



vol **13**

Natura Impact Report

Wexford County

Development Plan

2022 - 2028



Natura Impact Report
for the
Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028

prepared for Wexford County Council

Scott Cawley, College House, 71 – 73 Rock Road, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, A94 F9X9, Ireland

Tel+353(1)676-9815 Fax +353(1) 676-9816

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Appendix I

Elements of the plan with potential to negatively affect European Sites

Appendix II

Potential effects of the plan on the Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives of European Sites

1 Introduction

- 1 This report has been prepared by Scott Cawley Ltd. for Wexford County Council who have prepared the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 (hereinafter referred to as the plan).
- 2 This Natura Impact Report (NIR) represents the final consolidated version of this report and has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and in accordance with the requirements of Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the Habitats Directive).
- 3 It considers the implications of the plan, on its own and in combination with other plans or projects, for European sites¹ in view of the conservation objectives of those sites. It includes a scientific examination of evidence and data to identify and assess the implications of the plan for any European sites in view of the conservation objectives of those sites. It considers whether the plan, by itself and in combination with other plans or projects, would adversely affect the integrity of any European sites. In reaching a conclusion in this regard consideration is given to any mitigation measures necessary to avoid or reduce any potential negative impacts.
- 4 The purpose of this NIR is to provide an examination, analysis and evaluation of the potential impacts of the plan on European sites and to present findings and conclusions with respect to the plan in light of the best scientific knowledge in the field. This NIR will inform and assist the competent authority, Wexford County Council, in carrying out its Appropriate Assessment as to whether or not the plan will adversely affect the integrity of any European sites, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects, taking into account their conservation objectives.
- 5 The plan is neither connected with, nor necessary to, the management of any European sites.

2 Legislative Context

- 6 The Birds and Habitats Directives - Council Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (the Birds Directive) and Council Directive 92 /43 /EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the Habitats Directive) – require Ireland to establish protected sites as part of a European wide network of sites (the Natura 2000 network which are known in Ireland as European sites) for habitats and species that are of international importance for conservation. In Ireland, European sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). SACs are selected for habitats listed on Annex I of the Habitats Directive (including priority Annex I habitat types which are in danger of disappearance) and species listed on Annex II. SPAs are selected for bird species (listed on Annex I of the Birds Directive), regularly-occurring populations of migratory bird species (such as ducks, geese and waders), and areas of international importance for migratory birds. The specified habitats and species for which each SAC and SPA is selected, correspond to the qualifying interests (in the case of SACs) or special conservation interest species (in the case of SPAs) for the sites, for which conservation objectives are prepared.
- 7 Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive states that:

‘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

¹ The Natura 2000 network of sites are defined under the Habitats Directive (Article 3) as a European ecological network of special areas of conservation, composed of sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and species listed in Annex II, and special protection areas classified pursuant to the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC). The aim of the network is to aid the long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats. In Ireland, these sites are designed as *European sites* – as defined under the Planning and Development Acts and/or Birds and Habitats Regulations as (a) a candidate site of Community importance, (b) a site of Community importance, (c) a candidate special area of conservation, (d) a special area of conservation, (e) a candidate special protection area, or (f) a special protection area. They are commonly referred to in Ireland as candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

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.'

- 8 This provision is transposed into Irish law by Part XAB of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 as amended. Section 177U(4) of the said Acts provides for screening for Appropriate Assessment as follows:

'The competent authority shall determine that an appropriate assessment of a draft Land use plan [...] is required if it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the draft Land use plan [...], individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site.'

- 9 Section 177U(5) provides as follows:

'The competent authority shall determine that an appropriate assessment of a draft Land use plan [...], is not required if it can be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the draft Land use plan [...], individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site.'

- 10 Section 177T(1) and (2) provide that a NIR is 'a statement for the purposes of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive, of the implications of a Land use plan, on its own or in combination with other plans or projects, for one or more than one European site, in view of the conservation objectives of the site or sites' and specifies that it 'shall include a report of a scientific examination of evidence and data, carried out by competent persons to identify and classify any implications for one or more than one European site in view of the conservation objectives of the site or sites'.
- 11 The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) has made a number of rulings in relation to Appropriate Assessment, regarding when it is required, its purpose and the standards it should meet. Two of the key rulings include, Case C-127/02 Waddenzee where the CJEU found that 'Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site is to be subject to an appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives if it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that it will have a significant effect on that site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects' and that the plan or project may only be authorised 'where no reasonable scientific doubt remains as to the absence of such effects', and Case C-258/11 where the CJEU found that '[The Appropriate Assessment] cannot have lacunae and must contain complete, precise and definitive findings and conclusions capable of removing all reasonable scientific doubt as to the effects of the works proposed on the protected site concerned'.
- 12 Consideration has been given in the preparation of this report, to the evolution in interpretation and application of directives and national legislation arising from jurisprudence of the European and Irish courts, in respect of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

3 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

- 13 Scott Cawley Ltd. prepared an Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the plan in its early stage, in order to enable the competent authority, Wexford County Council, to comply with Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC (the Habitats Directive) and Part XAB of the Planning and Development, 2000 (as amended).
- 14 The Appropriate Assessment Screening Report concluded that the possibility of significant effects on European sites could not be ruled out and that an Appropriate Assessment is required.
- 15 The assessment set out in the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report and in this NIR demonstrates that the scope of the Appropriate Assessment may be limited to the European sites listed in Appendix I, as the possibility of significant effects on any other European sites could/can be ruled out.

4 Methodology

4.1 Scientific and Technical Competence Relied Upon

- 16 This NIR was prepared by Aebhín Cawley and Nicholas Fettes of Scott Cawley Ltd. The background and experience of the author and contributors to this report are set out below.

Aebhín Cawley

Aebhín Cawley is Director with Scott Cawley. She holds an honours degree in Zoology from Trinity College, Dublin and a postgraduate diploma in Physical Planning at Trinity. She is a Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) with the Society for the Environment (Soc Env) and a Full Member of the CIEEM. Aebhín Cawley is an experienced ecological consultant with extensive experience in public and private sector projects including renewable energy, ports and other major infrastructural developments. Aebhín has been undertaking Appropriate Assessment work in Ireland since 2002 and has delivered lectures and training on Appropriate Assessment to a range of organisations and professional institutes. She regularly provides Appropriate Assessment training to local authorities and other public sector organisations. She authored guidelines on Appropriate Assessment for the EPA and delivered training on its application to its inspectorate.

Nicholas Fettes

Nicholas Fettes, Consultant Ecologist at Scott Cawley, holds an honours degree in Zoology and a Masters in Environmental Policy, both acquired at University College Dublin. He has obtained experience working in a diverse set of environmental roles in the public, private, and charity/NGO sectors, including as a Biodiversity Conservation Officer with the IUCN where he worked on the European Red List for Bryophytes and other EU-funded projects on protected areas and invasive alien species, as an Environmental Intern with An Taisce, and as an Biodiversity Assistant to Fingal County Council's Biodiversity Officer. Since joining Scott Cawley in 2020, Nicholas has gained experience in habitat and protected species surveys, particularly bats, and has been involved in the preparation of Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening and Ecological Impact Assessments (EclA) for a range of projects across the country.

4.2 Guidance and Approach

- 17 This NIR has been prepared having regard to the following documents.

European Commission Guidance

- *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 Commission, 2001)
- *Managing Natura 2000 Sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitat's Directive 92/43/EEC* (European Commission, 2019)
- *Communication from the Commission on the Precautionary Principle* (European Commission 2000)²

² The precautionary principle is a guiding principle that derives from Article 191 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and has been developed in the case law of the European Court of Justice (e.g. ECJ case C-127/02 – Waddenzee, Netherlands).

This guidance document notes that the precautionary principle “covers those specific circumstances where scientific evidence is insufficient, inconclusive or uncertain and there are indications through preliminary objective scientific evaluation that there are reasonable grounds for concern that the potentially dangerous effects on the environment, human, animal or plant health may be inconsistent with the chosen level of protection”.

- *Nature and Biodiversity Cases – Ruling of the European Court of Justice* (European Commission 2006)
- *Article 6 of the Habitats Directive – Rulings of the European Court of Justice* (European Commission Final Draft September 2014)

Irish Guidance

- *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities* (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government 2010 revision)
- *Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive: Guidance for Planning Authorities. Circular NPW 1/10 & PSSP 2/10* (NPWS, 2010)

18 In addition, regard has been had to the following guidance, where relevant in the application to Appropriate Assessment and European sites:

- *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland* (Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Assessment, 2018)
- *Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports* (Environmental Protection Agency, 2022)
- *Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements* (EPA 2002)

4.3 Desktop Study

19 The desktop data sources used to inform the assessment presented in this report are as follows (accessed in July 2020 and updated in April 2021 and in June 2022):

- Online data available on European sites and protected habitats/species as held by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) from www.npws.ie³, including conservation objectives documents
- Online data available on protected species as held by the National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC) from www.biodiversityireland.ie
- Information on local biodiversity of County Wexford available from www.wexfrodco.ie (County Wexford Biodiversity Action Plan 2013-2018)
- Information on the surface water network and surface water quality in the area available from www.epa.ie
- Information on groundwater resources and groundwater quality in the area available from www.epa.ie and www.gsi.ie
- Ordnance Survey of Ireland mapping and aerial photography available from www.osi.ie

4.4 Assessment Methodology

20 Throughout all stages of preparing the plan, including the pre-draft plan, the draft plan, proposed material alterations and minor modifications stages, the various policies, objectives, proposed material alterations and minor modifications have been reviewed, screened and evaluated where appropriate with respect to

Applying the precautionary principle in the context of screening for appropriate assessment requires that where there is uncertainty or doubt about the risk of significant effects on a European site(s), it should be assumed that significant effects are likely and AA must be carried out.

³ The following SAC and SPA GIS boundary datasets are the most recently available at the time of writing: SAC_ITM_2022_04 and SPA_ITM_2021_10.

the requirements of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive before being incorporated into the plan and prior to adoption of the plan to ensure that the plan would not give rise to adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites.

- 21 The advice of the consultants informed the plan and the draft plan was amended as part of the iterative process to take account of this advice.
- 22 The plan was analysed and assessed to identify the potential impacts associated with the strategies, policies and objectives that could affect the ecological environment.
- 23 From this, the zone of influence of the plan was defined. Based on the identified impacts, and their zone of influence, the European sites potentially at risk of any direct or indirect impacts were identified.
- 24 In establishing which European sites are potentially at risk (in the absence of mitigation) from the plan, a source-pathway-receptor approach was applied. In order for an impact to occur, there must be a risk enabled by having a source (e.g. future development), a receptor (e.g. a European site or its Qualifying Interest(s) (QIs) or Special Conservation Interest(s) (SCIs) species), and a pathway between the source and the receptor (e.g. pathway by air for air borne pollution, or a pathway by a watercourse for mobilisation of pollution). For an impact to occur, all three elements must exist; the absence or removal of one of the elements means there is no possibility for the impact to occur.
- 25 The identification of source-pathway-receptor connection(s) between the plan and European sites essentially is the process of identifying which European sites are within the zone of influence of the plan, and therefore potentially at risk of significant effects. The zone of influence is defined as the area within which the plan could affect the receiving environment such that it could potentially have significant effects on the QI habitats or QI/SCI species of a European site, or on the achievement of their conservation objectives (as defined in CIEEM, 2018).
- 26 The identification of a source-pathway-receptor risk does not automatically mean that significant effects will arise. The likelihood of significant effects will depend upon the characteristics of the source (e.g. extent and location of future development works), the characteristics of the pathway (e.g. location and capacity of the receiving waste water infrastructure) and the characteristics of the receptor (e.g. the sensitivities of the European site and its QIs/SCIs). However, identification of the risk does mean that there is a possibility of ecological or environmental damage occurring, with the significance of the effect depending upon the nature and exposure to the risk and the characteristics of the receptor. In this case, where there is uncertainty, the precautionary principle has been applied.
- 27 This assessment has been undertaken in consideration of all potential impact sources and pathways connecting the plan to European sites, in view of the conservation objectives supporting the conservation condition of the sites' QIs/SCIs.
- 28 The conservation objectives relating to each European site and its QIs/SCIs are expressed generally for SACs as "to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the cSAC has been selected", and for SPAs "to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA".
- 29 Following on from this, and as defined in the Habitats Directive, favourable conservation status (or condition, at a site level) of a habitat is achieved when:
 - its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing, and
 - the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and
 - the conservation status of its typical species is favourable
- 30 The favourable conservation status (or condition, at a site level) of a species is achieved when:
 - population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats, and

- the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and
 - there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis
- 31 Where site-specific conservation objectives have been prepared for a given European site, these include a series of specific attributes and targets against which effects on conservation condition, or integrity, can be measured, i.e. an impact which affects the achievement of favourable conservation condition, as measured by the attributes and targets, is an impact on site integrity.
- 32 In the case of some QIs/SCIs in certain European sites, the conservation objective is to restore rather than maintain conservation condition and this distinction is taken into account in the assessment; as is any legacy damage to European sites that has occurred since their designation, insofar as possible.

4.5 Consultations

Submissions on the plan were submitted from a diverse range of prescribed bodies, stakeholders, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and industry representatives.

In terms of submissions from prescribed bodies on the plan, notable points were made by both the NPWS and EPA. Both organisations express a view that the cumulative impacts of greenways and blueways on European sites should be assessed, and that this increasingly popular recreational infrastructure should be designed carefully so as not to impact negatively on European sites in County Wexford. An Taisce have also concurred with this view, specifically mentioning an avoidance of ecological effects on the important bird habitats of the North Slob.

Submissions from stakeholders and industry representatives include similar issues raised about location of renewable energy developments. Coillte propose that Wexford County Council assess lands within the county to classify those that are suitable for renewable generation, whilst the Irish Wind Energy Association (IWEA) have stated in their submission that SPAs (and perhaps other designated sites for nature conservation) should not be automatically excluded from wind energy generation but assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Finally submissions from NGOs include those made by Wexford Environmental Network, who have called for the development of an ecological network in the county and the development of the county as an ecotourism model based on prioritising protection of habitats and species, and by Coastwatch who call for increased protection and restoration of coastal and marine designated sites, supporting access to the coastal zone but with shore closure for protecting sensitive species.

All relevant submissions received as part of the plan process have been taken into consideration in carrying out the assessment and throughout all stages of preparing the plan.

5 Description of the Plan

- 33 The plan sets the scale, location and nature of existing and future development and provides the basis for the other statutory local area plans and non-statutory masterplans within the land use plan area.

5.1 Introduction and Contents of the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028

The plan, sets out the overall strategic spatial planning framework to guide the sustainable development of the county for the six-year period of the plan and beyond. The plan relates to the whole functional area of Wexford County Council including the areas previously under the jurisdiction of Wexford Borough Council, New Ross Town and Enniscorthy Town.

The purpose of the plan is to provide for the physical, economic, and social development of the county by setting out the guiding strategies, objectives, and standards for this development. In doing so, it builds on the strategies and objectives of the previous County Development Plan 2013-2019, and further seeks to reconcile the need to protect the environment with the development required to meet the needs and aspirations of the people of County Wexford.

The plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), which sets out the mandatory requirements which must be included in County Development Plans. It includes a written statement and development objectives for the plan area. It includes a Core Strategy which shows that the objectives in the plan are consistent, as far as practicable, with national and regional development objectives set out in the National Planning Framework (NPF) and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region (RSES). The preparation of the plan has had regard to key recent development trends and national, regional and local policy developments, in particular, the National Planning Framework (NPF), Rebuilding Ireland, Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region (RSES) and the Local Government Reform Act, 2014.

The Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 consists of:

- Volume 1: The Written Statement – This constitutes the main body of the document outlining the vision, Core Strategy, and Objectives of the Plan.
- Accompanying Volumes 2 – 13 which are listed below
 - Volume 2: Development Management Standards
 - Volume 3: Specific Settlements
 - Volume 4: Statements of Compliance and Policy
 - Volume 5: Record of Protected Structures
 - Volume 6: Architectural Conservation Areas
 - Volume 7: Landscape Character Assessment
 - Volume 8: Retail Strategy
 - Volume 9: Housing Strategy
 - Volume 10: Energy Strategy
 - Volume 11: Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
 - Volume 12: Strategic Environmental Assessment
 - Volume 13: Natura Impact Report

A summary of the content of Volumes 1 to 13 of the plan is outlined in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Content of Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028

Volume 1: The Written Statement	Content
Chapter 1: Introduction	Introduction to the plan and overview of the process along with key legislative requirements. It includes the underlying themes of the plan.
Chapter 2: Climate Action	Provides detail on how climate change is an underlying theme throughout the plan and how the plan addresses it in relation to spatial planning.
Chapter 3: Core Strategy	Outlines the core strategy vision for the county and details Wexford County Council's overall development approach for each of the main settlements and settlement types in the settlement hierarchy.
Chapter 4: Sustainable Housing	Provides details on the spatial planning framework and objectives to deliver sustainable housing in the county.
Chapter 5: Design and Place-making in Towns and Villages	Outlines Wexford County Council's commitment and objectives to improving the quality of the county's towns and villages.
Chapter 6: Economic Development Strategy	Outlines Wexford County Council's broad Economic Development Strategy and provides details on how this will be supported by Wexford County Council's functions and activities and the planning process.
Chapter 7: Tourism Development	Outlines the spatial planning strategy and provides detail on the objectives to guide and facilitate the development of a sustainable tourism industry in the county.
Chapter 8: Transportation Strategy	Details Wexford County Council's strategy to provide an effective and sustainable transport system which is accessible to all in the county.
Chapter 9: Infrastructure Strategy	Provides detail on the spatial framework and objectives for the planning and provision of infrastructure (extends to water, wastewater, waste management, telecommunications, and ICT infrastructure) in the county.
Chapter 10: Environmental Management	Outlines the framework to sustainably manage and improve the environment of the county, whilst contributing to the health and wellbeing of its people.
Chapter 11: Landscape and Green Infrastructure	Outlines the role of landscapes and green infrastructure in the county and the positive economic, social and health benefits derived from them.

Chapter 12: Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning	Provides the spatial planning framework for future development in the county's coastal areas, focusing on maximising the economic development potential whilst enhancing the attractiveness of these places to live, visit and to work.
Chapter 13: Heritage and Conservation	Outlines the objectives to ensure the protection of the natural, built and cultural heritage of the county and provides the spatial framework for its protection.
Chapter 14: Recreation and Open Space Strategy	Outlines the strategy and objectives to guide the spatial development of open space and recreation facilities in the county and to facilitate increased participation in physical and recreational activities.
Chapter 15: Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy	Outlines Wexford County Council's role in facilitating the development of sustainable communities and sets out the spatial planning strategy and objectives to achieve this development.
Volume 2: Development Management Standards	The purpose of this volume is to set out the development standards that will be applied, as relevant, in the assessment of planning applications for development in the plan area.
Volume 3: Specific Settlements	This volume sets out specific objectives for four settlements in the county; Bunclody Town, Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane, Castlebridge and Rosslare Strand. This volume includes land use maps and specific objectives for Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and Bunclody Town. It also includes specific objectives for Rosslare Strand and Castlebridge.
Volume 4: Statements of Compliance and Policy	This volume includes the statements prepared in accordance with Section 10(1D) and Section 28 of the Planning and Development act, 2000 (as amended). It also includes the list of policy documents that the Planning Authority had regard to in the formulation of the Plan.
Volume 5: Record of Protected Structures	This volume contains the list of Protected Structures. These structures are considered worthy of protection due to their special interest from an architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social and or technical perspective.
Volume 6: Architectural Conservation Areas	This volume provides a list and maps of all adopted and proposed Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs) in the county. It also provides guidance and common objectives on conservation and

	enhancement of ACAs and for the management of change in these areas.
Volume 7: Landscape Character Assessment	This volume identifies the landscape character units in the county. It also assigns a sensitivity rating to the landscape character units and contains objectives to manage change in our landscapes.
Volume 8: Retail Strategy	This volume has been prepared in accordance with the Guidelines for Planning Authorities: Retail Planning (Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, 2012).
Volume 9: Housing Strategy	This volume has been prepared in accordance with Part V of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). It also incorporates elements of Housing Need Demand Assessment (HNDA). The purpose of this volume is to ensure that the proper planning and sustainable development of the county provides for the housing needs of the existing and future population within County Wexford.
Volume 10: Energy Strategy	This volume relates to all types of energy developments and includes the objectives and development management standards relating to future energy developments in the county. The strategy sets out renewable energy resource targets for County Wexford by 2027 which will contribute to both national renewable energy targets and the transition to a low carbon economy. This volume recognises the importance of not only generating and supplying energy by renewable means, but balancing this with more energy efficient practices.
Volume 11: Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	This volume identifies the nature of flood risk in the county and the settlements listed in Levels 1 to 5 of the Core Strategy, includes detailed flood risk assessments for Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and Bunclody Town and development management advice and flood risk management objectives.
Volume 12: Strategic Environmental Assessment	The Strategic Environmental Assessment Report identifies, evaluates and describes the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan and identifies appropriate mitigation measures.
Volume 13: Natura Impact Report	The Natura Impact Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). The NIR will enable an Appropriate Assessment to be carried out regarding whether the plan, by itself or in combination with other

	plans or projects, would adversely affect the integrity of any European sites.
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5.2 Vision, Goals and Objectives of the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028

The plan addresses a wide range of interrelated economic, social and environmental issues set within an overall framework of achieving sustainable development, social inclusion and adapting to climate change, its underlying themes. The plan builds on the Vision for the county which formed part of the 2013-2019 Wexford County Development Plan and which is also used in the Wexford Local Economic Community Plan 2016-2021 (LECP). The vision also places climate action at the heart of the future planning of the county.

The vision of the Plan is that by 2027, County Wexford will:

- Be a self-sustaining, low carbon, climate resilient and healthy county where people want to live, work and play
- Offer high-quality sustainable employment opportunities and high-quality residential developments
- Have sustainable urban and rural environments supported by excellent physical and social infrastructure
- Continue to value its unique natural environment, built and cultural heritage, be a county where biodiversity is restored and flourishes and which offers a range of high-quality experiences to both residents and visitors

All policies within the plan have been assessed. A summary of the main strategic goals and objectives in each chapter of Volume 1 of the plan are outlined below as well as additional Volumes where they contain objectives or policies which are of relevance to the assessment in this NIR.

