



**Appropriate Assessment Determination  
In the matter of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive and  
S.I. No. 477/2011 - European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations  
2011**

**Appropriate Assessment Determination  
Dublin City Council Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024**

In order to comply with the requirements of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive and S.I. No. 477/2011 - European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, as amended, the process of Screening for Appropriate Assessment was undertaken at an early stage in the drafting of the Dublin City Council Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024. The AA Screening assessed whether the CCAP was likely to have significant effects on any European Sites within the Natura 2000 network, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects.

The screening for Appropriate Assessment was undertaken by Doherty Environmental Consultants (DEC) Ltd. on behalf of Dublin City Council. The screening concluded that an Appropriate Assessment of the CCAP was required, as the Plan is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites and as it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the Plan, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site.

Therefore, adopting the precautionary principle, it was concluded that a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) should be prepared. A Natura Impact Statement was prepared by DEC Ltd. on behalf of Dublin City Council, and was made available as part of the public consultation on the Dublin City Council Draft Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024, published online and was also available in hard copy.

The Natura Impact Statement considered the potential for the CCAP to adversely affect the integrity of any European Site(s), with regard to their qualifying interests, associated conservation status, the structure/function of the sites(s) and the overall sites(s) integrity. This was done in a two stage process, initially assessing the Draft CCAP published in February 2019 and subsequently, assessing the amendments made to the CCAP post public consultation, in May 2019.

An Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement was prepared by DEC Ltd. on behalf of Dublin City Council.

Therefore, having regard to:

- Section 7 of the Natura Impact Statement which outlines the environmental safeguards within the Dublin City CDP that will be applied for all land use activities supported by the CCAP. The purpose of these safeguards is to minimise and/or eliminate potential impacts associated with the CCAP land use actions.



- The mitigation measures outlined in Section 7 of this NIS will protect European Sites from potential adverse impacts. Table 7.1 has listed these mitigation measures and evaluated their potential to safeguard European Sites from these actions. A rationale has been provided to demonstrate how these mitigation measures will provide effective safeguards against any land-use projects arising from the actions of the CCAP that aim to: expand the walking and public transport networks; maintain roads; provide coastal and flood protection; provide district heating; provide sustainable transport hubs; and provide coastal zone management.
- The measures and requirements of the Dublin City CDP and particularly Objectives GI12 and GI26 that aim to protect, conserve and appropriately manage European Sites, provide a basis for eliminating or minimising to an insignificant level, potential adverse land use effects that could arise from the land use actions identified in Table 6.1 of this NIS. These objectives along with the additional safeguards within the CDP as outlined above will provide a basis for ensuring any future land use facilitated by the CCAP will not be supported where they present a risk of likely significant effects to European Sites.

Dublin City Council, having carefully considered all of the foregoing, and in particular, the Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement, and agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion as set out in the said Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement.

The Council hereby **DETERMINES** pursuant to of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive and S.I. No. 477/2011 - European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, that the approval and publication of the Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024, will not either individually or in combination with any other plan or project, adversely affect the integrity of any European Site(s) as defined.

#### Reasons for Determination

The reasons for the said determination are set out in the Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement, the reasoning and conclusions of which have been adopted in full by Dublin City Council. The said Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement is to be published together with this Determination.

**Céline Reilly,**  
Executive Manager.

**Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> August 2019.**