the continued growth of the region.¹ The provision of sufficient capacity should be

¹ It is intended that an application for planning permission will be made to An Bord Pleanála in early 2018.

available at Ringsend Waste Water Treatment Plant to process any additional waste generated by new development in the Clonburris - Balgaddy SDZ area;

- In the absence of any upgrade to upgrade the wastewater treatment infrastructure at Ringsend, there was no proven link between Waste Water Treatment Plant discharges and nutrient enrichment of sediments in Dublin Bay based on analyses of dissolved and particulate nitrogen signatures (Wilson and Jackson, 2011). Furthermore enriched water entering Dublin Bay has been shown to rapidly mix and become diluted such that the plume is often indistinguishable from the rest of bay water (O'Higgins and Wilson, 2005) (Dowly & Bedri 2007).
- Whilst occasional use of the lands by lapwing has been recorded, due to the general absence of optimum habitat for QI species, the existing high levels of disturbance in surrounding lands and the low levels of usage for such bird species within the subject lands, the impact of the loss of areas for these birds is not deemed to be significant.

Therefore a Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment will not be required to inform the Proposed Material Alterations of the Draft Scheme either alone or in combination with other plans & projects, with respect to any Natura 2000 site and its conservation objectives.


Senior Planner

ORDER: That South Dublin County Council, as the Competent Authority having considered the report on the AA Screening of the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Planning Scheme, prepared by Scott Cawley Ltd, makes a determination that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment will not be required to inform the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Planning Scheme for the Clonburris-Balgaddy Strategic Development Zone either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, with respect to any Natura 2000 site and its conservation objectives.

16/3/18

Date



A/Director of Land Use,
Planning and Transportation