Chapter 2: Climate Action

Strategic Aim/Goal:

To protect the people, buildings, infrastructure, businesses and ecosystems in County Wexford against the negative impacts of climate change, build resilience to climate change, change our behaviours and patterns of development to lessen the extent of climate change and take advantage of any opportunities that climate change may bring.

Objectives/Policies:

- Facilitate a modal shift towards sustainable transport
- Delivering compact growth
- Facilitate sustainable agriculture
- Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy
- Ensure that vulnerable developments are directed away from areas at risk
- Protect and expand the county's biodiversity and green infrastructure
- Consider the conversion or maintenance of land at risk of flooding to less vulnerable uses

Chapter 3: Core Strategy

To set out a medium to long term strategy which is evidenced based and specifies the location and quantum of residential zoned land in the county. The Strategy also provides the context for planning and prioritising investments in infrastructure including water services, public transport, education and healthcare. The Core Strategy is aligned with and supported by the Housing Strategy (Chapter 4 and Volume 9), the Economic Development Strategy (Chapter 6), the Transportation Strategy (Chapter 8) and the Retail Strategy (Volume 8).

The Core Strategy Development Approach is focused on developing and strengthening the role of our towns and villages. There is a focus on increasing residential densities and employment in the main towns, creating 'live-work towns', thereby decreasing the distance that people have to travel from their home to work. The strategy is also focused around settlements with good public transport links, and improving public transport links in other settlements, highlighting the importance of integrating land and transportation to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and facilitate the transition to a low carbon economy.

The Core Strategy for the county was developed around the following guiding principles:

- Climate Action
- The development of 'Centres of Scale' to drive regional growth
- The development of the Eastern Economic Corridor
- Utilise the proximity to the Waterford MASP
- Compact growth and liveable sustainable settlements
- Regeneration
- Addressing legacies in places where services have not kept pace with rapid phases of growth and regional disparities in disadvantage
- Connected settlements and networks
- Smart Growth of Settlements
- Vibrant Rural Areas

The Core Strategy's settlement hierarchy details the key locations or types of locations where development will take place, developed around 7 levels. While each level serves a different strategic role, together they aim to achieve a balanced, spatial planning settlement framework which supports urban and rural areas.

Chapter 4: Sustainable Housing

Strategic Aim/Goal:

To ensure that every household in County Wexford will have access to secure, good quality housing suited to their needs at an affordable price in a sustainable community.

Objectives/Policies:

- Ensuring a high standard of housing and quality of life for future residents through integrated planning and consistently excellent design
- The location of new housing is to be prioritised in existing settlements to allow people better access to services
- The scale and nature of future housing provision is to be tailored to the size and type of settlement where it is planned to be located
- Providing for choice in housing type, tenure, and accommodation
- Utilising existing housing stock to meet future demand

Chapter 5: Design and Place-making in Towns and Villages

Strategic Aim/Goal:

To ensure that the towns and villages in the county are vibrant and inclusive, support their urban and rural communities and provide attractive and enjoyable living and working environments.

Objectives/Policies:

- To ensure that the design of development is of exceptional quality

- To ensure that future development has a coherent urban structure, is permeable and places people at the heart of the public realm
- To ensure that development results in the efficient use of land, encourages walking and cycling and rejuvenates the areas within which it is located
- To ensure that towns and villages are self-sustaining places and are resilient to economic and environmental challenges

Chapter 6: Economic Development Strategy

Strategic Aim/Goal:

To promote the county as a nationally and internationally attractive and distinctive location in which to conduct business due to its significant strategic location and other significant environmental attributes and factors.

Objectives/Policies:

- Support businesses and activities to transition to a low carbon economy
- Support the development of the green economy
- Support the agriculture sector to transition to economically and environmentally viable farming methods
- Continue to create job opportunities within our county
- Ensure economic activity is directed away from areas vulnerable to coastal erosion and/flood risk

Chapter 7: Tourism Development

Strategic Aim/Goal:

To become one of Ireland's most compelling tourism destinations and in doing so improve the quality of life of people and communities throughout the county.

Objectives/Policies:

- Ensure that the tourism industry in County Wexford continues to grow in a sustainable manner
- Maximise the potential of tourism as a key pillar of economic growth for the county and region
- Maximise the potential of the Ireland's Ancient East Programme
- Promote improved access to the county through the further development of Rosslare Europort and the provision of enhanced public transport, road access, cycling and pedestrian infrastructure
- Enhance towns and villages across the county so that they are vibrant, attractive, accessible, and welcoming places to visit

Chapter 8: Transportation Strategy

Strategic Aim/Goal:

To reduce overall travel demand and achieve a modal shift through land use planning, optimising opportunities to make sustainable travel choices, providing a high quality transport network and system which is effective, accessible and responsive to technological change and reduce the contribution of transport to climate change.

Objectives/Policies:

- Reducing demand for travel by integrating land use planning and transport planning
- Prioritising sustainable modes of transport
- Ensuring regional connectivity is developed to adequately serve the needs of the people and economy

- Setting standards to ensure that development takes place in a manner which is efficient, sustainable, safe, and universally accessible
- Preparing Local Transport Plans
- Ensuring that the county is ready for, and can fully benefit from, technological changes in transport

Chapter 9: Infrastructure Strategy

Strategic Aim/Goal:

To ensure that Wexford has high quality infrastructure to facilitate and sustain the growth of the county over the lifetime of the plan and beyond whilst having regard to, and complying with, all relevant EU Directive and national legislation and enhancing the environmental quality of the county.

Objectives/Policies:

- To facilitate Irish Water in the protection, improvement and conservation of the county's water resources and in the provision of necessary water services infrastructure in a timely manner
- To facilitate the delivery of private water and waste water infrastructure
- To promote and facilitate best practice in the prevention, re-use, recovery, recycling and disposal of all waste
- To facilitate the development of high speed telecommunications and ICT infrastructure throughout the county
- To minimise the risk to people, businesses, infrastructure and the environment through the identification and management of existing and potential future flood risk

Chapter 10: Environmental Management

Strategic Aim/Goal:

To ensure that the natural resources and environmental conditions that are fundamental for the social and economic wellbeing of the current and future generations of our county are sustainably managed and protected.

Objectives/Policies:

- To recognise the benefits of a good quality environment
- To protect and improve water quality
- To protect environmental quality by ensuring that land use and developments do not negatively affect air quality or give rise to noise or light pollution

Chapter 11: Landscape and Green Infrastructure

Strategic Aim/Goal:

To protect the inherent beauty of our landscape and to promote and enable appreciation and enjoyment of the County's landscapes.

Objectives/Policies:

- To protect the inherent characteristics and quality of our landscape
- To sustain the natural and cultural heritage of our landscapes
- To ensure that development is respectful and appropriate to its landscape context
- To promote enjoyment and appreciation of our landscapes
- To protect the elements of our landscapes which perform important functions

- To ensure the protection, enhancement and maintenance of the natural environment and recognise the economic, social, environmental, and physical value of green spaces through the integration of Green Infrastructure planning and development in the planning process

Chapter 12: Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

Strategic Aim/Goal:

To ensure that the coastal zone and maritime area is protected and managed to balance social, economic, and environmental interests while allowing these areas to be used in a planned and sustainable manner.

Objectives/Policies:

- To adapt to and manage the challenges of climate change
- To promote vibrant, accessible, and sustainable coastal communities by facilitating appropriate social and economic development and/or regeneration of these areas
- To adopt an integrated and collaborative approach to the management of coastal areas
- To facilitate development, which is environmentally, socially and economically sustainable
- To ensure the conservation and enhancement of coastal landscapes and seascapes
- To adapt ecosystems-based approaches to the management of these areas

Chapter 13: Heritage and Conservation

Strategic Aim/Goal:

To protect, conserve and where appropriate enhance the natural, built and cultural heritage of the county and to encourage all to appreciate, enjoy, understand and care for our heritage to help enhance and secure it for future generations.

Objectives/Policies:

- To sustainably manage the competing pressures on the natural and built heritage in the county
- To conserve and protect sites and species, both designated and undesignated
- To ensure the sustainable management and conservation of areas of natural and geological heritage within the county
- To protect and enhance the character of the built environment
- To protect the archaeology of the county
- To promote the cultural heritage of the county
- To increase investment in heritage from economic returns it generates from society

Chapter 14: Recreation and Open Space Strategy

Strategic Aim/Goal:

To ensure that County Wexford is a healthy county with physical environments, amenities and resources that everyone, regardless of their age or ability, can use and to ensure good physical and mental health and wellbeing.

Objectives/Policies:

- To promote physical activity and active living as a means of enhancing health, wellbeing, and social inclusion
- To ensure that new developments apply the highest standards of place making integrating a variety of recreational uses of space
- To ensure the spatial planning, development and design of our towns and villages promotes active living and physical activity

- To ensure that open space and recreation developments and activities are carried out in a sustainable manner

Chapter 15: Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy

Strategic Aim/Goal:

To ensure that County Wexford has a strong network of socially inclusive sustainable communities, where all residents and visitors enjoy equal opportunities to participate fully in the economic, social and cultural life of the county.

Objectives/Policies:

- To ensure that County Wexford is an attractive place to live and work
- To ensure that the principles of accessibility, age friendly, inclusive and sustainable community development are central to spatial planning and the design of developments in the county
- To promote healthy communities and to facilitate equal access to health services for all our citizens
- To tackle regional disparities
- To facilitate the delivery of social and community infrastructure to meet the needs of the existing and future population of the county
- To develop a shared responsibility for social, community and cultural development in the county by working with other state agencies and local stakeholders

Volume 3: Specific Settlements

Specific objectives for four settlements in the county are set out; Bunclody Town, Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane, Castlebridge and Rosslare Strand, with land use maps provided for Bunclody Town, Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane.

The strategic aim of Wexford County Council for Bunclody Town is “...create and sustain a vibrant settlement with a strong sense of place, an attractive public realm, a mix of uses and a high quality residential environment while maximising to the fullest potential the role of Bunclody as a strategic service and employment centre, and develop its tourism and leisure potential related to its cultural heritage”.

The strategic aim of Wexford County Council for Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane is to “...create and sustain a vibrant settlement with a strong sense of place, an attractive public realm, a mix of uses, a high quality residential environment while maximising to the fullest potential the role of Rosslare Europort as a strategic national port to develop both port-related and other economic development and employment in the settlement and the county”.

The strategic aim of Wexford County Council for Castlebridge is to “...improve the local environment particularly for pedestrians walking out from the village core, to facilitate the provision of additional services for the community and to consolidate the development of the settlement to cater for local demand.”

The strategic aim of Wexford County Council for Rosslare Strand is to “...focus on Rosslare as a prime, quality tourist destination with a vibrant year round population and economy. The interdependence between the village and the area’s natural environment, particularly the beach, will be promoted and maximised.”

Volume 9: Housing Strategy

The purpose of this volume is to ensure that the proper planning and sustainable development of the county provides for the housing needs of the existing and future population within County Wexford. It sets out specific objectives of policies as well as the details of the quantum and nature of housing requirements for Wexford County Council.

Volume 10: Energy Strategy

The stated vision is to maximise Wexford’s renewable energy potential and its transition to becoming a more energy secure, low carbon county in line with national energy targets whilst balancing the need to protect the environmental, social and heritage assets of the county.

The strategic aims of the strategy are:

- To support the attainment of national renewable energy targets and to position the county as a leader in renewable energy generation.
- To identify opportunities for various renewable energy technologies and resources and identify broad areas suitable for their development in full compliance with the requirements of all environmental legislation including the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, the Habitats Directive and the Water Framework Directive.
- To maximise the opportunities for renewable energy development whilst safeguarding the environment and existing residential amenities.
- To provide guidance on energy efficiency and conservation.
- To provide a clear development management framework.

Volume 11: Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

This volume identifies the nature of flood risk in the county and the settlements listed in Levels 1 to 5 of the Core Strategy, includes detailed flood risk assessments for Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and Bunclody Town and development management advice and flood risk management objectives. All of the policies and objectives included in this volume are already included in Volume 1 of the plan.

6 European sites and Overview of the Receiving Environment

6.1 Overview of Biodiversity in the County as relevant to Appropriate Assessment

County Wexford is situated on the southeast coast of Ireland, bordered by the Irish Sea to the east and the Celtic Sea to the south. The majority of the County comprises of lowland habitats with some upland areas along western border of the County (Blackstairs Mountains) and towards the north of the County (the southern edges of the Wicklow Mountains). Lowland areas comprise alluvial fertile plains, waterways, estuarine and coastal habitats.

Wexford is a county rich in biodiversity. Areas of particular interest within the county include the coastal systems of Bannow Bay and Ballyteige, The Raven Nature Reserve, the lagoons at Lady’s island Lake and Tacumshin Lake, marine waters and the river valleys of the Barrow and Slaney Rivers, the uplands of the Blackstairs mountains, and woodlands at Killoughrim.

County Wexford is an important stronghold for breeding seabird colonies and wildfowl species, as well as overwintering wildfowl, and the county is an important location for Hen Harrier during the non-breeding season. Areas of prime importance include:

- The Raven and Wildfowl Nature Reserve which is of critical significance as the principal night roost for the internationally important Wexford Harbour population of Greenland White-fronted Geese and is an important breeding site for Little Tern
- The Saltee Islands which are internationally important for holding an assemblage of over 20,000 breeding seabirds and are of special conservation interest for a range of breeding seabirds
- Tacumshin Lake which has an exceptionally diverse waterfowl population and supports internationally important populations of Whooper Swan and Bewick’s Swan during winter, and a further 13 waterfowl species in numbers of national importance, as well as supporting large numbers of birds through the whole year
- Lady’s Island Lake is of ornithological interest for breeding and wintering birds and is an important stop-over point for passage migrants, with one of the highest diversity of breeding wildfowl species in the country, and is a stronghold for tern species

- Ballyteige Burrow supports an internationally important population of Brent Geese and regionally and nationally important numbers of wildfowl
- Bannow Bay has an excellent diversity of wintering wildfowl and is one of the most important sites in the south-east, supporting internationally important numbers of Brent Geese, as well as nationally important numbers of a number of other wildfowl species
- The Wexford Harbour and Slobbs has special conservation interest for a wide range of wildfowl species. It is one of the top three sites in the country for numbers and diversity of wintering birds and is one of the few sites in the country which supports a regular flock of Bewick's Swan. It also supports a nationally important breeding Little Tern colony.
- The Keeragh Islands are of ornithological importance as they have a nationally important population of breeding Cormorant that is considered one of the largest in the country. In the winter, the islands are a refuge and night roost for flocks of Brent Geese and for ducks.

Habitats and species of special conservation importance are found across the county and those of particular note in an Appropriate Assessment context within the County include:

- Habitats – reefs, sea caves, coastal dune systems, lagoons, lakes, rivers, grasslands, marshes, woodlands, and peatlands.
- Species – Allis and Twaite shad, salmon, lamprey species, fresh water pearl mussel, and a wide range of breeding and overwintering wildfowl species

These areas, habitats and species of special conservation interest are protected across a network of SACs, and SPAs in County Wexford. In addition there is a network of proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) and one Natural Heritage Area (NHA) within the county which provide supporting or stepping stone functions to the SAC and SPA network, in particular for species that move outside of SAC and SPA boundaries. For the purposes of this NIR, the potential zone of influence of the plan are determined to be greater than the county boundary, and therefore additional SACs, SPAs, NHAs and pNHAs, beyond the county boundary, are also considered. These designated sites are described in the sections below.

6.2 Hydrology

County Wexford is located within the South Eastern River Basin District and a River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) with a Programme of Measures (POM) has been prepared in accordance with the Water Framework Directive⁴. The South Eastern River Basin District has a land area of 14,000 km², including 1,000 km² of marine waters.

The latest 'Water Quality in Ireland Report 2013-2018' was published by the EPA in December 2019⁵. This reports contains the most up-to-date and comprehensive assessment of the ecological health of Ireland's rivers, lakes, canals, groundwaters, transitional waters and coastal waters collected over a six-year period between 2013-2018. In 2021, the EPA published 'Water Quality in 2020: An Indicators Report'⁶. This provides an update on the quality of water in Ireland's rivers, lakes, transitional and coastal waters and groundwater using information collected in 2020.

⁴ Report downloaded from Catchments.ie. Accessed 07.04.2021 (<https://www.catchments.ie/download/south-easter-river-basin-management-plan-2009-2015/>).

⁵ EPA (2019) Water Quality in Ireland 2013 – 2018. Accessed 07.04.2021 ([https://www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/water/waterqua/Water%20Quality%20in%20Ireland%202013-2018%20\(web\).pdf](https://www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/water/waterqua/Water%20Quality%20in%20Ireland%202013-2018%20(web).pdf)).

⁶ EPA (2021) Water Quality in 2020: An Indicators Report. Accessed 13.06.2022 (https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/freshwater--marine/EPA_Water_Quality_2020_indicators-report.pdf).

The Indicators Report indicates that for Wexford County Council, 10 (11.3%) of its rivers had 'High' status, 41 (46.5%) had 'Good' status, 26 (29.5%) had 'Moderate' status and 11 (12.5%) had 'Poor' status. None of county's river water bodies were assigned 'Bad' status in this update.

The County covers four main Water Framework Directive catchments; Owenavorrage, Slaney and Wexford Harbour, Ballyteigue-Bannow, and the Barrow. There are two major rivers in County Wexford; the River Slaney and River Barrow. The water quality status of the River Barrow ranges from 'moderate' to 'good' as it flows in a southerly direction through Wexford. The River Slaney water quality status is generally 'good' as it flows through Wexford.

There are 14 transitional water bodies in the county. During the 2013-2018 monitoring period, 'bad' status was recorded for Lady's Island Lake and Ballyteige Channels with the Lower Slaney Estuary recording 'poor' status. Three water bodies had 'good' status, four had 'moderate' status (including Tacumshin Lake), with the remaining four unassigned a status.

There are six coastal waterbodies for County Wexford. Three of these recorded 'moderate' status, one recorded 'good' status while the remaining two were unassigned a status.

6.3 Hydrogeology

County Wexford administrative lands are divided among 16 different Groundwater Bodies (GWB), according to EPA Maps online portal⁷. These 16 bodies are classified by the EPA as having 'good' groundwater status at present and are as follows:

- IE_SE_G_022 Bridgetown
- IE_SE_G_064 Fardystown
- IE_SE_G_065 Fethard
- IE_SE_G_001 Adamstown
- IE_SE_G_152 New Ross
- IE_SE_G_011 Ballyglass
- IE_SE_G_061 Enniscorthy
- IE_SE_G_031 Castlebridge North
- IE_SE_G_033 Castlebridge South
- IE_SE_G_164 Castlebridge Gravels
- IE_SE_G_162 Curraclloe Gravels
- IE_SE_G_172 Oulart Gravels
- IE_SE_G_025 Cahore Point
- IE_SE_G_071 Gorey
- IE_SE_G_075 Inch
- IE_EA_G_076 Wicklow

In respect of not achieving 'Good' groundwater status under the Water Framework Directive in the future, five are considered "Not at risk" (Bridgetown, Castlebridge North, Castlebridge South, Castlebridge Gravels,

⁷ EPA Maps. Accessed 13.06.2022. (<https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/>).

Curracloe Gravels and Oulart Gravels), four are considered “At risk” (Ballyglass, Enniscorthy, Cahore Point and Inch) whilst the remaining groundwater bodies are to be reviewed.

In addition, there are three small areas in the county that are artificial in nature, with two termed as Industrial facilities (IE_SE_G_151 and IE_SE_G_062) and one a Waste Facility (IE_SE_G_032). They are all classified by the EPA as having “poor” groundwater status and “At risk” of not achieving ‘Good’ status under the Water Framework Directive.

6.4 Soils and Geology

County Wexford has a unique geodiversity: from rocks as old as 620 million years to exceptionally preserved fossils recording a teeming tropical sea life to volcanic rocks, glacial features and present coastal processes. As a result, it is perhaps more widely known than many counties for its geological heritage, and clearly many of the rich heritage and tourist sites have an underlying geological heritage that is the foundation for either cultural heritage interest or for the rich biodiversity of the county.

There are 42 sites protected as County Geological Sites (CGS) in County Wexford (see Table 2 below). Of these, 16 are considered to be of national importance as best representative examples of particular geological formations or features and should receive protection as Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs). A further five of these sites have also been identified that may be recommended for geological NHA status after further investigation.

Table 2 The 42 County Geological Sites in County Wexford

Site Code	Site Name	Site Code	Site Name
WX001	Baginbun Head	WX022	Harrylock Bay
WX002	Ballymoney Strand	WX023	Hook Head
WX003	Ballyteige Bay	WX024	Kilmore Quay
WX004	Bannow Bay	WX025	Kilpatrick Sandhills
WX005	Barrystown Mine	WX026	Kiltrea
WX006	Blackstairs Mountain	WX027	Lady’s Island Lake
WX007	Booley Bay	WX028	Loftusacre
WX008	Cahore Point	WX029	Mulmontry Gorge
WX009	Cahore Polders and Dunes	WX030	Oldtown to Harrylock Bay
WX010	Caim Mine	WX031	Petit’s Bay
WX011	Camaross Pingos	WX032	Pollshone Head – Roney Point
WX012	Carnsore Point	WX033	Saltee Islands
WX013	Carrigadaggan	WX034	Sandeel Bay
WX014	Coolishall Quarry	WX035	Screen Hills
WX015	Cullenstown	WX036	Shelmaliere Commons Quarry
WX016	Curracloe Beach and The Raven Point	WX037	St. Helen’s Glaciomarine Mud
WX017	Fethard	WX038	St. Helen’s Harbour
WX018	Forth Mountain	WX039	St. Patrick’s Bridge
WX019	Graigue Great	WX040	Tacumshin Lake
WX020	Greenore Point	WX041	Tincone
WX021	Greenville Farmyard	WX042	Wexford Harbour

6.5 Air Quality

In County Wexford, there are regions divided within the Air Quality Index for Health (AQIH). New Ross, Enniscorthy and Gorey all fall under the “Small Towns” region, each achieving an Air Quality Index of “3 – Good”. Wexford town falls under the “Large Towns” region, and is also assessed as “3 – Good”. The remainder of the county is designated as the “Rural East” region as and is considered to have an Air Quality Index of “3 – Good”⁸.

6.6 European Sites

- 35 The European sites⁹ present within, adjacent to or downstream of the plan boundary are listed below in Table 3 in conjunction with considering the site specific conservation objectives for each European sites, where available, and where not available, then in consideration of the generic conservation objective for SACs ‘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’, and for SPAs ‘To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA’.
- 36 The site specific conservation objectives documents set out the attributes, measures and targets that define the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interests within the European sites. Affecting the conservation condition of the qualifying interests/special conservation interests is deemed to constitute an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site. The specific attributes and targets used to define the conservation objectives of the qualifying interests of the European sites are set out in the conservation objectives documents cited below in Table 3.
- 37 The SACs and SPAs in the vicinity of the plan are illustrated in Figure 1 and Figure 2 respectively.

Table 3 European sites in the vicinity of the plan

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)		
Ballyteige Burrow SAC [000696]	Within the plan boundary	1130 Estuaries 1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide 1150 Coastal lagoons* 1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks 1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand 1320 Spartina swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>) 1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) 1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia 21trigose</i>) 1420 Mediterranean and 21trigos-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (<i>Sarcocornetea 21trigose21</i>) 2110 Embryonic shifting dunes

⁸ EPA (2021) Air Quality Index for Health. Accessed 13.06.2022 [<https://airquality.ie/>]

⁹ The Site Specific Conservation Objectives for the European sites listed are the most recently available as of June 2022.

¹⁰ “Qualifying Interests” for SACs and “Special Conservation Interests” for SPAs based on relevant Statutory Instruments for each SPA, and NPWS Conservation Objectives for SACs downloaded from www.npws.ie. Data on NHA/pNHA sites from the site synopsis documents published by the NPWS (where available).

Priority Annex I habitat types are denoted with an “*” and are habitat types which are in danger of disappearance at a European level – from the definition of “priority natural habitat types” in Article 1(d) of the Habitats Directive

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
		<p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</p> <p>2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)*</p> <p>2150 Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (<i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i>)*</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 435/2021 – European Union Habitats (Ballyteige Bay Special Area of Conservation 000206) Regulations 2021</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2150], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2014) <i>Conservation Objectives: Ballyteige Burrow SAC 000696. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p> <p>To restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1150, 1330, 1420, 2130], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2014) <i>Conservation Objectives: Ballyteige Burrow SAC 000696. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p> <p><i>Spartina</i> swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>) was originally listed as a qualifying Annex I habitat for Ballyteige Burrow SAC. However, all stands of cordgrass in Ireland are now regarded as common cordgrass (<i>S. anglica</i>) (McCorry <i>et al.</i>, 2003; McCorry and Ryle, 2009), an alien invasive species. Thus, no conservation objective has been prepared for this habitat. It will therefore not be necessary to assess the plan against this Annex I habitat.</p>
Bannow Bay SAC [000697]	Within the plan boundary	<p>1130 Estuaries</p> <p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</p> <p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines</p> <p>1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks</p> <p>1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand 1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)</p> <p>1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia 22trigose</i>)</p> <p>1420 Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (<i>Sarcocornetea 22trigose22</i>)</p> <p>2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ('white dunes')</p> <p>2130 *Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ('grey dunes')</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 420/2018 – European Union Habitats (Bannow Bay Special Area of Conservation 000697) Regulations 2018</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1130, 1140, 1210, 1220], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2012) <i>Conservation Objectives: Bannow Bay SAC 000697. Version 1.0.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
		<p>To restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2012) <i>Conservation Objectives: Bannow Bay SAC 000697. Version 1.0.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Blackstairs Mountains SAC [000770]	Within the plan boundary	<p>4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i></p> <p>4030 European dry heaths</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 90/2019 – European Union Habitats (Blackstairs Mountains Special Area of Conservation 000770) Regulations 2018</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [4010, 4030], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2019) <i>Conservation Objectives: Blackstairs Mountains SAC 000770. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Blackwater Bank SAC [002953]	c.3km offshore of the plan boundary	<p>1110 Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 90/2017 – European Union Habitats (Blackwater Bank Special Area of Conservation 000149) Regulations 2017</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1110], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: Blackwater Bank SAC 002953. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC [000700]	Within the plan boundary	<p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines</p> <p>2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Amophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</p> <p>2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 421/2018 – European Union Habitats (Cahore Polders Special Area of Conservation 000700) Regulations 2018</i></p> <p>To restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1210, 2110, 2120, 2130], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2016) <i>Conservation Objectives: Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC 000700. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.</p>
Carnsore Point SAC [002269]	Within the plan boundary	<p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</p> <p>1170 Reefs</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 530/2016 – European Union Habitats (Carnsore Point Special Area of Conservation 002269) Regulations 2016.</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1140, 1170], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p>

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
		NPWS (2011) <i>Conservation Objectives: Carnsore Point SAC 002269. Version 1.0.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Hook Head SAC [000764]	Within the plan boundary	<p>1160 Large shallow inlets and bays 1170 Reefs 1230 Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 509/2017 – European Union Habitats (Hook Head Special Area of Conservation 000764) Regulations 2017</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1160, 1170, 1230], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2011) <i>Conservation Objectives: Hook Head SAC 000764. Version 1.0.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills SAC [001741]	Within the plan boundary	<p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) 2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 547/2018 – European Union Habitats (Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills Special Area of Conservation 001741) Regulations 2018</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [2120], and to restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [2130], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2014) <i>Conservation Objectives: Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills SAC 001741. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC [001742]	Within the plan boundary	<p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines 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) 2150 Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (<i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i>)</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 424/2018 – European Union Habitats (Kilpatrick Sandhills Special Area of Conservation 001742) Regulations 2018</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1210], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2017) <i>Conservation Objectives: Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC 001742. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.</p> <p>To restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [2110, 2120, 2130, 2150], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p>

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
		NPWS (2017) <i>Conservation Objectives: Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC 001742. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.
Lady's Island Lake SAC [000704]	Within the plan boundary	<p>1150 Coastal lagoons 1170 Reefs 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 292/2018 – European Union Habitats (Lady's Island Lake Special Area of Conservation 000704) Regulations 2018</i></p> <p>To restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1150, 1220], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2019) <i>Conservation Objectives: Lady's Island Lake SAC 000704. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1170], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2019) <i>Conservation Objectives: Lady's Island Lake SAC 000704. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Long Bank SAC [002161]	c.2km offshore of the plan boundary	<p>1110 Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 103/2016 – European Union Habitats (Long Bank Special Area of Conservation 002161) Regulations 2016.</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1110], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: Long Bank SAC 002161. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC [000710]	Within the plan boundary	<p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide 1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines 1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) 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') 2170 Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>Argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>) 2190 Humid dune slacks</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 103/2016 – European Union Habitats (Raven Point Nature Reserve Special Area of Conservation 000710) Regulations 2016</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1140, 1210, 1330, 2170], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p>

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
		<p>NPWS (2011) <i>Conservation Objectives: Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC 000710</i>. Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p> <p>To restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [2110, 2120, 2130, 2190], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2011) <i>Conservation Objectives: Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC 000710</i>. Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
<p>River Barrow And River Nore SAC [002162]</p>	<p>Within the plan boundary</p>	<p>1016 Desmoulin's whorl snail <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> 1029 Freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> 1092 White-clawed crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> 1095 Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> 1096 Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> 1099 River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> 1103 Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i> 1106 Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) (only in fresh water) 1130 Estuaries 1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide 1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand 1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>) 1355 Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> 1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia 26trigose</i>) 1421 Killarney fern <i>Trichomanes speciosum</i> 1990 Nore freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera durrovensis</i> 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation 4030 European dry heaths 6430 Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels 7220 * Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles 91E0 * Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)</p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats and species [1016, 1092, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1421, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2011) <i>Conservation Objectives: River Barrow and River Nore SAC 002162</i>. Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p> <p>To restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats and species [1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1990, 91A0, 91E0], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2011) <i>Conservation Objectives: River Barrow and River Nore SAC 002162</i>. Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
		<p>The status of the freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) as a qualifying Annex II species for the River Barrow and River Nore SAC is currently under review. The outcome of this review will determine whether a site-specific conservation objective is set for this species. Note that the Nore freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera durrovensis</i>) remains a qualifying species for this SAC.</p>
Saltee Islands SAC [000707]	Within the plan boundary	<p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide 1160 Large shallow inlets and bays 1170 Reefs 1230 Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts 1364 Grey Seal <i>Halichoerus grypus</i> 8330 Submerged or partially submerged sea caves</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 300/2019 – European Union Habitats Saltee Islands Special Area of Conservation 000707) Regulations 2019</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats and species [1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2011) <i>Conservation Objectives: Saltee Islands SAC 000707 and Saltee Islands SPA 004002. Version 1.0.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Screen Hills SAC [000708]	Within the plan boundary	<p>3110 Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) 4030 European dry heaths</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 301/2019 – European Union Habitats (Screen Hills Special Area Of Conservation 000708) Regulations 2019</i></p> <p>To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [3110, 4030], as set out in: NPWS (2020) <i>Conservation objectives for Screen Hills SAC [000708]. Generic Version 7.0.</i> Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Slaney River Valley SAC [000781]	Within the plan boundary	<p>1029 Freshwater Pearl Mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> 1095 Sea Lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> 1096 Brook Lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> 1099 River Lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> 1103 Twaite Shad <i>Alosa fallax</i> 1106 Atlantic Salmon <i>Salmo salar</i> (only in fresh water) 1130 Estuaries 1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide 1355 Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> 1365 Harbour Seal <i>Phoca vitulina</i> 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles 91E0 * Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)</p>

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
		<p>To restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats and species [1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1355, 91A0, 91E0], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2011) <i>Conservation Objectives: Slaney River Valley SAC 000781. Version 1.0.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats and species [1130, 1140, 1365, 3260], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2011) <i>Conservation Objectives: Slaney River Valley SAC 000781. Version 1.0.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p> <p>The status of the freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) as a qualifying Annex II species for the Slaney River Valley SAC is currently under review. The outcome of this review will determine whether a site-specific conservation objective is set for this species.</p>
Tacumshin Lake SAC [000709]	Within the plan boundary	<p>1150 Coastal lagoons 1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks 2110 Embryonic shifting dunes 2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 422/2018 – European Union Habitats Tacumshin Lake Special Area Of Conservation 000709) Regulations 2018</i></p> <p>To restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1150, 1220], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2018) <i>Conservation Objectives: Tacumshin Lake SAC 000709. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1210, 2110, 2120], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2018) <i>Conservation Objectives: Tacumshin Lake SAC 000709. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Lower River Suir SAC [002137]	c.0.5km outside the plan boundary	<p>1029 Freshwater Pearl Mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> 1092 White-clawed Crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> 1095 Sea Lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> 1096 Brook Lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> 1099 River Lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> 1103 Twaite Shad <i>Alosa fallax fallax</i> 1106 Salmon <i>Salmo salar</i> 1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) 1355 Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> 1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia 28trigose</i>)</p>

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
		<p>3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation</p> <p>6430 Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels</p> <p>91A0 Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles</p> <p>91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>) *</p> <p>91J0 <i>Taxus baccata</i> woods of the British Isles*</p> <p>To restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats and species [1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1330, 1410, 91A0, 91E0, 91J0], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2017) <i>Conservation Objectives: Lower River Suir SAC 002137. Version 1</i>. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.</p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats and species [1092, 1355, 3260, 6430], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2017) <i>Conservation Objectives: Lower River Suir SAC 002137. Version 1</i>. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs</p>
Tramore Dunes and Backstrand SAC [000671]	c.10km outside the plan boundary	<p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</p> <p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines</p> <p>1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks</p> <p>1310 <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand</p> <p>1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>)</p> <p>1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia 29trigose</i>)</p> <p>2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</p> <p>2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)*</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 546/2018 – European Union Habitats Tramore Dunes and Backstrand Special Area Of Conservation 000671) Regulations 2018</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1140, 1210, 1220, 1330, 1410, 2110, 2120], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: Tramore Dunes and Backstrand SAC 000671. Version 1</i>. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p> <p>To restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1310, 2130], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: Tramore Dunes and Backstrand SAC 000671. Version 1</i>. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
Buckroney-Brittas Dunes And Fen SAC [000729]	c.10km outside the plan boundary	<p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks 1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia 30trigose</i>) 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)* 2150 Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (<i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i>)* 2170 Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>Argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>) 2190 Humid dune slacks 7230 Alkaline fens</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 67/2022 – European Union Habitats (Buckroney Brittias Dunes and Fen Special Area of Conservation 000729) Regulations 2022</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1210, 1410, 2130, 2170, 7230], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2017) <i>Conservation Objectives: Buckroney-Brittias Dunes and Fen SAC 000729. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.</p> <p>To restore the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1220, 2110, 2120, 2150, 2190], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2017) <i>Conservation Objectives: Buckroney-Brittias Dunes and Fen SAC 000729. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.</p>
Special Protections Areas (SPAs)		
Ballyteige Burrow SPA [004020]	Within the plan boundary	<p>A046 Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> A048 Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> A140 Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> A141 Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> A142 Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> A156 Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i> A157 Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i> A999 Wetland and Waterbirds</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 383/2010 – European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds (Ballyteigue Burrow Special Protection Area 004020)) Regulations 2010.</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species and wetland habitat of Ballyteige Burrow SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2014) <i>Conservation Objectives: Ballyteige Burrow SPA 004020. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Bannow Bay SPA [004033]	Within the plan boundary	<p>A046 Light-bellied Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> A048 Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i></p>

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
		<p>A054 Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i> A130 Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> A140 Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> A141 Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> A142 Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> A143 Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i> A149 Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i> A156 Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i> A157 Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i> A160 Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i> A162 Redshank <i>Tringa 31trigos</i> A999 Wetland and Waterbirds</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 592/2011 – European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds (Bannow Bay Special Protection Area 004033)) Regulations 2011.</i> To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species and wetland habitat of Bannow Bay SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2012) <i>Conservation Objectives: Bannow Bay SPA 004033. Version 1.0.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Cahore Marshes SPA [004143]	Within the plan boundary	<p>A050 Wigeon <i>Anas 31trigose</i> A140 Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> A142 Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> A395 Greenland White-fronted Goose <i>31trigo albifrons flavirostris</i> A999 Wetland and Waterbirds</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 293/2011 – European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds (Cahore Marshes Special Protection Area 004143)) Regulations 2011.</i> To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species and wetland habitat of Cahore Marshes SPA, as set out in: NPWS (2022) <i>Conservation objectives for Cahore Marshes SPA [004143]. Generic Version 9.0.</i> Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.</p>
Keeragh Islands SPA [004118]	Within the plan boundary	<p>A017 Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i></p> <p><i>S.I. No. 68/2010 – European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds (Keeragh Islands Special Protection Area 004118)) Regulations 2010.</i> To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species of Keeragh Islands SPA, as set out in: NPWS (2022) <i>Conservation objectives for Keeragh Islands SPA [004118]. Generic Version 9.0.</i> Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.</p>
Lady's Island Lake SPA [004009]	Within the plan boundary	<p>A051 Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> A179 Black-headed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> A191 Sandwich Tern <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i> A192 Roseate Tern <i>Sterna dougallii</i></p>

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
		<p>A193 Common Tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i> A194 Arctic Tern <i>Sterna paradisaea</i> A999 Wetland and Waterbirds</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 69/2010 – European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds (Lady’s Island Lake Special Protection Area 004009)) Regulations 2010.</i></p> <p>To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species and wetland habitat of Lady’s Island Lake SPA, as set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2022) <i>Conservation objectives for Lady’s Island Lake SPA [004009]. Generic Version 9.0.</i> Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.</p>
Saltee Islands SPA [004002]	Within the plan boundary	<p>A009 Fulmar <i>Fulmarus glacialis</i> A016 Gannet <i>Morus bassanus</i> A017 Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> A018 Shag <i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i> A183 Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus</i> A184 Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i> A188 Kittiwake <i>Rissa tridactyla</i> A199 Guillemot <i>Uria aalge</i> A200 Razorbill <i>Alca torda</i> A204 Puffin <i>Fratercula arctica</i></p> <p><i>S.I. No. 274/2010 – European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds (Saltee Islands Special Protection Area 004002)) Regulations 2010.</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species of Saltee Islands SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2011) <i>Conservation Objectives: Saltee Islands SAC 000707 and Saltee Islands SPA 004002. Version 1.0.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Tacumshin Lake SPA [004092]	Within the plan boundary	<p>A004 Little Grebe <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> A037 Bewick’s Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> A038 Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> A050 Wigeon <i>Anas 32trigose</i> A051 Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> A052 Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> A054 Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i> A056 Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> A061 Tufted Duck <i>Aythya fuligula</i> A125 Coot <i>Fulica atra</i> A140 Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> A141 Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> A142 Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> A156 Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i> A999 Wetland and Waterbirds</p>

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
		<p>S.I. No. 178/2012 – European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds (Tacumshin Lake Special Protection Area 004092)) Regulations 2012.</p> <p>To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species and wetland habitat of Tacumshin Lake SPA, as set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2022) <i>Conservation objectives for Tacumshin Lake SPA [004092]. Generic Version 9.0.</i> Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.</p>
The Raven SPA [004019]	Within the plan boundary	<p>A001 Red-throated Diver <i>Gavia stellata</i> A017 Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> A065 Common Scoter <i>Melanitta nigra</i> A141 Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> A144 Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i> A395 Greenland White-fronted goose <i>33trigo albifrons flavirostris</i> A999 Wetlands and Waterbirds</p> <p>S.I. No. 533/2011 – European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds (The Raven Special Protection Area 004019)) Regulations 2011.</p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species and wetland habitat of The Raven SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>NPWS (2012) <i>Conservation Objectives: The Raven SPA 004019. Version 1.0.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA [004076]	Within the plan boundary	<p>A004 Little Grebe <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> A005 Great Crested Grebe <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> A017 Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> A028 Grey Heron <i>Ardea cinerea</i> A037 Bewick’s Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus</i> A038 Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> A046 Light-bellied Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> A048 Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> A050 Wigeon <i>Anas 33trigose</i> A052 Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> A053 Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> A054 Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i> A062 Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i> A067 Goldeneye <i>Bucephala clangula</i> A069 Red-breasted Merganser <i>Mergus serrator</i> A082 Hen Harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i> A125 Coot <i>Fulica atra</i> A130 Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> A140 Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> A141 Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> A142 Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> A143 Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i> A144 Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i></p>

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation ¹⁰ Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives
		<p>A149 Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i> A156 Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i> A157 Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i> A160 Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i> A162 Redshank <i>Tringa 34trigos</i> A179 Black-headed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> A183 Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus</i> A195 Little Tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i> A395 Greenland White-fronted goose <i>34trigo albifrons flavirostris</i> A999 Wetlands and Waterbirds</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 194/2012 – European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds (Wexford Harbour and Slobs Special Protection Area 004076)) Regulations 2012.</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species and wetland habitat of Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2012) <i>Conservation Objectives: Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA 004076. Version 1.0.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>
River Nore SPA [004233]	c.7km outside the plan boundary	<p>A229 Kingfisher <i>Alcedo atthis</i></p> <p><i>S.I. No. 193/2012 – European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds (River Nore Special Protection Area 004233)) Regulations 2012.</i></p> <p>To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species of River Nore SPA, as set out in: NPWS (2022) <i>Conservation objectives for River Nore SPA [004233]. Generic Version 9.0.</i> Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.</p>
Tramore Back Strand SPA [004027]	c.10km outside the plan boundary	<p>A046 Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> A140 Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> A141 Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> A142 Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> A149 Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> A156 Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i> A157 Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i> A160 Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i> A999 Wetlands and Waterbirds</p> <p><i>S.I. No. 286/2011 – European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds (Tramore Back Strand Special Protection Area 004027)) Regulations 2011.</i></p> <p>To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species and wetland habitat of Tramore Back Strand SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: Tramore Back Strand SPA 004027. Version 1.</i> National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p>

Figure 1 Special Areas of Conservation within the vicinity of the plan

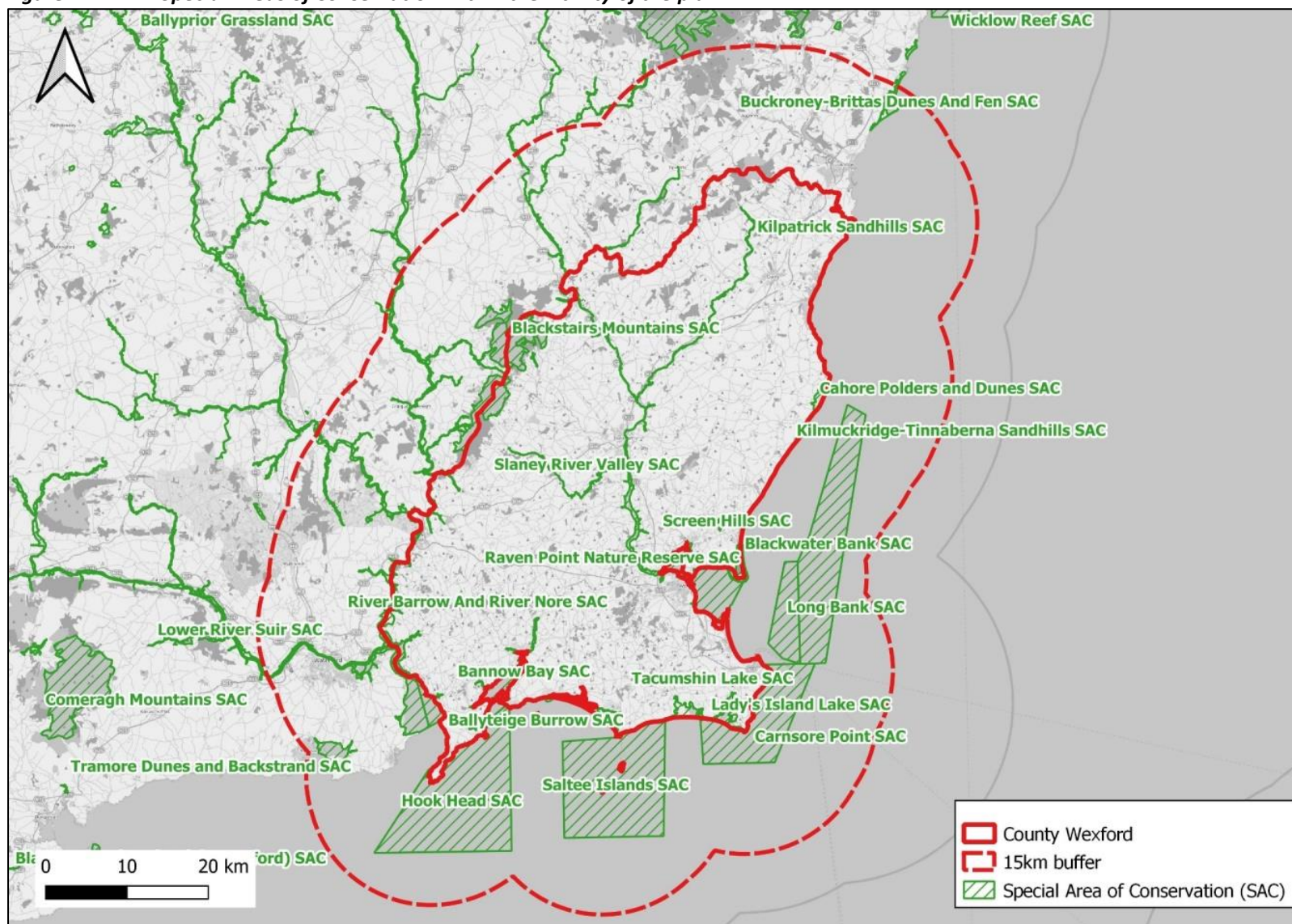
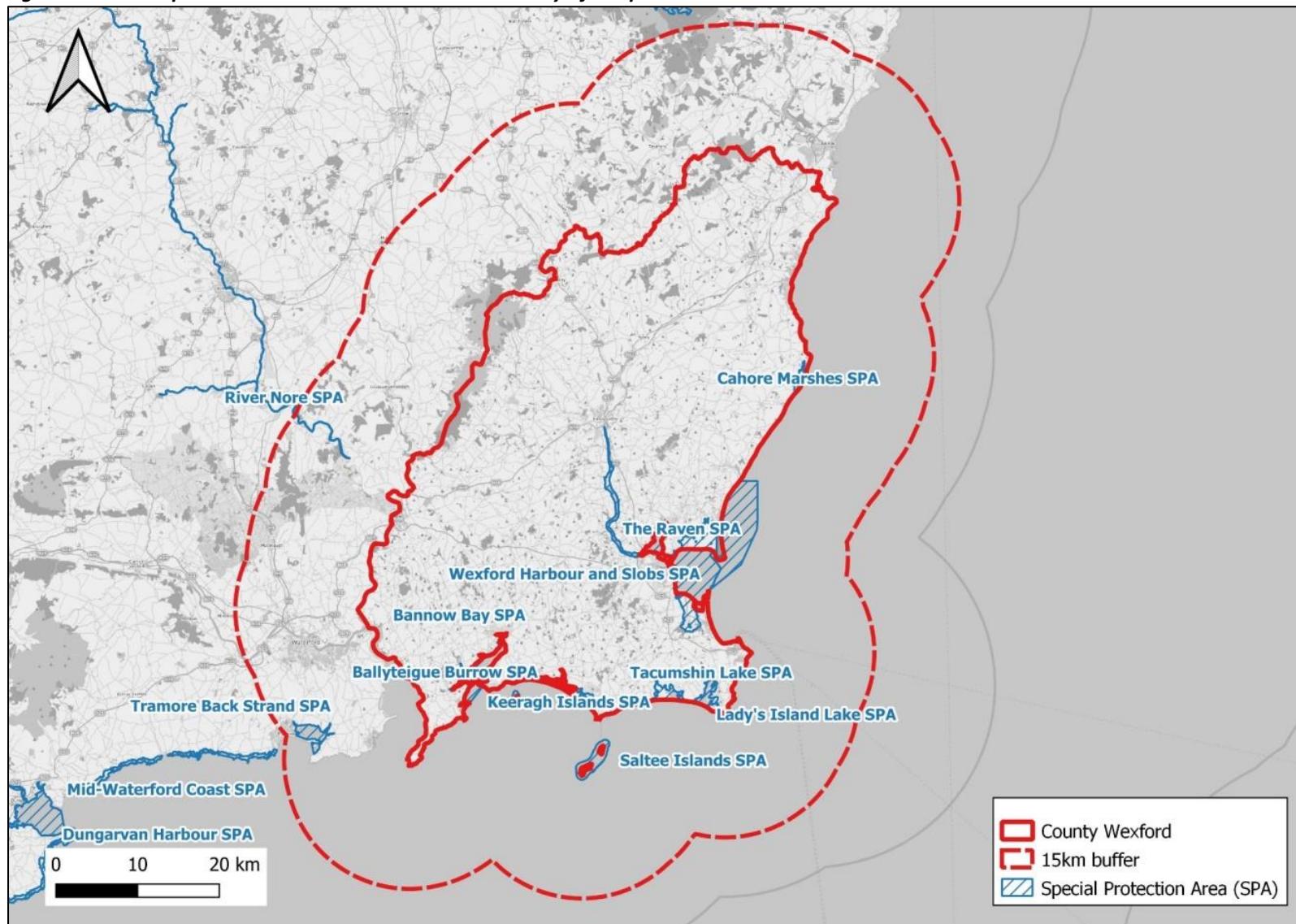


Figure 2 Special Protection Areas within the vicinity of the plan



6.7 Other Designated Sites

- 38 Nationally designated sites such as Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) and proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) within, adjacent to or downstream of the plan boundary are shown on Figure 3. There are no NHAs within or in the vicinity of the plan, only pNHAs. This network of pNHAs provides supporting or stepping stone functions to the SAC and SPA network, in particular for species that move outside of SAC and SPA boundaries.
- 39 While all pNHA sites within or in the vicinity of the county boundary are displayed in Figure 3, only those which do not have an overlapping SAC and/or SPA designation are listed in Table 4.

Table 4 indicates the proximity to the plan area and are where site synopses from the NPWS could be obtained, a brief description of the sites' conservation interests and reasons for designation are also provided.

The network of pNHAs in County Wexford has potential to support the function of European sites by creating an ecologically coherent network that may act as stepping stones for QI/SCI species and habitats.

Many of the pNHA sites overlap with SAC and/or SPA sites and the assessment of their supporting role to the network of European sites is therefore integrated into the assessment of the European sites themselves.

The plan has included the following objectives to ensure that they are recognised and protected:

Objective NH01: To ensure the protection of all designated ecological sites (as detailed in Section 13.2.1 to 13.2.11) in relevant Local Area Plans and in the assessment of planning applications and promote the restoration of sites where required.

Objective NH03: To promote biodiversity protection, restoration, and habitat connectivity both within protected areas and in the landscape through promoting the integration of green infrastructure and ecosystem services, including landscape, heritage and biodiversity and management of invasive and alien species in the plan making and development management processes.

Objective NH04: To protect the integrity of sites designated for their habitat and species importance and prohibit development which would damage or threaten the integrity of these sites. Such sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and candidate SACs, Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) and proposed NHAs, Nature Reserves, Refuges for Fauna and RAMSAR sites. To protect protected species wherever they occur.

Objective NH06: To recognise the importance of recommended Geological Natural Heritage Areas, proposed Natural Heritage Areas and County Geological Sites and protect the character and integrity of these sites where appropriate. The Council will consult Geological Survey Ireland where a development is proposed that may impact on geological sites.

Objective NH07: To have regard to any particular management or sensitivity, contained within the individual site reports within The Geological Heritage of County Wexford: An audit of County Geological Sites in County Wexford 2018, in the assessment of planning applications located within Natural Heritage Areas, proposed Natural Heritage Areas and County Geological Sites.

These policies included in the plan to protect the integrity of pNHAs will ensure their continued stepping stone and supporting function for the network of European sites.

Table 4 pNHAs within and in the vicinity of the plan (only those which don't overlap with European sites are listed)

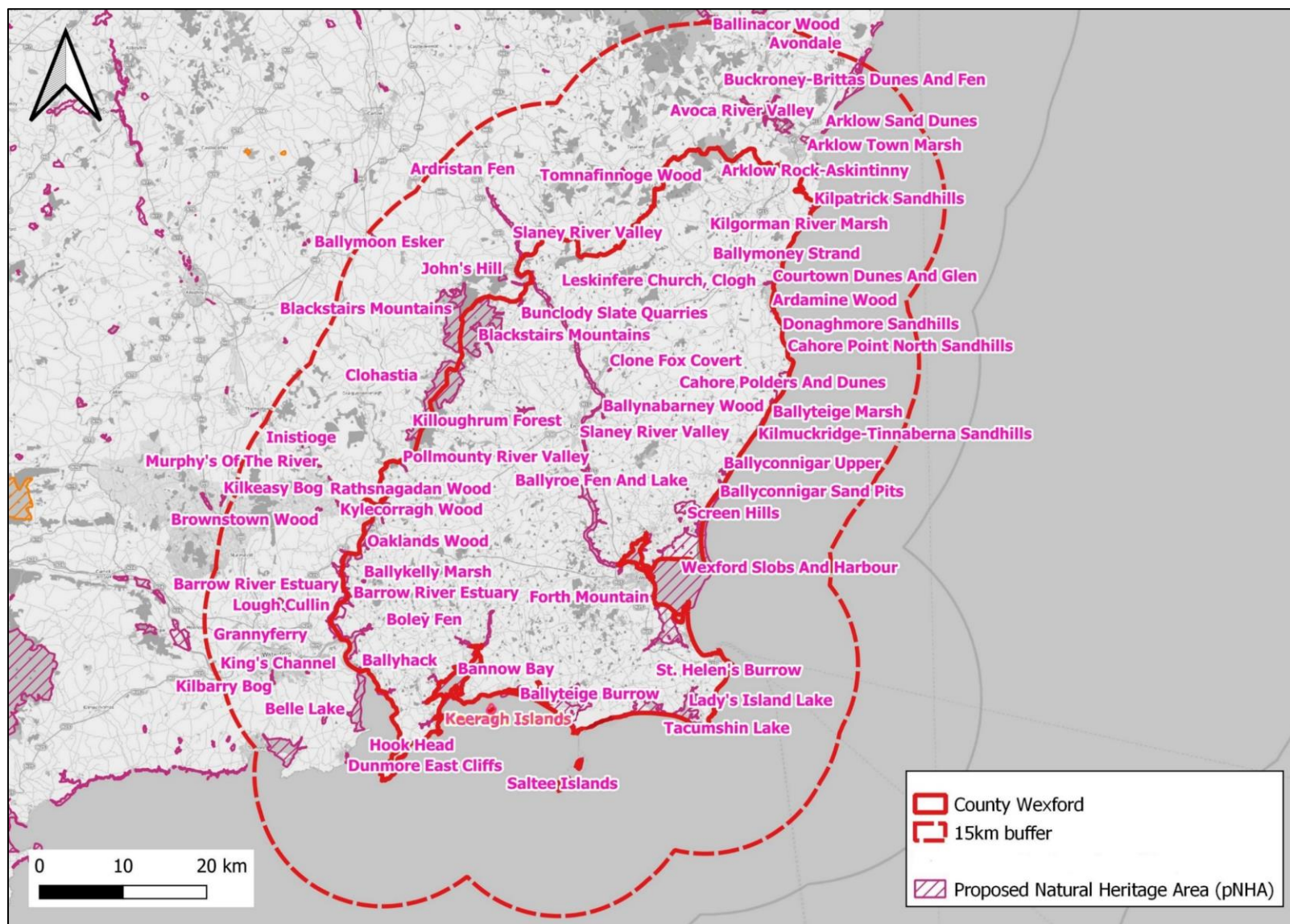
Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation/ Conservation Interest ¹¹
Proposed Natural Heritage Areas		
Ardristan Fen [000788]	c.12km outside the plan boundary	Formerly an extensive area of fen and marsh but has been greatly reduced by reclamation. The site has been noted as having an interesting calcareous flora. Part of the remaining area of fen is covered by wet woodland.
Ballymoon Esker [000797]	c.12km outside the plan boundary	The site is an esker which contains a number of rare plant species including Green-winged Orchid (<i>Orchis morio</i>) and Basil Thyme (<i>Acinos arvensis</i>) which are listed on the Flora Protection Order (FPO). The esker is rare in the local context of County Wexford as most are found in larger esker systems of the midlands.
John's Hill [000808]	c.1.5km outside the plan boundary	The site is an area of bog which contains the rare Bog Orchid (<i>Hammarbya paludosa</i>) listed on the FPO. The species grows on wet spongy bogs associated with bog mosses (<i>Sphagnum sp.</i>).
Grannyferry [000833]	c.8km outside the plan boundary	The site is located upstream along a small tributary of the River Suir and is tidal comprising reed-swamp, marshes and wet fields. Although, the vegetation has been largely modified through reclamation, plant communities typical of saltmarshes occur at the southern end while further upstream, reed bed vegetation is becomes prominent.
Lough Cullin [000406]	c.5km outside the plan boundary	The site primarily consists of wet grassland and is flooded in winter owing to a number of streams which join the lake. The site is important for some of the plant species which are rare in the surrounding region and for small numbers of wintering Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) and Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>).
Dunmore East Cliffs [000664]	c.4km outside the plan boundary	The sandstone cliffs are associated with sparse vegetation including Rock Sea-spurrey (<i>Spergularia rupicola</i>) and Sea Aster (<i>Aster tripolium</i>) as well a species of arache (<i>Atriplex littoralis</i>) which is scarce along the south coast. The site is also associated with a large breeding colony of Kittiwakes (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>).
Kilbarry Bog [001700]	c.9km outside the plan boundary	The site which has undergone reclamation from the north comprises an area of reed swamp, freshwater marsh, wet grassland and scrub. A myriad of wetland plant species occurs and both breeding and wintering and bird species are of interest.
Arklow Rock-Askintinny [001745]	c.1km outside the plan boundary	Located near a large quarry, the site is characterised by heath vegetation including Greater Broomrape (<i>Orobancha rapum-genistae</i>) which is scarce and Birds'-foot (<i>Ornithopus perpusillus</i>) which is restricted to the south and east coast.
Arklow Sand Dunes [001746]	c.5.5km outside the plan boundary	Although, the dune system and wet woodland are prone to pressures from adjacent amenity sites, the site is of interest for an array of flora typical of fixed and fore dunes as well as wet woodland.
Arklow Town Marsh [001931]	c.4km outside the plan boundary	The site is a relatively large area of wetland on the edge of Arklow town. The vegetation consists of extensive areas of wet grassland and patches of scrub.

¹¹ These summary descriptions have been provided where NPWS site synopses could be obtained. In some cases the site synopses are very old and the descriptions may be out of date since the site synopses were prepared, including for example species nomenclature or the status of species on the Flora (Protection) Order or the Red Data Book status.

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation/ Conservation Interest ¹¹
Avoca River Valley [001748]	c.3km outside the plan boundary	A large mixed woodland including good examples of deciduous woodland with a well-developed canopy, understorey and herbaceous vegetation. Areas of broadleaved woodland have been underplanted with conifers, here the ground flora is less diverse.
Avondale [002093]	c.13km outside the plan boundary	The site is of significance for a colony of Whiskered Bats (<i>Myotis mystacinus</i>) of national importance.
Ballinacor Wood [001749]	c.14km outside the plan boundary	The woodland which is located within Ballinacor Estate comprises predominantly Sessile Oak (<i>Quercus petraea</i>), wet woodland, wet grassland and a number of streams. The mature Oak woodland is up to 300 years old in parts, Rhododendron reduces the diversity of ground flora also.
Boley Fen [00699]	Within the plan boundary	The site contains intermediate fen with wet grassland and tall sedge communities, a number of rare flies (Dipteran species) are of particular interest. The site is also of interest as fens are rare in southeast Ireland.
Leskinfere Church, Clogh [000702]	Within the plan boundary	The loft of this church has been noted for a colony of Natterer's Bat (<i>Myotis nattereri</i>) of national importance. Repair works were carried out in the church since a count of 80 individuals in 1988 but fresh droppings indicate the site is possibly still used by the colony.
Tintern Abbey [000711]	Within the plan boundary	The roof of a building in the grounds of the abbey was noted for a nursery colony of Whiskered Bat (<i>Myotis mystacinus</i>). The building has since collapsed but it is possible the colony has remained in the area which would be of national importance.
Ballyconnigar Sand Pits [000741]	Within the plan boundary	Sand pits on the site are noteworthy for communities of vascular plants, bryophytes and lichens. There are a number of plants species including Hairy Bird's-foot-trefoil (<i>Lotus subbiflorus</i>), Lesser Snapdragon (<i>Misopates orontium</i>) which are nationally rare species.
Ballyconnigar Upper [000742]	Within the plan boundary	The site is of importance for the presence of a species rich grassland including the legally protected species Bird's-foot (<i>Ornithopus perpusillus</i>), Hairy Bird's foot-trefoil (<i>Lotus subbiflorus</i>) and Small Cudweed (<i>Filago minima</i>).
Ballykelly Marsh [000744]	Within the plan boundary	The site consists of an arable field comprising a species rich wetland, fen and lake. A rare arable weed, Sharp-leaved Fluellen (<i>Kickxia elatine</i>) is a protected species of particular importance.
Ballymoney Strand [000745]	Within the plan boundary	The site is of interest for sea-cliff plant communities where Hoary Ragwort (<i>Senecio erucifolius</i>) occurs which are rare away from County Dublin. Although, Sea Buckthorn (<i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>) has encroached upon areas of native vegetation.
Ballyroe Fen And Lake [000747]	Within the plan boundary	An array of habitats including a small lake, wet grassland, fen, reed-swamp and arable fields are of significance for the presence of the protected Clustered Clover (<i>Trifolium glomeratum</i>)(FPO, 1987). The fen is species rich, particularly for the presence of a number of orchids.
Bunclody Slate Quarries [000750]	Within the plan boundary	The site was formerly quarried and comprises Ordovician slates. Humic soils host a well-developed heath vegetation including a number of protected plant species. Peregrine Falcon, Kestrel and Raven are known to breed within the site.
Courtown Dunes And Glen [000757]	Within the plan boundary	The site includes mixed woodland and a dune ridge. The woodland of the glen is well-established and consists of rich herbaceous flora while the dune ridge is dominated by scrub including Sea Buckthorn and Sycamore. The site is of interest for an abundance of the rare sedge Carex 39trigose and a population of Toothwort (<i>Lathraea squamaria</i>), possibly the only site for both species in County Wexford.

Site name and code	Distance from plan	Reasons for designation/ Conservation Interest ¹¹
Forth Mountain [000761]	Within the plan boundary	A small area at the summit of the site contains by well-developed dry and wet heath vegetation. An assemblage of breeding bird species occur as well as the Common Lizard (<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>) and a rare snail (<i>Omphiscola glabra</i>).
Killoughrum Forest [000765]	Within the plan boundary	This wooded site on acid ground is relatively species poor in places and may have been clear-felled. However, conversely, an area of wet woodland contains a relatively high diversity of flora including the protected species Narrow-leaved Helleborine (<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>) listed on the FPO and the rare and threatened Greater Broomrape (<i>Orobanche rapum-genistae</i>) which was formerly abundant, both species are listed in the Irish Red Data Book.
Oaklands Wood [000774]	Within the plan boundary	This mixed and coniferous woodland is dominated by Oak (<i>Quercus</i> spp.). The herbaceous vegetation is of interest but has been planted with coniferous species and some trees have been clear-felled which may reduce the ecological value of the site.
Ardamine Wood [001733]	Within the plan boundary	The woodland is dominated by Oak (<i>Quercus</i> spp.) with areas of heath and scrub and is bordered by sea cliffs and shores. The site is a good example of broadleaved woodland but is under threat from rapid development along the coastline.
Cahore Point North Sandhills [001736]	Within the plan boundary	Site synopsis is unavailable.
Donaghmore Sandhills [001737]	Within the plan boundary	The narrow sandhill strip separates a beach from agricultural and residential land. The site is of significance as it is a good example of vegetation characteristic of a sandhill habitat.
Kilgorman River Marsh [001834]	Within the plan boundary	The coastal marsh is situated along a stretch of a small river which regularly floods and supports a variety of wetland habitats. The site transitions from saltmarsh close to the sea to freshwater marsh further inland which is reflected in the vegetation.
Ballyteige Marsh [001930]	Within the plan boundary	The site comprises a coastal brackish marsh separated from the sea and bears a high diversity of flora from the saltmarsh vegetation and dunes to that of wet-grassland further inland. The site is a prime example of diverse wetland habitats and associated flora.

Figure 3 pNHAs within and in the vicinity of the plan



7 Assessment of Effects on European Sites

- 40 This section of the NIR assesses the potential direct and indirect impacts of the plan on the European sites which fall within its zone of influence.
- 41 For each of these European sites, the analysis of the potential impacts and the qualifying interests/special conservation interests at risk of these potential impacts, in view of the sites' conservation objectives, is summarised below and presented in full in Appendix I and Appendix II.
- 42 Mitigation measures which avoid/reduce the effects of any potential impacts on the conservation objectives of those European sites is presented in Section 8.
- 43 The assessment of the proposed development in combination with any other plans or projects on European sites is presented in Section 11.
- 44 The first stage of the assessment was to examine and analyse all elements of the plan to identify which have the potential (and how) to affect the receiving ecological environment. The direct and/or indirect impacts by which the plan could (in the absence of mitigation measures) potentially affect the receiving ecological environment and the associated European sites are summarised below and described in more detail in Appendix I.

7.1 Potential impacts on European sites arising from the plan

- 45 The Wexford County Development Plan is a high level plan that provides the framework for sustainable development within the County. Overall the plan underpins the sustainable development of housing, communities and urban centres with supporting infrastructure such as transport, water, waste, energy and communications infrastructure within the County that is appropriate to proper planning.
- 46 The main impacts that could occur through the implementation of the plan have been grouped into the headings below.

Habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation

- 47 Direct habitat loss is caused where there is complete removal of a habitat type. Habitat fragmentation occurs when a once larger expanse of habitat is transformed into a number of smaller patches of smaller total area that become increasingly isolated from one another over time, and can happen at both a landscape scale or to discrete habitat areas. Habitat fragmentation can affect how ecosystems function, their resilience to change and, with regard to species, affect interactions within or between populations, population density or species richness.
- 48 Habitat loss can also occur through the reduction of habitat quality and a loss of important habitat functions, known as habitat degradation where the impacts are severe enough. Habitat degradation can arise as a result of hydrological impacts (such as pollution from industry and agricultural run-off), hydrogeological impacts (such as from new developments and their effect on groundwater resources), the introduction and spread of invasive species and air quality impacts (such as from industry and agricultural development).
- 49 Air emissions and associated deposition of pollutants (such as oxides of nitrogen, volatile organic compounds, particulate matter, heavy metals and ammonia) arise from urban centres, transport infrastructure, industry, agriculture and other land uses. This can affect ecosystems and vegetation, influencing plant growth rates and species composition, diversity, and abundance.
- 50 There is potential that European sites within the functional area of the plan may be either directly or indirectly adversely affected in this manner through the implementation of the plan and its strategic objectives. Development either in isolation or in combination with other similar developments can potentially lead to significant effects on the environment. Construction of and improvement to water and waste-water infrastructure, development of coastal amenities or the installation of communications infrastructure could lead to loss of habitats if inappropriately located within the boundaries of a European site or if removing or altering supporting landscape features which are required to secure the integrity of a European site e.g. rivers or other linear features. Installation of linear infrastructure such as roads and

other transportation links or water and wastewater pipelines can have a negative impact where such infrastructure crosses European sites.

- 51 In County Wexford, there are many European sites that are either coastal or riverine in nature. These sites in particular are at risk from potential impacts caused by hydrological or hydrogeological disturbance of surface or groundwater dependent habitats due to infrastructure and construction, pollution, flood and coastal zone management, and climate change. These could result in habitat loss, or impact on habitat function and integrity.
- 52 Those European sites that could be affected by habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation as a result of the plan are identified in Appendix I.

Species loss, disturbance and displacement

- 53 Species loss and fragmentation can occur through the breaking up, or loss of habitats resulting in interference with existing ecological units. Fragmentation can also result from impediments to the natural movement of species. This is relevant where important corridors for movement or migration are likely to be disrupted such as along river corridors when construction or development introduces a barrier to the unimpeded movement of species from one habitat or area to another.
- 54 The installation of linear infrastructure e.g. roads and other transportation links including bridges, water and wastewater pipelines or electricity transmission lines can have a negative impact where such infrastructure crosses European sites. Impacts can include species fragmentation where for example newly installed infrastructure interrupt flight paths of species. The special conservation interest species of SPAs along Wexford's coastline are vulnerable to disturbance and potential fragmentation of populations as a result of developments that aim to improve recreational access.
- 55 Disturbance to species can arise as a result of increasing recreational activities or improved access or from developments located within or adjacent to European sites. Sources of disturbance are varied and can include: noise, vibration, light, construction and operation activities or others arising from the inappropriate timing of works or proximity to settlements. The plan supports the development of coastal infrastructure and amenities and promotion of tourism and recreation. It is likely that some of these projects have the potential to cause disturbance impacts to key species if located within or in close proximity to relevant European sites, particularly in coastal areas. Birds are especially vulnerable to disturbance from tourism and recreation. Such activities are linked to new or improved visitor access and/or facilities which can increase the risk of disturbance. Other developments including housing, coastal defences and greenways/blueways also add to the pressure in coastal areas.
- 56 Those European sites that could be affected by species loss, disturbance and displacement as a result of the plan are identified in Appendix I.

Changes in key indicators of conservation status

- 57 Key indicators of conservation status for many of the European sites in County Wexford relate to surface water quality, groundwater quality and quantity, and air quality. Impacts on European sites may occur where there are hydrological connections between the European sites and development areas, even where a development is geographically separated from the European site. The implementation of the plan could result in alterations to the hydrological or hydrogeological regime or the air quality environment of European sites. Coastal and river European sites in particular are vulnerable to changes in surface and ground water quality and quantity.
- 58 Those European sites that could be affected by changes in surface water quality, groundwater quality and quantity, and air quality as a result of the plan are identified in Appendix I.

7.2 European Sites falling within the Zone of Influence of the plan

- 59 The potential zone of influence was defined based upon the potential environmental effects of the plan and used to identify which European sites were at risk from effects on their qualifying interests, special

conservation interests or conservation interests. In order to determine which European sites were within the potential zone of influence of the plan, the potential impact pathways were identified and their relationship to European sites were considered. This stage of the assessment is documented in Appendix I.

- 60 Identifying these potential impact pathways and assessing how they could affect European sites has informed the identification of the mitigation measures incorporated into the plan to ensure that the plan does not adversely affect the integrity of any European sites.
- 61 In the absence of protective policies (i.e. those elements of the plan intended to avoid or reduce any potentially harmful effects on European site(s), the plan was assessed as having the potential to have significant effects on the European sites listed in Table 5 below.

Table 5 European Sites within the Zone of Influence of the plan

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballyteige Burrow SAC [000696] • Bannow Bay SAC [000697] • Blackstairs Mountains SAC [000770] • Blackwater Bank SAC [002953] • Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC [000700] • Carnsore Point SAC [002269] • Hook Head SAC [000764] • Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills SAC [001741] • Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC [001742] • Lady’s Island Lake SAC [000704] • Long Bank SAC [002161] • Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC [000710] • River Barrow And River Nore SAC [002162] • Saltee Islands SAC [000707] • Screen Hills SAC [000708] • Slaney River Valley SAC [000781] • Tacumshin Lake SAC [000709] • Lower River Suir SAC [002137] • Tramore Dunes and Backstrand SAC [000671] • Buckroney-Brittias Dunes And Fen SAC [000729] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballyteigue Burrow SPA [004020] • Bannow Bay SPA [004033] • Cahore Marshes SPA [004143] • Keeragh Islands SPA [004118] • Lady’s Island Lake SPA [004009] • Saltee Islands SPA [004002] • Tacumshin Lake SPA [004092] • The Raven SPA [004019] • Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA [004076] • River Nore SPA [004233] • Tramore Back Strand SPA [004027]
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- 63 The potential impacts associated with the plan have the potential to affect the receiving environment and, as a result, the conservation objectives supporting the qualifying interest/special conservation interests of European sites within the plan area and potentially additional sites beyond the plan boundary.

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- 64 Table 6 below presents a summary of the chapters from the plan which have categories of policies and objectives with potential to affect the qualifying interests, special conservation interests or conservation objectives of European sites within the zone of influence of the plan area.
- 65 A detailed evaluation of how the policies and objectives within the plan could affect the qualifying interests and special conservation interests and conservation objectives of the European sites at risk of effects is presented in Appendix II.

Table 6 European Sites and elements of the plan with potential to affect Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives

Green shading indicates where a potential for negative effects exists. Only those volumes and chapters of the plan which are of relevance are listed. Volumes and chapters not listed either have no potential for effects at all, or only contain proposals that are positive or protective with respect to European sites.

European Site	Chapters in Volume 1 of the plan													Other Relevant Volumes			
	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	3	9	10	11
Ballyteige Burrow SAC [000696]																	
Bannow Bay SAC [000697]																	
Blackstairs Mountains [000770]																	
Blackwater Bank SAC [002953]																	
Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC [000700]																	
Carnsore Point SAC [002269]																	
Hook Head SAC [000764]																	
Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills SAC [001741]																	
Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC [001742]																	
Lady's Island Lake SAC [000704]																	
Long Bank SAC [002161]																	
Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC [000710]																	
River Barrow And River Nore SAC [002162]																	
Saltee Islands SAC [000707]																	
Screen Hills SAC [000708]																	
Slaney River Valley SAC [000781]																	
Tacumshin Lake SAC [000709]																	
Lower River Suir SAC [002137]																	
Tramore Dunes and Backstrand SAC [000671]																	
Buckroneys-Brittias Dunes And Fen SAC [000729]																	

European Site	Chapters in Volume 1 of the plan													Other Relevant Volumes			
	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	3	9	10	11
Ballyteigue Burrow SPA [004020]																	
Bannow Bay SPA [004033]																	
Cahore Marshes SPA [004143]																	
Keeragh Islands SPA [004118]																	
Lady's Island Lake SPA [004009]																	
Saltee Islands SPA [004002]																	
Tacumshin Lake SPA [004092]																	
The Raven SPA [004019]																	
Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA [004076]																	
River Nore SPA [004233]																	
Tramore Back Strand SPA [004027]																	

8 Mitigation Measures

- 66 This section presents the protective policies that have been incorporated into the plan, which avoid or reduce potential impacts on the qualifying interest and special conservation interests of all European sites such that their conservation objectives are not undermined and, therefore, adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites are avoided.
- 67 Throughout all stages of preparing the plan, the various policies and objectives have been reviewed and evaluated with respect to the requirements of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive before being incorporated into the plan to ensure that the individual elements of the plan would not give rise to adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites.
- 68 Protective measures have been incorporated throughout the plan to avoid or reduce the potential impacts on the qualifying interest and special conservation interests of all European sites to ensure that their conservation objectives are not undermined and, therefore, adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites are avoided. These protective measures are included in the form of objectives to ensure the protection of European sites.
- 69 In particular the following two key strategic objectives (Objective EM02 and EM04) have been included.

Objective EM02 (Appropriate Assessment of development proposals)

To ensure that planning permission will only be granted for a development proposal that, either individually or in combination with existing and/or proposed plans or projects, will not have a significant effect on a European site, or where such a development proposal is likely or might have such a significant effect (either alone or in combination), the planning authority will, as required by law, carry out an appropriate assessment as per requirements of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC of the 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, as transposed into Irish legislation. Only after having ascertained that the development proposal will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site, will the planning authority agree to the development and impose appropriate mitigation measures in the form of planning conditions. A development proposal which could adversely affect the integrity of a European site may only be permitted in exceptional circumstances, as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive as transposed into Irish legislation.

Objective EM04 (Appropriate Assessment of plans)

To ensure that plans, including land use plans, will only be adopted, if they either individually or in combination with existing and/or proposed plans or projects, will not have a significant effect on a European site, or where such a plan is likely or might have such a significant effect (either alone or in combination), Wexford County Council will, as required by law, carry out an appropriate assessment as per requirements of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC of the 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, as transposed into Irish legislation. Only after having ascertained that the plan will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site, will Wexford County Council adopt the plan, incorporating any necessary mitigation measures. A plan which could adversely affect the integrity of a European site may only be adopted in exceptional circumstances, as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive as transposed into Irish legislation.

- 70 In addition, a number of specific objectives in the chapters and volumes of the plan have as their focus the protection of the environment, water and European sites. Some of these key protective objectives are described below and are the basis of the mitigation in relation to those elements of the plan which have potential to give rise to impacts on European sites.

Climate Action

Objective CA11

This objective will help facilitate more natural physical processes to occur, such as those in coastal and estuarine SACs and SPAs, allowing for potential recovery of QI habitats if allowed space to adapt and migrate inland (for example, considering the conversion or maintenance of land at risk of flooding to less vulnerable uses e.g. parks, gardens and open spaces for natural habitats)

Objectives CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA05, CA06, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA17, CA19 and CA21

These objectives deal with reducing greenhouse gas emissions in County Wexford by various means such as spatial planning, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy. Implementation of the objectives will help reduce climate change impacts on European sites and their QIs/SCIs in County Wexford, particularly those sites at elevated risk of climate change impacts such as coastal and estuarine sites and mountainous or upland habitats.

Core Strategy

Objective CS04

This objective sets out to achieve compact growth by promoting the development of infill and brownfield/regeneration sites and the redevelopment of underutilised land within the existing built up footprint of existing settlements in preference to greenfield lands. This will help to reduce the expansion of urban and artificial infrastructure into natural habitats and potentially into European sites, particularly those settlements located near or adjacent to European sites (for example, Wexford town).

Objective CS26

This objective sets out to promote the protection, restoration and enhancement of biodiversity in both urban and rural areas of the county, which could help in protecting natural habitats and species both within and outside of European sites.

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

Objectives SH06, SH14, SH53

These objectives prescribe directing new residential development in County Wexford to the county's towns, villages and rural settlements. This will help to reduce the expansion of urban and artificial infrastructure into more rural areas and natural habitats and potentially into European sites.

Objective SH04

This objective describes ensuring that new residential development minimises the use of natural resources and impacts on natural assets. This will help to reduce negative effects on European sites from activities associated with new residential developments (for example, foul water discharge).

Objective SH40

This objective describes strictly controlling individual rural housing in the open countryside in areas that are reaching their carrying capacity in terms of effluent treatment capacity, visual amenity and/or roads carrying capacity. Similarly, this objective will help to reduce negative effects on European sites, such as from pollution associated with foul water discharge.

Objective SH43

This objective sets out to adopt a presumption against ribbon development in the open countryside and on the approach roads to towns and villages. This will help to reduce the expansion of urban and artificial infrastructure into more rural areas and natural habitats and potentially into European sites.

Economic Development Strategy

Objective ED11

This objective sets out to protect the natural resources, amenities and heritage and ensure that economic development does not significantly impact on this heritage, the environmental capacity or on the amenity of the residents of the county. This will help reduce pressure and potential negative effects on European sites in County Wexford from economic development and associated activities.

Objective ED76

This objective states that all development proposals will be subject to environmental assessment and will be achieved without adverse effects on any European sites. Environmental assessment of all development proposals will help reduce pressure and potential negative effects on European sites in County Wexford from economic development and associated activities. This will have a protective effect on all European sites in County Wexford.

Objectives ED96 and ED98

These objectives set out to ensure that economic development in rural areas protects the natural and built heritage and environment of the area. This will help reduce pressure and potential negative effects on European sites in County Wexford from economic development and associated activities.

Objective ED112

This objective describes facilitating the sustainable development of forestry in the county provided that no significant adverse impacts are caused to natural waters, wildlife habitats and biodiversity. Forestry developments should include environmental enhancement and restoration where possible. While some measures under this proposal may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites (depending on the type of forestry and where it is located), it could also, depending on the nature of the forestry, have a positive or protective effect on European sites and their QIs/SCIs in County Wexford.

Objectives ED117 and ED121

This objective sets out a strict precautionary approach to extractive activities will be taken where designated sites, proposed designated sites or protected species such as Special Areas of Conservation, candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, National Heritage Areas, proposed National Heritage Areas or County Geological Sites may be affected. These measures will have a protective effect on European sites and their QIs/SCIs in County Wexford.

Tourism Development

Objective TM01

This objective sets out to protect and sustain the natural, built and cultural features that form the basis of the county's tourism industry including landscapes, historic buildings and structures, habitats, species and areas of natural heritage value and water quality. This proposal will help reduce pressure and potential negative effects on European sites in County Wexford from tourism development and associated activities.

Objective TM06

This objective describes engaging with Fáilte Ireland, Tourism Ireland, the Arts Council, National Parks and Wildlife, Wexford Local Economic Office and other key stakeholders to promote and maximise the tourism potential of the county, while ensuring the protection of the natural, cultural and built heritage of the county. It will also seek expert input and advice from NPWS to help to ensure tourism developments do not lead to adverse impacts on European sites in County Wexford. This proposal will help reduce pressure and potential negative effects on European sites in County Wexford from tourism development and associated activities.

Objective TM19

This objective considers the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays). While some measures under this proposal may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites (depending on the type of activities and where they are located), they may also have a positive or protective effect on European sites and their QIs/SCIs in County Wexford, as they may lead to better awareness, management and funding for European sites.

Objective TM23

This objective is to ensure that tourism development or activity does not significantly impact on coastal habitats, species and features such as wetlands and vegetated dunes. This proposal will help reduce pressure and potential negative effects on European sites in County Wexford from tourism development and associated activities, particularly those sites associated with coastal and riverine systems.

Transportation Strategy

Objectives TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12

These objectives describe supporting and facilitating the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county. These proposals will help reduce climate change impacts on European sites and their QIs/SCIs in County Wexford, particularly those sites at elevated risk of climate change impacts such as coastal and estuarine sites and mountainous or upland habitats.

Objectives TS21, TS55

These objectives set out to encourage and ensure that both existing and new transport infrastructure in the county incorporates biodiversity and green infrastructure in its design and operation, becoming biodiversity corridors. This could potentially help in protecting natural habitats and species both within and outside European sites by allowing the dispersal of species and acting as a buffer to external land uses.

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

Objective IS04

This objective sets out to provide and upgrade wastewater treatment infrastructure to address environmental problems and protect water bodies. These measures will help to improve water quality for riverine, estuarine, and coastal habitats and species and any associated European sites.

Objective WW01

To require that all wastewater generated is collected, treated, and discharged after treatment in a safe and sustainable manner. These measures will help to protect European sites from potential pollution issues.

Objectives WM10, WM13

These objectives require that all waste, be it urban generated or agricultural, is disposed of in a safe, efficient and sustainable manner having regard to the protection of the environment. These measures will help to protect water quality for riverine, estuarine, and coastal habitats and species and any associated European sites from potential pollution issues.

Objective TC11

To minimise, and avoid where possible, the development of masts and antennae within or adjacent to Natura 2000 sites. This proposal will help to protect European sites in county Wexford from potential effects associated with this communications infrastructure.

Objectives FRM15, FRM16, FRM17, FRM18

These objectives state that rivers, streams, watercourses, floodplains, wetlands and coastal areas in County Wexford will be protected and enhanced, including provision of buffer zones, to help reduce flood risk. These proposals will help reduce pressure and potential negative effects on European sites in County Wexford, particularly those sites associated with coastal and riverine systems.

Objective GC04

This objective sets out to ensure that biodiversity is protected and enhanced in existing and new burial grounds throughout the county. These areas could act as supporting or stepping stone functions to the SAC and SPA network, in particular for species that move outside of SAC and SPA boundaries.

Objective TC15

This objective supports the replacement or relocation of telecommunications infrastructure which could help in protecting European sites from this type of developments.

Objective SWM08

This objective sets out to ensure that SuDS and nature-based solutions inform and are incorporated into local area plans which could help in protecting natural habitats and species in European sites in the county.

Environmental Management

Objectives WQ10, WQ11

These objectives set out to reduce chemical and biological pollution of water sources, and to protect, enhance and restore all groundwaters in the county. This will benefit those European sites with associated habitats and species that are sensitive to pollution and changes in groundwater conditions.

Objective WQ15

To ensure that development permitted would not negatively impact on water quality and quantity, including surface water, ground water, designated source protection areas, river corridors and associated wetlands, estuarine waters, coastal and transitional waters. These measures will help to protect water quality for riverine, estuarine, and coastal habitats and species and any associated European sites from potential pollution issues.

Landscape and Green Infrastructure

Objective GI01

This objective describes ensuring the protection, enhancement and maintenance of the natural environment and recognises the economic, social, environmental, and physical value of green spaces through the integration of Green Infrastructure planning and development in the planning process (GI01). While some measures under this proposal may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites (depending on the type of green infrastructure and where it is located), they may also have a positive or protective effect on European sites and their QIs/SCIs in County Wexford.

Objectives GI07, GI09

These objectives set out the consideration to reopen culverts and infilling along watercourses so as to initiate the return to natural state and conditions as part of wider biodiversity restoration actions in the county. These proposals would help in protecting natural habitats and species that rely on these watercourses in the county, which would include European sites such as the Slaney River Valley SAC and River Barrow and River Nore SAC.

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

Objectives CZM02, CZM05, CZM07

These objectives deal with preparing a County Coastal Strategy to sustainably manage coastal areas, preparing and implementing an Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan for the coastal and estuarine areas of the county, and reviewing the County Development Plan 2022-2028 after the adoption of the National Marine Planning Framework so as to ensure alignment and consistency between land use and marine planning. All of these proposals will help lead to a more natural approach to managing coastal areas with positive effects on habitats and species and any associated European sites (for example, managed retreat where coastal habitats and species are allowed to migrate inland as sea level rises).

Objectives CZM41

This objective sets out to apply an ecosystem approach to planning in the coastal and maritime areas, which will help to ensure the protection of biodiversity, habitats, marine protected areas and species protection, and to ensure that development or activity in the coastal zone or maritime area does not give rise to displacement or disturbance of species or does not impact on coastal habitats. Species and features such as wetlands and vegetated dunes which play an important role in flood relief and protection from coastal erosion are important in their own right. These proposals will help lead to a more natural approach to managing coastal areas with positive effects on habitats and species and any associated European sites.

Objectives CZM44

To protect water quality in our coastal areas and maritime areas. This proposal will help reduce pressure and potential negative effects on European sites in County Wexford, particularly those sites associated with coastal and estuarine systems.

Objective CZM45

This objective sets out to protect and restore marine ecosystems in current and future Marine Protected Areas. This would be beneficial for European sites that are transitional or coastal in nature.

Heritage and Conservation

Objectives NH04, NH05 and NH08

These objectives provide specifically for the protection of European sites and will ensure that plans and projects will be subject to the requirements of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive as transposed into Irish legislation, requiring them to be assessed for their potential for significant effects on European sites, and furthermore if required, to be subject to Appropriate Assessment regarding whether they will adversely affect the integrity of any European sites. They will ensure that a plan or project which could adversely affect the integrity of a European site will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances, as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive. This will have a protective effect on all European sites in County Wexford.

Objectives NH01, NH02, NH03, NH04, NH06, NH07, NH09, NH10, NH11, NH12, NH13, NH14, NH20, NH21

These objectives provide for the protection of designated ecological sites. These will help reduce pressure and potential negative effects on European sites as well as other non-designated sites that provide a supporting function to the network of European sites. This will have a protective effect on all European sites in County Wexford.

Objectives NH22, NH23, NH24, NH25, NH26, NH27, NH28

These objectives provide for the control, management, prevention of spread and eradication of invasive species in County Wexford. The measures under these proposals will have a protective effect on European sites in County Wexford.

Objective NH15

This objective to prepare a new Biodiversity Action Plan for the County and implement the actions identified in the County Wexford Biodiversity Action Plan 2013, or any subsequent plan, is likely to involve implementation of a range of actions that will have a protective effect on European sites in County Wexford.

Objectives NH16, NH17

These objectives set out to protect and restore marine ecosystems in current and future Marine Protected Areas and large sedimentary lagoons in the county. These proposals would have a protective effect on European sites that are transitional or coastal in nature.

Objectives NH18

This objective sets out to provide support for communities in the application of biodiversity projects such as EU LIFE and other programmes which aim to achieve the objectives of the Habitats and Birds Directives.

Objectives NH19

This objectives sets out to implement the EU Regulations on Invasive Species. This would help in protecting natural habitats and species found in European sites from the negative impacts of invasive species in the county.

Recreation and Open Space Strategy

Objectives ROS07

These objective sets out to promote an awareness/educational campaign on the wildlife and sensitivity of habitats to public recreational use in areas of high biodiversity such as upland areas, coastal areas, designated sites and ecological networks.

9 Implementation and Monitoring

- 71 The protective policies and objectives set out in the plan are effective from the date of adoption and for a period of six years thereafter. The mitigation measures will be implemented by Wexford County Council in planning and delivering services as part of its statutory role and function. Although, many of the protective environmental objectives and policies will be effectively implemented through the development consent process where all future development proposals for consideration by Wexford County Council must be in compliance with the policies and objectives of the plan.
- 72 Monitoring of the plan will be undertaken to assess its effectiveness and to ensure the implementation of its objectives. Monitoring and evaluation of the plan will identify any issues that arise in relation to any policies or objectives and allow for suitable corrective action to be taken. It will also identify whether the plan remains consistent with national and regional policy, and where changes occur at national and/or regional level, advise whether the plan should be varied as necessary to ensure consistency with these higher level plans.

10 In Combination Assessment

- 73 Other plans or projects were assessed in light of the potential to act in combination with the plan to adversely affect the integrity of European sites within the potential zone of influence of the plan (see Table 5 in Section 7). All other European sites fall beyond the zone of influence of the plan. Therefore, there is no potential for any other plans or projects to act in combination with the plan to adversely affect the integrity of any other European sites.
- 74 A non-exhaustive list of the plans assessed as part of the in combination assessment listed below:
- Project Ireland 2040 – National Planning Framework
 - Project Ireland 2040 – National Development Plan 2018-2027
 - Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region
 - Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow and Wicklow County Development Plans
 - Local Area Plans within the county and adjoining the counties.
 - Wexford Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021, and the Local Economic and Community Plans of adjoining authorities.
 - Southern Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021
 - National River Basin Management Plan (2018-2021) and Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022-2027
 - Groundwater Pollution Reduction Programmes;
 - Surface Water Pollution Reduction Programmes;
 - Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans;
 - Climate Action Plan 2021 (Government of Ireland, November 2021)
 - Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024
 - Climate related policy, plans and programmes (e.g. the National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development, Low Carbon Development Act 2015 and White Paper Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015, the National Adaptation Framework 2018 and Wexford County Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024
 - National Marine Planning Framework 2021 (Government of Ireland, June 2021).
 - Irish Water's Water Services Strategic Plan / Capital Investment Programme.
 - Energy policy, plans and programmes (e.g. Grid25 and associated Implementation Programme, Ireland's National Renewable Energy Action Plan 2010, Strategy for Renewable Energy 2012-2020, Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan, National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030 and the Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework).
- 75 There is potential for most, if not all, of the potential effects identified for the plan, to act in combination with a wide range of other plans and/or project. However with the implementation of the mitigation measures outlined in Section 8, the plan will not give rise to any significant in combination effects on the qualifying interests or special conservation interests of any European sites, nor on their conservation objectives, and therefore the plan will not act in combination with any other plan or project to adversely affect the integrity of any European sites.

11 NIR Conclusion

- 76 This NIR has examined and analysed, in light of the best scientific knowledge, with respect to those European sites within the zone of influence of the plan, the potential impact sources and pathways, how

these could impact on the European sites' qualifying interests/special conservation interest species and whether the predicted impacts would adversely affect the integrity of those European sites.

- 77 It has been objectively concluded by Scott Cawley Ltd., following an examination, analysis and evaluation of the relevant information, including in particular the nature of the predicted impacts associated with the plan, and with regard to submissions and consultations, that the plan will not adversely affect (either directly or indirectly) the integrity of any European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.
- 78 Thus, it has been objectively concluded by Wexford County Council that the plan will not adversely affect (either directly or indirectly) the integrity of any European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Wexford County Council has made a determination on same and the determination is available for inspection.

Appendix I

Elements of the plan with the Potential to affect the Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives of European Sites

Table A below presents the results of an examination and analysis of all elements of the plan to identify:

- The elements of the plan which have the potential (and how) to affect the receiving ecological environment
- The predicted zone of influence of the potential effects associated with the plan
- The European site(s) at risk from effects on their qualify interests, special conservation interests or conservation interests.

The potential zone of influence was then defined based upon the potential environmental effects of the plan and used to identify which European sites were at risk from effects on their qualify interests, special conservation interests or conservation interests. In order to determine which European sites were within the potential zone of influence of the plan, the potential impact pathways were identified and their relationship to European sites were considered.

Table A Elements of the plan with potential to negatively affect European Sites

Draft Plan Element	Potential to affect the receiving ecological environment	European site(s) at risk of effects
Climate Action (Vol 1 - Chapter 2)		
<p>This element of the plan contains objectives/policies which will protect the people, buildings, infrastructure, businesses and ecosystems in County Wexford against the negative impacts of climate change, build resilience to climate change, and change behaviours and patterns of development to lessen the extent of climate change and take advantage of any opportunities that climate change may bring.</p>	<p>Objectives/policies in this element of the plan could affect habitats and species throughout County Wexford and in adjacent areas in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - habitat loss and fragmentation (e.g. arising from construction works and new infrastructure) - decrease in surface and/or ground water quality and/or quantity (e.g. arising from construction works and new infrastructure) - threats to species and/or habitats as a result of the introduction and/or spread of non-native invasive species (e.g. arising from construction works and new developments) - disturbance, displacement or mortality impacts to species (e.g. arising from construction works and new infrastructure) 	<p>Ballyteige Burrow SAC [000696] Bannow Bay SAC [000697] Blackstairs Mountains [000770] Blackwater Bank SAC [002953] Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC [000700] Carnsore Point SAC [002269] Hook Head SAC [000764] Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills SAC [001741] Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC [001742] Lady's Island Lake SAC [000704] Long Bank SAC [002161] Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC [000710] River Barrow And River Nore SAC [002162] Saltee Islands SAC [000707] Screen Hills SAC [000708] Slaney River Valley SAC [000781] Tacumshin Lake SAC [000709] Lower River Suir SAC [002137] Ballyteigue Burrow SPA [004020] Bannow Bay SPA [004033] Cahore Marshes SPA [004143] Keeragh Islands SPA [004118] Lady's Island Lake SPA [004009] Saltee Islands SPA [004002]</p>

		<p>Tacumshin Lake SPA [004092] The Raven SPA [004019] Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA [004076] River Nore SPA [004233] Tramore Back Strand SPA [004027]</p>
<p>Core Strategy, Economic Development & Housing (Vol 1 - Chapters 3, 4 & 6, Vol 3 Settlements, Vol 9 Housing)</p>		
<p>These elements of the plan contain objectives/policies which will facilitate balanced spatial development throughout County Wexford, and prioritising investments in infrastructure including water services, public transport, education and healthcare. The focus is on developing and strengthening towns and villages by increasing residential densities and employment in the main towns and decreasing commuting distances.</p>	<p>Objectives/policies in these elements of the plan could affect habitats and species throughout County Wexford and in adjacent areas in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - habitat loss and fragmentation (e.g. arising from construction works and new infrastructure) - decrease in surface and/or ground water quality and/or quantity (e.g. arising from construction works and new infrastructure) - threats to species and/or habitats as a result of the introduction and/or spread of non-native invasive species (e.g. arising from construction works and new developments) - disturbance, displacement or mortality impacts to species (e.g. arising from construction works and new infrastructure) 	<p>Ballyteige Burrow SAC [000696] Bannow Bay SAC [000697] Blackstairs Mountains [000770] Blackwater Bank SAC [002953] Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC [000700] Carnsore Point SAC [002269] Hook Head SAC [000764] Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills SAC [001741] Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC [001742] Lady's Island Lake SAC [000704] Long Bank SAC [002161] Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC [000710] River Barrow And River Nore SAC [002162] Saltee Islands SAC [000707] Screen Hills SAC [000708] Slaney River Valley SAC [000781] Tacumshin Lake SAC [000709] Lower River Suir SAC [002137] Ballyteigue Burrow SPA [004020] Bannow Bay SPA [004033] Cahore Marshes SPA [004143] Keeragh Islands SPA [004118] Lady's Island Lake SPA [004009]</p>

		<p>Saltee Islands SPA [004002] Tacumshin Lake SPA [004092] The Raven SPA [004019] Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA [004076] River Nore SPA [004233] Tramore Back Strand SPA [004027]</p>
Tourism & Recreation (Vol 1 - Chapters 7 & 14)		
<p>These elements of the plan contain objectives/policies which will promote the tourism industry in County Wexford, will promote improved access to the county through the further development of Rosslare Europort and the provision of enhanced public transport, road access, cycling and pedestrian infrastructure, and will promote environments, amenities and resources to ensure good physical and mental health and wellbeing.</p>	<p>Objectives/policies in these elements of the plan could affect habitats and species throughout County Wexford and in adjacent areas in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - habitat loss and fragmentation (e.g. arising from construction works and new infrastructure) - decrease in surface and/or ground water quality and/or quantity (e.g. arising from construction works and new infrastructure) - decrease in air quality arising from emissions to air (e.g. from the construction works and new development) - threats to species and/or habitats as a result of the introduction and/or spread of non-native invasive species (e.g. arising from construction works and new developments) - disturbance, displacement or mortality impacts to species (e.g. arising from construction works and new infrastructure, or as a result of facilitating increased visitor numbers to sensitive sites) 	<p>Ballyteige Burrow SAC [000696] Bannow Bay SAC [000697] Blackstairs Mountains [000770] Blackwater Bank SAC [002953] Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC [000700] Carnsore Point SAC [002269] Hook Head SAC [000764] Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills SAC [001741] Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC [001742] Lady's Island Lake SAC [000704] Long Bank SAC [002161] Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC [000710] River Barrow And River Nore SAC [002162] Saltee Islands SAC [000707] Slaney River Valley SAC [000781] Tacumshin Lake SAC [000709] Lower River Suir SAC [002137] Tramore Dunes and Backstrand SAC [000671] Buckrone-y-Brittis Dunes And Fen SAC [000729] Ballyteigue Burrow SPA [004020] Bannow Bay SPA [004033]</p>

		<p>Cahore Marshes SPA [004143] Keeragh Islands SPA [004118] Lady's Island Lake SPA [004009] Saltee Islands SPA [004002] Tacumshin Lake SPA [004092] The Raven SPA [004019] Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA [004076] River Nore SPA [004233] Tramore Back Strand SPA [004027]</p>
Infrastructure – including Transport, Water, Waste & Energy (Vol 1 - Chapters 8 & 9, Vol 10 Energy, Vol 11 Flood Risk)		
<p>These elements of the plan contain objectives/policies which will provide an effective and sustainable transport system, provide infrastructure (including water, wastewater, waste management, telecommunications, and ICT), provide for the future energy developments and contribute to renewable energy targets and the transition to a low carbon economy and addresses flood risk management including specifically for Rosslare Harbour/Kilrane and Bunclody.</p>	<p>Objectives/policies in these elements of the plan could affect habitats and species throughout County Wexford and in adjacent areas in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - habitat loss and fragmentation (e.g. arising from construction works and new infrastructure) - decrease in surface and/or ground water quality and/or quantity (e.g. arising from construction works and new infrastructure) - decrease in air quality arising from emissions to air (e.g. from the operation and operation of new developments) - threats to species and/or habitats as a result of the introduction and/or spread of non-native invasive species (e.g. arising from construction works and operation of new developments) - disturbance, displacement or mortality impacts to species (e.g. arising from construction works and operation of new infrastructure) 	<p>Ballyteige Burrow SAC [000696] Bannow Bay SAC [000697] Blackstairs Mountains [000770] Blackwater Bank SAC [002953] Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC [000700] Carnsore Point SAC [002269] Hook Head SAC [000764] Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills SAC [001741] Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC [001742] Lady's Island Lake SAC [000704] Long Bank SAC [002161] Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC [000710] River Barrow And River Nore SAC [002162] Saltee Islands SAC [000707] Screen Hills SAC [000708] Slaney River Valley SAC [000781] Tacumshin Lake SAC [000709] Lower River Suir SAC [002137] Ballyteigue Burrow SPA [004020]</p>

		<p>Bannow Bay SPA [004033] Cahore Marshes SPA [004143] Keeragh Islands SPA [004118] Lady's Island Lake SPA [004009] Saltee Islands SPA [004002] Tacumshin Lake SPA [004092] The Raven SPA [004019] Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA [004076]</p>
Landscape and Green Infrastructure (Vol 1 - Chapter 11)		
<p>This element of the plan contains objectives/policies which will promote and enable appreciation and enjoyment of the County's landscapes while protecting them. The majority of objectives/policies in this element of the plan are protective in nature and will provide protection or enhancement to ecosystems, however there will also be creation or enhancement of green infrastructure which itself may have potential to give rise to ecological impacts.</p>	<p>Objectives/policies in these elements of the plan could affect habitats and species throughout County Wexford and in adjacent areas in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - habitat loss and fragmentation (e.g. arising from construction works and new planting/landscaping) - decrease in surface and/or ground water quality and/or quantity (e.g. arising from construction works and new planting/landscaping) - threats to species and/or habitats as a result of the introduction and/or spread of non-native invasive species (e.g. arising from construction works and new planting/landscaping) - disturbance, displacement or mortality impacts to species (e.g. arising from construction works and new infrastructure, or as a result of facilitating increased visitor numbers to sensitive sites) 	<p>Ballyteige Burrow SAC [000696] Bannow Bay SAC [000697] Blackstairs Mountains [000770] Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC [000700] Carnsore Point SAC [002269] Hook Head SAC [000764] Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills SAC [001741] Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC [001742] Lady's Island Lake SAC [000704] Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC [000710] River Barrow And River Nore SAC [002162] Screen Hills SAC [000708] Slaney River Valley SAC [000781] Tacumshin Lake SAC [000709] Lower River Suir SAC [002137] Ballyteigue Burrow SPA [004020] Bannow Bay SPA [004033] Cahore Marshes SPA [004143] Lady's Island Lake SPA [004009] Tacumshin Lake SPA [004092]</p>

		The Raven SPA [004019] Wexford Harbour and Slobbs SPA [004076]
Coastal Zone Management (Vol 1 - Chapter 12)		
This element of the plan contains objectives/policies which will facilitate the development of public facilities, developments and infrastructure in coastal areas throughout County Wexford, and lead to increased visitor numbers to coastal sites.	Objectives/policies in this element of the plan could affect habitats and species along the coastal zone throughout County Wexford in the following ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - habitat loss and fragmentation (e.g. arising from construction works and new developments) - decrease in water quality (e.g. arising from construction works and new developments) - changes in the natural functioning of coastal systems and processes such as changes in coastal erosion or flooding processes (e.g. arising from construction works and new developments) - threats to species and/or habitats as a result of the introduction and/or spread of non-native invasive species (e.g. arising from construction works and new developments) - disturbance, displacement or mortality impacts to species (e.g. as a result of facilitating increased visitor numbers to sensitive coastal sites) 	Ballyteige Burrow SAC [000696] Bannow Bay SAC [000697] Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC [000700] Carnsore Point SAC [002269] Hook Head SAC [000764] Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills SAC [001741] Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC [001742] Lady's Island Lake SAC [000704] Long Bank SAC [002161] Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC [000710] River Barrow And River Nore SAC [002162] Saltee Islands SAC [000707] Slaney River Valley SAC [000781] Tacumshin Lake SAC [000709] Ballyteigue Burrow SPA [004020] Bannow Bay SPA [004033] Cahore Marshes SPA [004143] Keeragh Islands SPA [004118] Lady's Island Lake SPA [004009] Saltee Islands SPA [004002] Tacumshin Lake SPA [004092] The Raven SPA [004019] Wexford Harbour and Slobbs SPA [004076]
Environmental Management, Heritage, Conservation & Sustainable Communities (Vol 1 - Chapters 10, 13 & 15)		
These elements of the plan contain objectives/policies which will ensure the protection of the environment, natural, built and cultural heritage of the county and will facilitate the development of sustainable communities. Many of the objectives/policies in these	Objectives/policies in these elements of the plan could affect habitats and species throughout County Wexford and in adjacent areas in the following ways:	Ballyteige Burrow SAC [000696] Bannow Bay SAC [000697] Blackstairs Mountains [000770]

<p>elements of the plan are protective in nature and will provide protection or enhancement to ecosystems, however there may also be works related to environmental, heritage or conservation protection, or social inclusion developments, which themselves may have potential to give rise to ecological impacts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - habitat loss and fragmentation (e.g. arising from construction works and new development) - decrease in surface and/or ground water quality and/or quantity (e.g. arising from construction works and new development) - decrease in air quality arising from emissions to air (e.g. from construction works and new development) - threats to species and/or habitats as a result of the introduction and/or spread of non-native invasive species (e.g. arising from construction works and new developments) - disturbance, displacement or mortality impacts to species (e.g. arising from construction works and new development, or as a result of facilitating increased visitor numbers to sensitive sites) 	<p>Blackwater Bank SAC [002953] Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC [000700] Carnsore Point SAC [002269] Hook Head SAC [000764] Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills SAC [001741] Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC [001742] Lady's Island Lake SAC [000704] Long Bank SAC [002161] Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC [000710] River Barrow And River Nore SAC [002162] Saltee Islands SAC [000707] Screen Hills SAC [000708] Slaney River Valley SAC [000781] Tacumshin Lake SAC [000709] Lower River Suir SAC [002137] Ballyteigue Burrow SPA [004020] Bannow Bay SPA [004033] Cahore Marshes SPA [004143] Keeragh Islands SPA [004118] Lady's Island Lake SPA [004009] Saltee Islands SPA [004002] Tacumshin Lake SPA [004092] The Raven SPA [004019] Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA [004076]</p>
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Appendix II

Potential effects of the plan on the Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives of European Sites

Table B presents an evaluation of how the plan could affect the qualifying interests, special conservation interests and conservation objectives of the European sites at risk of effects.

Table B Potential effects of the plan on the Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives of European Sites

European Site [site code] Qualifying Interests/Special Conservation Interests ¹²	Elements of the plan which have potential for significant effects on the Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives ¹³
Ballyteige Burrow SAC [000696]	
1130 Estuaries 1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide 1150 Coastal lagoons* 1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks 1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand 1320 Spartina swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>) 1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) 1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>)	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the permanent area and distribution of estuarine and coastal habitats • the physical processes supporting estuarine and coastal habitats • the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats • the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats • the quality of the intertidal fauna communities associated with mudflats and sandflats • the typical fauna species and water quality profile associated with coastal lagoon habitat <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Climate Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.

¹² The four-digit code that precedes the Annex I habitat, Annex II species or special conservation interest bird name is the habitat/species' Natura 2000 code; this is given in the Natura 2000 standard data-entry form for SAC and SPA sites. Priority Annex I habitat types are denoted using an asterisk (*)

¹³ The Conservation Objectives for each European site are those already listed in Table 3 in Section 6.6 of this NIR.

<p>1420 Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (<i>Sarcocornetea fruticosi</i>)</p> <p>2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</p> <p>2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)*</p> <p>2150 Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (<i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i>)*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with coastal dune systems – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150) Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all depending on where these developments are physically located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150). Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150). <p><u>Core Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150). Promote and expand the potential of the marine economy and tourism in Kilmore Quay – knock on effects from industrial and recreational pressure on Ballyteige Burrow SAC (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150). <p><u>Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150). <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150). To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150). Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities dependent on where this development is located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)
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- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities dependent on the intensity of this activity, and where this development is located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).
- To support and develop our towns and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)
- To support development and increase capacity of the county's ports (for example, Kilmore Quay) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)
- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)
- To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)

Recreation and Open Space Strategy

- To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)
- To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways, walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1150, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150)

Bannow Bay SAC [000697]

<p>1130 Estuaries</p> <p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</p> <p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines</p> <p>1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks</p> <p>1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand</p> <p>1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>)</p> <p>1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>)</p> <p>1420 Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (<i>Sarcocornetea fruticosi</i>)</p> <p>2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ('white dunes')</p> <p>2130 *Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ('grey dunes')</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the permanent area and distribution of estuarine and coastal habitats • the physical processes supporting estuarine and coastal habitats • the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats • the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats the quality of the intertidal fauna communities associated with mudflats and sandflats <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p>Climate Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. • Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with coastal dune systems – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130) • Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all depending on where these developments are physically located (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130). • Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats (1130, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130). <p>Core Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (1130, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130). • New Ross: Apply a moderate population growth rate with the aim of incrementally growing the population of New Ross; Focus on developing and maximising the tourism potential of the town (NT01, NT02, NT11) – as this SAC is downstream of New Ross, any development of the town could
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	<p>have direct or indirect effects on water quality which could lead to changes in vegetation structure or composition (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310).</p> <p><u>Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (1130, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130). <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130). To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130). Develop the role of New Ross Port and associated port related economic development (ED63) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in downstream sites such as this SAC (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130). Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities dependent on where this development is located (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130) To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities dependent on the intensity of this activity, and where this development is located (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130). To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130). <p><u>Tourism Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).
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- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130)
- To support development and increase capacity of the county’s ports (in particular, New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130).
- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities,

	<p>the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130). • To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1130, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130). <p><u>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130). • To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways, walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1330, 1410, 1420, 2110, 2120, 2130).
<p>Blackstairs Mountains SAC [000770]</p>	
<p>4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> 4030 European dry heaths</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the permanent area and distribution of heath habitats • soil nutrient and pH status • the vegetation community diversity and composition of qualifying interest habitats • the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats • the physical conditions of the qualifying interest habitats i.e. bare ground and drainage conditions • indicators of local distinctiveness <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p>

Climate Action

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located (much coniferous plantations in Ireland are in upland regions). Afforestation could interfere with drainage conditions and soil nutrient and pH levels supporting heath habitats which could affect vegetation community diversity and composition. Similarly, afforestation could interfere with the hydrological regime, water quality, pH, organic carbon levels and turbidity for oligotrophic waters. All of this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (4010, 4030).
- Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (4010, 4030).
- Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting heath and wetland habitats (4010, 4030).

Core Strategy

- To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SAC or with potential effects on surface and ground water regimes, could affect physical processes supporting these habitats leading to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (4010, 4030).
- To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (4010, 4030).

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – if housing development within or in close proximity to this SAC is allowed, this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (4010, 4030).

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (4010, 4030).

- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in upland regions of the county (4010, 4030).
- To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (4010, 4030).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (4010, 4030).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (4010, 4030).
- To support and facilitate the development of tourism infrastructure in Blackstairs Mountains (TM35) and inland waterways (TM36) and ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (4010, 4030).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (4010, 4030).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these developments, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (4010, 4030).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting heath and wetland habitats (4010, 4030). <p><u>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (4010, 4030). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (4010, 4030).
<p>Blackwater Bank SAC [002953]</p>	
<p>1110 Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Transportation Strategy, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 3 Specific Settlements, 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitat the species composition of qualifying interest habitats <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Climate Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all depending on where these developments are physically located (1110). <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal and offshore zones of the county (1110).

	<p><u>Tourism Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI). To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1110). <p><u>Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1110). To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1110).
<p>Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC [000700]</p>	
<p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines</p> <p>2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Amophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</p> <p>2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to <u>Climate Action</u>, <u>Core Strategy</u>, Sustainable Housing, <u>Economic Development Strategy</u>, <u>Tourism Development</u>, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, <u>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</u>, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the permanent area and distribution of qualifying interest habitats the physical processes supporting qualifying interest habitats the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Climate Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location

	<p>and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with coastal dune systems – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation and changes to vegetation structure and composition (2110, 2120, 2130) • Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, all depending on where these developments are physically located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130). • Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, habitat fragmentation, and changes to vegetation structure and composition mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130). <p><u>Core Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (2110, 2120, 2130). • To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, tourism) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs along the eastern coast of Wexford (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130). <p><u>Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (2110, 2120, 2130). <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, tourism) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs along the eastern coast of Wexford (2110, 2120, 2130). • To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (2110, 2120, 2130). • To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (2110, 2120, 2130). • To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in
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habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (2110, 2120, 2130).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities and where these developments are located (2110, 2120, 2130).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (2110, 2120, 2130).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130)

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county's coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county's coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130). To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130). <p>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130).
<p>Carnsore Point SAC [002269]</p>	
<p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide 1170 Reefs</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Transportation Strategy, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 3 Specific Settlements, 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the permanent area and distribution of estuarine and marine habitats the physical processes supporting estuarine and coastal habitats the natural condition, structure and extent of the reef and benthic community complexes <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p>Climate Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.

- Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, all depending on where these developments are physically located (1140, 1170).
- Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats (1140, 1170).

Core Strategy

- To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, tourism) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs along the eastern coast of Wexford (1140, 1170).

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, tourism) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs along the eastern coast of Wexford (1140, 1170).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (1140, 1170).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1170).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1170).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1140, 1170)

	<p><u>Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1170). • To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1170). • To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1170). • To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1170). <p><u>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1140). • To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1140).
<p>Hook Head SAC [000764]</p>	
<p>1160 Large shallow inlets and bays 1170 Reefs 1230 Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Transportation Strategy, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the permanent area and distribution of marine and coastal habitats • the physical processes supporting the vegetated sea cliff vegetation (e.g. tidal regime, salinity regime, and sediment/nutrient circulation) • the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats • the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats the natural condition, structure and extent of the reef and benthic community complexes

Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.

Climate Action

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all depending on where these developments are physically located (1160, 1170, 1230).
- Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats (1160, 1170).

Economic Development Strategy

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (1160, 1170, 1230).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1160, 1170, 1230).

Tourism Development

- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1160, 1170, 1230).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1160, 1170, 1230).

	<p><u>Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1160, 1170, 1230). • To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1160, 1170, 1230). • To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1160, 1170, 1230). • To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1160, 1170). <p><u>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1230). • To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1230).
<p>Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills SAC [001741]</p>	
<p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</p> <p>2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitats • the physical processes supporting the qualifying interest habitats • the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats • the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p>

Climate Action

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with coastal dune systems – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (2120, 2130)
- Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, all depending on where these developments are physically located (2120, 2130).
- Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats (2120, 2130).

Core Strategy

- To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (2120, 2130).
- To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, tourism) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs along the eastern coast of Wexford (2120, 2130).

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (2120, 2130).

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, tourism) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs along the eastern coast of Wexford (2120, 2130).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (2120, 2130).

- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation dependent on the intensity of this activity, and where this development is located (2120, 2130).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (2120, 2130).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species density (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QIs).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities and where these developments are located (2120, 2130).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (2120, 2130).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (2120, 2130).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (2120, 2130).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county's coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (2120, 2130).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (2120, 2130). To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (2120, 2130). To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (2120, 2130). <p>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (2120, 2130). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (2120, 2130).
<p>Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC [001742]</p>	
<p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines</p> <p>2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</p> <p>2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)</p> <p>2150 Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (<i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i>)</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitats the physical processes supporting the qualifying interest habitats the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p>Climate Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location

and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.

- Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with coastal dune systems – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).
- Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, all depending on where these developments are physically located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).
- Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).

Core Strategy

- To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).
- To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, tourism) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs along the eastern coast of Wexford (2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, tourism) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs along the eastern coast of Wexford (2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).
- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation dependent on the intensity of this activity, and where this development is located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities and where these developments are located (2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county's coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county's coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150). <p>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (2110, 2120, 2130, 2150). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (2110, 2120, 2130, 2150).
<p>Lady's Island Lake SAC [000704]</p>	
<p>1150 Coastal lagoons 1170 Reefs 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitats the physical processes supporting the qualifying interest habitats the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats the natural condition, structure and extent of the reef community complexes the typical fauna species and water quality profile associated with coastal lagoon habitat <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p>Climate Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (1150, 1170, 1220). • Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats (1150, 1170, 1220). <p><u>Core Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (1220). <p><u>Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (1220). <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (1150, 1170, 1220). • To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (1220). • Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation dependent on where this development is located (1150, 1170, 1220). • To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation dependent on the intensity of this activity, and where this development is located (1150, 1170, 1220). • To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1150, 1170, 1220). <p><u>Tourism Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).
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- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1150, 1220).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1150, 1170, 1220).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1150, 1220).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1150, 1170, 1220).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county's coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1150, 1170, 1220).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county's coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1150, 1170, 1220).
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1150, 1170, 1220).
- To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1150, 1170, 1220).

Recreation and Open Space Strategy

- To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or

	<p>habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1150, 1220).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1150, 1220).
<p>Long Bank SAC [002161]</p>	
<p>1110 Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Transportation Strategy, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 3 Specific Settlements, 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitat the species composition of qualifying interest habitats <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Climate Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all depending on where these developments are physically located (1110). <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal and offshore zones of the county (1110). <p><u>Tourism Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1110). <p><u>Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1110). To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1110).
Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC [000710]	
<p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</p> <p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines</p> <p>1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>)</p> <p>2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ('white dunes')</p> <p>2130 *Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ('grey dunes')</p> <p>2170 Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>)</p> <p>2190 Humid dune slacks</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Transportation Strategy, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 3 Specific Settlements, 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitats the physical processes supporting the qualifying interest habitats the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats the natural condition, structure and extent of the benthic community complexes <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Climate Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.

- Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with coastal dune systems – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).
- Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).
- Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).

Core Strategy

- To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).
- To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, tourism) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs along the eastern coast of Wexford (1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).
- Wexford Town: allocating significant population growth to the town and delivering and facilitating new infrastructure (NT05, WT01 – WT10) and supporting and developing tourism potential of the town (WT07) could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation in this nearby SAC (1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190),

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, tourism) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs along the eastern coast of Wexford (1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).
- Maximise the tourism potential of Wexford town through the development of the Wexford Town ‘Maritime Town’ brand, and planned Greenways (ED60) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation in this nearby SAC (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).

- Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation dependent on where this development is located (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).
- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation dependent on the intensity of this activity, and where this development is located (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities – could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure – could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).
- To support development and increase capacity of the county’s ports (in particular, Rosslare Harbour and New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190). <p><u>Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190). To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190). To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190). To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1210, 1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190). <p><u>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1330, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2170, 2190).
River Barrow and River Nore SAC [002162]	
<p>1016 Desmoulin’s whorl snail <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i></p> <p>1029 Freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i></p> <p>1092 White-clawed crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i></p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Transportation Strategy, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitat the species composition of qualifying interest habitats

<p>1095 Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i></p> <p>1096 Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i></p> <p>1099 River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i></p> <p>1103 Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i></p> <p>1106 Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) (only in fresh water)</p> <p>1130 Estuaries</p> <p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</p> <p>1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand</p> <p>1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)</p> <p>1355 Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i></p> <p>1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia 98aritime</i>)</p> <p>1421 Killarney fern <i>Trichomanes speciosum</i></p> <p>1990 Nore freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera durrovensis</i></p> <p>3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the physical processes supporting qualifying interest habitats • the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats • the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats • the population size, density, and distribution of the qualifying interest species • the population structure of the qualifying interest species • the area of occupancy by the qualifying interest species • the quality and availability of habitat supporting the qualifying interest species • absence of alien invasive species and diseases affecting the qualifying interest species • the water quality supporting the qualifying interest species, including oxygen and flow levels, water chemistry, suspended solids, nutrients • the prey availability for the qualifying interest species • appropriate shading conditions for the Killarney fern • maintenance of the host species for Freshwater Pearl mussel • floodplain connectivity for 3260 • appropriate flood conditions for 6430 • appropriate groundwater quality and quantity for *7220 • the physical conditions of the qualifying interest habitats (i.e. bare ground and drainage conditions), soil nutrient and pH status and indicators of local distinctiveness for 4030 <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p>Climate Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure – could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. • Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with riverine and estuarine systems. For example, afforestation could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the QI habitats and species. All of this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this planting is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).
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<p><i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation 4030 European dry heaths 6430 Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels 7220 * Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles 91E0 * Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the QI habitats and species. This could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0). Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14)— this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting riverine and estuarine habitats (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0). <p>Core Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SAC or with potential effects on surface and ground water regimes, could affect physical processes supporting these habitats and species leading to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0). To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0). Wexford Town: allocating significant population growth to the town and delivering and facilitating new infrastructure (NT05, WT01 - WT10) and supporting and developing tourism potential of the town (WT07) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Slaney River Valley SAC due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with an increasing population, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0). Enniscorthy: Allocate moderate population growth to the town; Focus on increasing employment and economic development; Further develop the town’s tourism potential; Support the delivery of the infrastructural requirements – Flood Relief Scheme. Wexford County Council will also focus on developing a Blueway between Bunclody (B40) and Enniscorthy to include adjacent cycleway and walking trail (ET01, ET02, ET05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Slaney River Valley SAC due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with an increasing population, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0). New Ross: Apply a moderate population growth rate with the aim of incrementally growing the population of New Ross; Focus on developing and maximising the tourism potential of the town (NT01, NT02, NT11) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in River Barrow and River Nore SAC due to the intensity and
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scale of these developments and activities associated with an increasing population, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – if housing development within or in close proximity to this SAC is allowed, this could affect the physical conditions supporting the QI habitats and species (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), which could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities depending on where these developments are physically located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the riverine/estuarine/coastal zones of the county (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).
- To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats and species or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).
- Maximise the tourism potential of Wexford town through the development of the Wexford Town ‘Maritime Town’ brand, and planned Greenways (ED60) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Slaney River Valley SAC due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).
- Maximise the economic opportunities offered by developing the tourism potential of Enniscorthy, both direct and indirect (ED62) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in and Slaney River Valley SAC due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic potential, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).
- Develop the role of New Ross Port and associated port related economic development (ED63) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in the River Barrow and River Nore SAC due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic potential, the physical processes

	<p>these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0). • To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0). • To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0). <p><u>Tourism Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI). • To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0). • To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0). • Ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic opportunities, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where potential infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).
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Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the QI habitats and species (hydrological processes), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).
- To support development and increase capacity of the county’s ports (in particular, Rosslare Harbour and New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).
- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting riverine/estuarine/coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of

these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).

- To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).

Recreation and Open Space Strategy

- To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).
- To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).
- To support the development of the amenities and recreation potential of the River Slaney and River Barrow (ROS54) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).

Volume 10 Energy Strategy

- By providing and supporting the provision and improvement of energy-related infrastructure, and facilitating its development within Wexford County, including the production of maps showing areas within Wexford County open for consideration for wind and solar energy development, this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats and species or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this energy infrastructure is physically located. There is potential for disturbance to QI and SCI species through construction related activities, as well as impacts on water quality as a result of run-off of contaminated waters from construction related activities. There is also potential for impacts on hydrogeology if construction results in excavations or piling, which could interact with the underlying groundwater body which influences the hydrology/hydrogeology of the area (1016, 1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1310, 1330, 1355, 1410, 1421, 1990, 3260, 4030, 6430, 7220, 91A0, 91E0).

Saltee Islands SAC [000707]

<p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</p> <p>1160 Large shallow inlets and bays</p> <p>1170 Reefs</p> <p>1230 Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts</p> <p>1364 Grey Seal <i>Halichoerus grypus</i></p> <p>8330 Submerged or partially submerged sea caves</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Transportation Strategy, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitats • the physical processes supporting the qualifying interest habitats • the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats • the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats • the natural condition, structure and extent of the reef and benthic community complexes <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Climate Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. • Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all depending on where these developments are physically located (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330). • Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330). <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, tourism) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs along the coast of Wexford (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330). • To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330).
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- Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities dependent on where this development is located (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330).
- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities dependent on the intensity of this activity, and where this development is located (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1140, 1160, 1230, 1364).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1140, 1160, 1230, 1364).
- To support development and increase capacity of the county's ports (in particular, Rosslare Harbour and New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330). <p><u>Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330). To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330). To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330). To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364, 8330). <p><u>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1140, 1160, 1170, 1230, 1364).
Screen Hills SAC [000708]	
3110 Oligotrophic waters containing very few	The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Heritage and Conservation, and Sustainable Communities and

<p>minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) 4030 European dry heaths</p>	<p>Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitats • the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats • the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats • the hydrological regime, water quality, pH, organic carbon levels and turbidity for 3110 • the substratum quality and fringing habitat condition for 3110 • the physical conditions of the qualifying interest habitats (i.e. bare ground and drainage conditions), soil nutrient and pH status and indicators of local distinctiveness for 4030 <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Climate Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. • Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located (much coniferous plantations in Ireland are in upland regions). Afforestation could interfere with drainage conditions and soil nutrient and pH levels supporting heath habitats which could affect vegetation community diversity and composition. Similarly, afforestation could interfere with the hydrological regime, water quality, pH, organic carbon levels and turbidity for oligotrophic waters. All of this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (3110, 4030). • Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (3110, 4030). • Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting heath and wetland habitats (3110, 4030). <p><u>Core Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SAC or with potential effects on surface and ground water regimes, could affect physical processes supporting these habitats leading to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (3110, 4030). • To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or
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reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (3110, 4030).

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – if housing development within or in close proximity to this SAC is allowed, this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (3110, 4030).

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (3110, 4030).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in upland regions of the county (3110, 4030).
- To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (3110, 4030).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (3110, 4030).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (3110, 4030).
- To support and facilitate the development of tourism infrastructure in Blackstairs Mountains (TM35) and inland waterways (TM36) and ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (3110, 4030).

Transportation Strategy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (3110, 4030). <p>Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these developments, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (3110, 4030). To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting heath and wetland habitats (3110, 4030). <p>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (3110, 4030). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (3110, 4030).
<p>Slaney River Valley SAC [000781]</p>	
<p>1029 Freshwater Pearl Mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i></p> <p>1095 Lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> Sea</p> <p>1096 Lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> Brook</p> <p>1099 Lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> River</p> <p>1103 Twait Shad <i>Alosa fallax</i></p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Transportation Strategy, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 3 Specific Settlements, 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitat the species composition of qualifying interest habitats the physical processes supporting qualifying interest habitats the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats the population size, density, and distribution of the qualifying interest species the population structure of the qualifying interest species

<p>1106 Atlantic Salmon <i>Salmo salar</i> (only in fresh water)</p> <p>1130 Estuaries</p> <p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</p> <p>1355 Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i></p> <p>1365 Harbour Seal <i>Phoca vitulina</i></p> <p>3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation</p> <p>91A0 Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles</p> <p>91E0 * Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the area of occupancy by the qualifying interest species • the quality and availability of habitat supporting the qualifying interest species • absence of alien invasive species and diseases affecting the qualifying interest species • the water quality supporting the qualifying interest species, including oxygen and flow levels, water chemistry, suspended solids, nutrients • the prey availability for the qualifying interest species • maintenance of the host species for Freshwater Pearl mussel • floodplain connectivity for 3260 <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Climate Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. • Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with riverine and estuarine systems. For example, afforestation could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the QI habitats and species. All of this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this planting is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0). • Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the QI habitats and species. This could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0). • Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting riverine and estuarine habitats (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0). <p><u>Core Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SAC or with potential effects on surface and ground water regimes, could affect physical processes
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supporting these habitats and species leading to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).

- To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- Wexford Town: allocating significant population growth to the town and delivering and facilitating new infrastructure (NT05, WT01 - WT10) and supporting and developing tourism potential of the town (WT07) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Slaney River Valley SAC due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with an increasing population, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- Enniscorthy: Allocate moderate population growth to the town; Focus on increasing employment and economic development; Further develop the town’s tourism potential; Support the delivery of the infrastructural requirements – Flood Relief Scheme. Wexford County Council will also focus on developing a Blueway between Bunclody (B40) and Enniscorthy to include adjacent cycleway and walking trail (ET01, ET02, ET05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Slaney River Valley SAC due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with an increasing population, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- New Ross: Apply a moderate population growth rate with the aim of incrementally growing the population of New Ross; Focus on developing and maximising the tourism potential of the town (NT01, NT02, NT11) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in River Barrow and River Nore SAC due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with an increasing population, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – if housing development within or in close proximity to this SAC is allowed, this could affect the physical conditions supporting the QI habitats and species (drainage, hydrology, soil nutrient level), which could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities depending on where these developments are physically located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example,

expanding renewable energy developments in the riverine/estuarine/coastal zones of the county (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).

- To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats and species or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- Maximise the tourism potential of Wexford town through the development of the Wexford Town ‘Maritime Town’ brand, and planned Greenways (ED60) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Slaney River Valley SAC due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- Maximise the economic opportunities offered by developing the tourism potential of Enniscorthy, both direct and indirect (ED62) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in and Slaney River Valley SAC due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic potential, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- Develop the role of New Ross Port and associated port related economic development (ED63) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in the River Barrow and River Nore SAC due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic potential, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- Ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic opportunities, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where potential infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could affect the physical conditions supporting the QI habitats and species (hydrological processes), or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- To support development and increase capacity of the county's ports (in particular, Rosslare Harbour and New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).

- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting riverine/estuarine/coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county's coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county's coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).

Recreation and Open Space Strategy

- To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
- To support the development of the amenities and recreation potential of the River Slaney and River Barrow (ROS54) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these

	<p>activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).</p> <p><u>Volume 3 Bunclody Town Settlement Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By ensuring that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population of the town, as well as facilitating the necessary infrastructure and the development of utilities such as lighting, water and wastewater services and roads, could affect physical processes supporting habitats and species of the site leading to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0). <p><u>Volume 10 Energy Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By providing and supporting the provision and improvement of energy-related infrastructure, and facilitating its development within Wexford County, including the production of maps showing areas within Wexford County open for consideration for wind and solar energy development, this could affect the physical conditions supporting the habitats and species or could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this energy infrastructure is physically located. There is potential for disturbance to QI and SCI species through construction related activities, as well as impacts on water quality as a result of run-off of contaminated waters from construction related activities. There is also potential for impacts on hydrogeology if construction results in excavations or piling, which could interact with the underlying groundwater body which influences the hydrology/hydrogeology of the area (1029, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1130, 1140, 1355, 1365, 3260, 91A0, 91E0).
<p>Tacumshin Lake SAC [000709]</p>	
<p>1150 Coastal lagoons 1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks 2110 Embryonic shifting dunes 2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitats the physical processes supporting the qualifying interest habitats the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats the typical fauna species and water quality profile associated with coastal lagoon habitat <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Climate Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location

and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.

- Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with coastal dune systems – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (2110, 2120).
- Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation depending on where these developments are physically located (1150, 1210, 1220, 2110, 2120).
- Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats (1150, 1210, 1220, 2110, 2120).

Core Strategy

- To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (1220, 2110, 2120).

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SAC, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation (1220, 2110, 2120).

Economic Development Strategy

- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (1150, 1210, 1220, 2110, 2120).
- To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (1220, 2110, 2120).
- Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation dependent on where this development is located (1150, 1210, 1220, 2110, 2120).
- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation dependent on the intensity of this activity, and where this development is located (1150, 1210, 1220, 2110, 2120).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1150, 1210, 1220, 2110, 2120).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities and where these developments are located (1220, 2110, 2120).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1150, 1210, 1220, 2110, 2120).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (2110, 2120).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1150, 1210, 1220, 2110, 2120).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county's coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1150, 1210, 1220, 2110, 2120).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county's coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1150, 1210, 1220, 2110, 2120).
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1150, 1210, 1220, 2110, 2120).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1150, 1210, 1220, 2110, 2120). <p>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1220, 2110, 2120). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats and where these developments are located (1220, 2110, 2120).
<p>Lower River Suir SAC [002137]</p>	
<p>1029 Freshwater Pearl Mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i></p> <p>1092 White-clawed Crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i></p> <p>1095 Sea Lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i></p> <p>1096 Brook Lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i></p> <p>1099 River Lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i></p> <p>1103 Twaité Shad <i>Alosa fallax fallax</i></p> <p>1106 Salmon <i>Salmo salar</i></p> <p>1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>)</p> <p>1355 Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i></p> <p>1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>)</p> <p>3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitat the species composition of qualifying interest habitats the physical processes supporting qualifying interest habitats the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats the population size, density, and distribution of the qualifying interest species the population structure of the qualifying interest species the area of occupancy by the qualifying interest species the quality and availability of habitat supporting the qualifying interest species absence of alien invasive species and diseases affecting the qualifying interest species the water quality supporting the qualifying interest species, including oxygen and flow levels, water chemistry, suspended solids, nutrients the prey availability for the qualifying interest species maintenance of the host species for Freshwater Pearl mussel floodplain connectivity for 3260 appropriate flood conditions for 6430

<p>Ranunculus fluitans and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation</p> <p>6430 Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels</p> <p>91A0 Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles</p> <p>91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)*</p> <p>91J0 <i>Taxus baccata</i> woods of the British Isles*</p>	<p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Climate Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. • Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats all depending on where these developments are physically located (1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1330, 1355, 1410, 3260, 6430, 91A0, 91E0, 91J0). • Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats (1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1330, 1355, 1410, 3260, 6430, 91A0, 91E0, 91J0). <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats all depending on where these developments are physically located (1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1330, 1355, 1410, 3260, 6430, 91A0, 91E0, 91J0). • To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1330, 1355, 1410, 3260, 6430, 91A0, 91E0, 91J0). <p><u>Tourism Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI). • To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1330, 1355, 1410, 3260, 6430, 91A0, 91E0, 91J0). <p><u>Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment</u></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1330, 1355, 1410, 3260, 6430, 91A0, 91E0, 91J0). <p><u>Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1330, 1355, 1410, 3260, 6430, 91A0, 91E0, 91J0). To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1029, 1092, 1095, 1096, 1099, 1103, 1106, 1330, 1355, 1410, 3260, 6430, 91A0, 91E0, 91J0).
Tramore Dunes and Backstrand SAC [000671]	
<p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</p> <p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines</p> <p>1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks</p> <p>1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand</p> <p>1330 Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima)</p> <p>1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)</p> <p>2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitats the physical processes supporting the qualifying interest habitats the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats the natural condition, structure and extent of the benthic community complexes <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats all depending on where these developments are physically located (1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130). To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130). <p><u>Tourism Development</u></p>

<p>2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI). To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130). <p><u>Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130). To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130). <p><u>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (1140, 1210, 1220, 1310, 1330, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130).
<p>Buckroney-Brittis Dunes And Fen SAC [000729]</p>	
<p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks 1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the permanent area and distribution of the qualifying interest habitats the physical processes supporting the qualifying interest habitats the vegetation structure of qualifying interest habitats the vegetation composition of qualifying interest habitats

<p>2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</p> <p>2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)*</p> <p>2150 Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea)*</p> <p>2170 Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>Argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>)</p> <p>2190 Humid dune slacks</p> <p>7230 Alkaline fens</p>	<p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation to affecting physical processes supporting coastal and estuarine habitats all depending on where these developments are physically located (1210, 1220, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150, 2170, 2190, 7230). To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the biophysical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 1220, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150, 2170, 2190, 7230). <p><u>Tourism Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects across all terrestrial, freshwater and marine QI). To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 1220, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150, 2170, 2190, 7230). <p><u>Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 1220, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150, 2170, 2190, 7230). To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area or habitat fragmentation, due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (1210, 1220, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150, 2170, 2190, 7230). <p><u>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (1210, 1220, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150, 2170, 2190, 7230).
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (1210, 1220, 1410, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2150, 2170, 2190, 7230).
Ballyteige Burrow SPA [004020]	
<p>A046 Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i></p> <p>A048 Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i></p> <p>A140 Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i></p> <p>A141 Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i></p> <p>A142 Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i></p> <p>A156 Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i></p> <p>A157 Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i></p> <p>A999 Wetland and Waterbirds</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the long term population trends of the special conservation interest bird species the range, timing or intensity of use of areas by the special conservation interest bird species, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation the permanent area of wetland habitat, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p>Climate Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with wetland systems and the bird species they support. For example, afforestation could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. All of this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this planting is located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999). Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. This could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).

- Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting wetland habitats and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).

Core Strategy

- To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SPA, or with potential effects on surface and ground water regimes, could affect physical processes supporting these wetland habitats and species and could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).
- To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SPA, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities depending on where these developments are physically located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).
- To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).
- Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).

- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects on all SCI species).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).
- Ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slob SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic opportunities, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where potential infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).

- To support development and increase capacity of the county's ports (in particular, Rosslare Harbour and New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).
- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county's coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county's coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).
- To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).

Recreation and Open Space Strategy

- To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments

	<p>may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A140, A141, A142, A156, A157, A999).
<p>Bannow Bay SPA [004033]</p>	
<p>A046 Light-bellied Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i></p> <p>A048 Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i></p> <p>A054 Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i></p> <p>A130 Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i></p> <p>A140 Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i></p> <p>A141 Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i></p> <p>A142 Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i></p> <p>A143 Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i></p> <p>A149 Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i></p> <p>A156 Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i></p> <p>A157 Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i></p> <p>A160 Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i></p> <p>A162 Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i></p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the long term population trends of the special conservation interest bird species the range, timing or intensity of use of areas by the special conservation interest bird species, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation the permanent area of wetland habitat, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p>Climate Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with wetland systems and the bird species they support. For example, afforestation could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. All of this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this planting is located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999). Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. This could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance

<p>A999 Wetland and Waterbirds</p>	<p>to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting wetland habitats and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999). <p><u>Core Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SPA, or with potential effects on surface and ground water regimes, could affect physical processes supporting these wetland habitats and species and could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999). To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999). <p><u>Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SPA, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities depending on where these developments are physically located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999). <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999). To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999). To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).
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- Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).
- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects on all SCl species).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).
- Ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic opportunities, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where potential infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).
- To support development and increase capacity of the county’s ports (in particular, Rosslare Harbour and New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).
- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).
- To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities,

	<p>the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).</p> <p>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A046, A048, A054, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A999).
<p>Cahore Marshes SPA [004143]</p>	
<p>A050 Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i></p> <p>A140 Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i></p> <p>A142 Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i></p> <p>A395 Greenland White-fronted Goose <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i></p> <p>A999 Wetland and Waterbirds</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the long term population trends of the special conservation interest bird species the range, timing or intensity of use of areas by the special conservation interest bird species, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation the permanent area of wetland habitat, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p>Climate Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with wetland systems and the bird species they support. For

example, afforestation could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. All of this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this planting is located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).

- Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. This could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
- Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting wetland habitats and where this infrastructure is located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).

Core Strategy

- To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SPA, or with potential effects on surface and ground water regimes, could affect physical processes supporting these wetland habitats and species and could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
- To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SPA, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities depending on where these developments are physically located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).

- To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
- Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects on all SCI species).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
- Ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic opportunities, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where potential infrastructure is located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
- To support development and increase capacity of the county’s ports (in particular, Rosslare Harbour and New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
- To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities,

	<p>the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).</p> <p>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A050, A140, A142, A395, A999).
<p>Keeragh Islands SPA [004118]</p>	
<p>A017 Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i></p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the breeding population, abundance or distribution prey availability connectivity to marine waters adjacent to breeding colonies disturbance at breeding sites or adjacent habitat <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p>Climate Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with wetland systems and the bird species they support. For example, afforestation could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and

other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. All of this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this planting is located (A017).

- Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. This could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A017).
- Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting wetland habitats and where this infrastructure is located (A017).

Core Strategy

- To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SPA, or with potential effects on surface and ground water regimes, could affect physical processes supporting these wetland habitats and species and could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (A017).
- To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A017).

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SPA, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities depending on where these developments are physically located (A017).

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A017).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (A017).
- To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat

	<p>fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (A017).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A017). • To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A017). • To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A017). <p><u>Tourism Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects on all SCl species). • To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A017). • To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A017). • Ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slob SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic opportunities, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where potential infrastructure is located (A017). <p><u>Transportation Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
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- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A017).
- To support development and increase capacity of the county’s ports (in particular, Rosslare Harbour and New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A017).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A017).
- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A017).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A017).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A017).
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A017).
- To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A017).

Recreation and Open Space Strategy

- To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area,

	<p>species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A017).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A017).
<p>Lady's Island Lake SPA [004009]</p>	
<p>A051 Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> A179 Black-headed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> A191 Sandwich Tern <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i> A192 Roseate Tern <i>Sterna dougallii</i> A193 Common Tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i> A194 Arctic Tern <i>Sterna paradisaea</i> A999 Wetland and Waterbirds</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the breeding population, abundance or distribution prey availability connectivity to marine waters adjacent to breeding colonies disturbance at breeding sites or adjacent habitat <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Climate Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with wetland systems and the bird species they support. For example, afforestation could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. All of this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this planting is located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999). Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes

supporting the habitat and species. This could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).

- Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting wetland habitats and where this infrastructure is located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).

Core Strategy

- To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SPA, or with potential effects on surface and ground water regimes, could affect physical processes supporting these wetland habitats and species and could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).
- To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SPA, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities depending on where these developments are physically located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).
- To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).
- Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development,

	<p>the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999). • To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999). <p><u>Tourism Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects on all SCI species). • To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999). • To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999). • Ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic opportunities, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where potential infrastructure is located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999). <p><u>Transportation Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
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- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).
- To support development and increase capacity of the county’s ports (in particular, Rosslare Harbour and New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).
- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).
- To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).

Recreation and Open Space Strategy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A051, A179, A191, A192, A193, A194, A999).
Saltee Islands SPA [004002]	
<p>A009 Fulmar <i>Fulmarus glacialis</i></p> <p>A016 Gannet <i>Morus bassanus</i></p> <p>A017 Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i></p> <p>A018 Shag <i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i></p> <p>A183 Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus</i></p> <p>A184 Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i></p> <p>A188 Kittiwake <i>Rissa tridactyla</i></p> <p>A199 Guillemot <i>Uria aalge</i></p> <p>A200 Razorbill <i>Alca torda</i></p> <p>A204 Puffin <i>Fratercula arctica</i></p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Transportation Strategy, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the breeding population, abundance or distribution prey availability connectivity to marine waters adjacent to breeding colonies disturbance at breeding sites or adjacent habitat presence of predators <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p>Climate Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with wetland systems and the bird species they support. For example, afforestation could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. All of this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical

processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this planting is located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).

- Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. This could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).
- Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting wetland habitats and where this infrastructure is located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).

Core Strategy

- To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SPA, or with potential effects on surface and ground water regimes, could affect physical processes supporting these wetland habitats and species and could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).
- To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).

Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy

- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SPA, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities depending on where these developments are physically located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).
- To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat

	<p>fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204). • To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204). • To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204). <p><u>Tourism Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects on all SCI species). • To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204). • To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204). • Ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slob SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic opportunities, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where potential infrastructure is located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).
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Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).
- To support development and increase capacity of the county’s ports (in particular, Rosslare Harbour and New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).
- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).
- To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities,

	<p>the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).</p> <p>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A009, A016, A017, A018, A183, A184, A188, A199, A200, A204).
<p>Tacumshin Lake SPA [004092]</p>	
<p>A004 Little Grebe <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i></p> <p>A037 Bewick's Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i></p> <p>A038 Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i></p> <p>A050 Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i></p> <p>A051 Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i></p> <p>A052 Teal <i>Anas crecca</i></p> <p>A054 Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i></p> <p>A056 Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i></p> <p>A061 Tufted Duck <i>Aythya fuligula</i></p> <p>A125 Coot <i>Fulica atra</i></p> <p>A140 Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i></p> <p>A141 Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i></p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the long term population trends of the special conservation interest bird species the range, timing or intensity of use of areas by the special conservation interest bird species, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation the permanent area of wetland habitat, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p>Climate Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with wetland systems and the bird species they support. For

<p>A142 Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> A156 Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i> A999 Wetland and Waterbirds</p>	<p>example, afforestation could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. All of this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this planting is located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. This could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999). Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting wetland habitats and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999). <p>Core Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SPA, or with potential effects on surface and ground water regimes, could affect physical processes supporting these wetland habitats and species and could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999). To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999). <p>Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SPA, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities depending on where these developments are physically located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999). <p>Economic Development Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).
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- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).
- To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).
- Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).
- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects on all SCI species).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).

- Ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slobbs SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic opportunities, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where potential infrastructure is located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).
- To support development and increase capacity of the county’s ports (in particular, Rosslare Harbour and New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).
- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities,

	<p>the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999). • To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999). <p>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999). • To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A004, A037, A038, A050, A051, A052, A054, A056, A061, A125, A140, A141, A142, A156, A999).
<p>The Raven SPA [004019]</p>	
<p>A001 Red-throated Diver <i>Gavia stellata</i> A017 Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> A065 Common Scoter <i>Melanitta nigra</i> A141 Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> A144 Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i></p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Transportation Strategy Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the long term population trends of the special conservation interest bird species • the range, timing or intensity of use of areas by the special conservation interest bird species, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation • the permanent area of wetland habitat, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p>

<p>A395 Greenland White-fronted goose <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i></p> <p>A999 Wetlands and Waterbirds</p>	<p><u>Climate Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. • Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with wetland systems and the bird species they support. For example, afforestation could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. All of this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this planting is located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999). • Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. This could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999). • Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting wetland habitats and where this infrastructure is located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999). <p><u>Core Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SPA, or with potential effects on surface and ground water regimes, could affect physical processes supporting these wetland habitats and species and could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999). • To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999). • Wexford Town: allocating significant population growth to the town and delivering and facilitating new infrastructure (NT05, WT01 - WT10) and supporting and developing tourism potential of the town (WT07) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in this nearby SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with an increasing population, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999). <p><u>Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy</u></p>
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- To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SPA, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities depending on where these developments are physically located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).

Economic Development Strategy

- To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).
- To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).
- To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).
- Maximise the tourism potential of Wexford town through the development of the Wexford Town ‘Maritime Town’ brand, and planned Greenways (ED60) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in this nearby SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).
- Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).
- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects on all SCI species).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).
- Ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slob's SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic opportunities, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where potential infrastructure is located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).
- To support development and increase capacity of the county's ports (in particular, Rosslare Harbour and New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).
- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical

	<p>processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).</p> <p><u>Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999). • To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999). • To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999). • To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999). <p><u>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999). • To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A001, A017, A065, A141, A144, A395, A999).
Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA [004076]	
<p>A004 Little Grebe <i>Tachybaptus</i> <i>ruficollis</i></p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Climate Action, Core Strategy, Sustainable Housing, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Transportation Strategy, Infrastructure Strategy, Environmental Management, Landscape and Green Infrastructure, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Heritage and Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social</p>

<p>A005 Great Crested Grebe <i>Podiceps cristatus</i></p> <p>A017 Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i></p> <p>A028 Grey Heron <i>Ardea cinerea</i></p> <p>A037 Bewick's Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus</i></p> <p>A038 Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i></p> <p>A046 Light-bellied Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i></p> <p>A048 Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i></p> <p>A050 Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i></p> <p>A052 Teal <i>Anas crecca</i></p> <p>A053 Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i></p> <p>A054 Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i></p> <p>A062 Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i></p> <p>A067 Goldeneye <i>Bucephala clangula</i></p> <p>A069 Red-breasted Merganser <i>Mergus serrator</i></p> <p>A082 Hen Harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i></p> <p>A125 Coot <i>Fulica atra</i></p> <p>A130 Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i></p> <p>A140 Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i></p>	<p>Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 3 Specific Settlements, 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the long term population trends of the special conservation interest bird species the range, timing or intensity of use of areas by the special conservation interest bird species, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation the permanent area of wetland habitat, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Climate Action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, using sustainable renewable energy sources and moving to a low carbon economy (CA01, CA02, CA03, CA04, CA09, CA10, CA14, CA15, CA16, CA19) – While some measures under these objectives are likely to have a positive or protective effect on European sites, some measures may in themselves have potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of this renewable energy-generating infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities. Facilitate sustainable agriculture and transport through initiatives such as afforestation (CA17, CA19) – depends on where this afforestation is located, as it could interfere with natural systems dynamics such as those associated with wetland systems and the bird species they support. For example, afforestation could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. All of this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this planting is located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999). Promote the development of sustainable renewable energy sources such as wind, tidal and solar energy (CA16, CA17, ES03, GN02, PT02) – this could interfere with the hydrological regime (drainage conditions, groundwater levels, flood cycles, water quality) and other physical processes supporting the habitat and species. This could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999). Continue to work with the OPW in the development of flood relief schemes and the maintenance of existing flood defences (CA14) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, mainly due to affecting physical processes supporting wetland habitats and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999). <p><u>Core Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population (CS03) – depends on the area that the zoned lands encompass, which if overlapping with this SPA, or with potential effects on surface and ground water regimes, could affect physical processes
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<p>A141 Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i></p> <p>A142 Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i></p> <p>A143 Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i></p> <p>A144 Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i></p> <p>A149 Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i></p> <p>A156 Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i></p> <p>A157 Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i></p> <p>A160 Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i></p> <p>A162 Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i></p> <p>A179 Black-headed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i></p> <p>A183 Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus</i></p> <p>A195 Little Tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i></p> <p>A395 Greenland White-fronted goose <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i></p> <p>A999 Wetlands and Waterbirds</p>	<p>supporting these wetland habitats and species and could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote and facilitate the economic development of the Eastern Economic Corridor as an inter-urban regional economic driver, in particular, in Gorey Town, Enniscorthy Town, Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane and the Europort – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example, transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999). Wexford Town: allocating significant population growth to the town and delivering and facilitating new infrastructure (NT05, WT01 - WT10) and supporting and developing tourism potential of the town (WT07) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with an increasing population, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999). Enniscorthy: Allocate moderate population growth to the town; Focus on increasing employment and economic development; Further develop the town’s tourism potential; Support the delivery of the infrastructural requirements – Flood Relief Scheme. Wexford County Council will also focus on developing a Blueway between Bunclody (B40) and Enniscorthy to include adjacent cycleway and walking trail (ET01, ET02, ET05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with an increasing population, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999). <p><u>Sustainable Housing & Volume 9 Housing Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider individual rural housing in the open countryside (SH39) – areas within close proximity to the coast experience significant pressure for one off rural housing/second home development in the county, which if within or in close proximity to this SPA, could lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities depending on where these developments are physically located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999). <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999). To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example,
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expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).

- To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).
- Maximise the tourism potential of Wexford town through the development of the Wexford Town ‘Maritime Town’ brand, and planned Greenways (ED60) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Sloba SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).
- Maximise the economic opportunities offered by developing the tourism potential of Enniscorthy, both direct and indirect (ED62) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Sloba SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic potential, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).
- Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).
- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects on all SCI species).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999)
- Ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slob's SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic opportunities, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where potential infrastructure is located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).

Transportation Strategy

- To support and facilitate the transition to low carbon modes of transport within the county (TS02, TS06, TS07, TS09, TS12, TS22, TS23, TS41, WT03) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location of this transport infrastructure - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities.
- To provide amenity and tourism related cycle routes and walking trails to key tourism assets and amenities (TS29, RHK57) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).
- To support development and increase capacity of the county's ports (in particular, Rosslare Harbour and New Ross harbour) along with any associated infrastructure (for example, fish processing, wastewater treatment) (TS85, TS87, TS88, TS89, TS91) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).

Infrastructure Strategy & Volume 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure (TC08) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities and where these developments are located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).
- To facilitate the provision of new, or the reinforcement of existing flood defences and protection measures where necessary, and in particular to support the implementation of proposed flood schemes (FRM11) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county's coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county's coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).
- To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).

Recreation and Open Space Strategy

- To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046,

	<p>A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A004, A005, A017, A028, A037, A038, A046, A048, A050, A052, A053, A054, A062, A067, A069, A082, A125, A130, A140, A141, A142, A143, A144, A149, A156, A157, A160, A162, A179, A183, A195, A395, A999).
River Nore SPA [004233]	
<p>A229 Kingfisher <i>Alcedo atthis</i></p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the breeding population, abundance or distribution prey availability disturbance at breeding sites or adjacent habitat <p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A229). To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (A229). To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (A229). Maximise the tourism potential of Wexford town through the development of the Wexford Town ‘Maritime Town’ brand, and planned Greenways (ED60) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A229). Maximise the economic opportunities offered by developing the tourism potential of Enniscorthy, both direct and indirect (ED62) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species

densities in Wexford Harbour and Slob SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic potential, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A229).

- Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A229).
- To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A229).
- To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A229).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects on all SCI species).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A229).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A229).
- Ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slob SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic opportunities, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where potential infrastructure is located (A229).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county’s coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the

	<p>intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A229).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county’s coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A229). • To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A229). • To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A229). <p>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A229). • To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A229).
<p>Tramore Back Strand SPA [004027]</p>	
<p>A046 Brent Goose Branta bernicla hrota A140 Golden Plover Pluvialis apricaria A141 Grey Plover Pluvialis squatarola A142 Lapwing Vanellus vanellus</p>	<p>The policies and objectives within Volume 1 of the plan relating to Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Development, Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure Strategy, as well as proposals within Volumes 9 Housing Strategy, 10 Energy Strategy and 11 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, have the potential to affect the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of this European site by potentially affecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the long term population trends of the special conservation interest bird species • the range, timing or intensity of use of areas by the special conservation interest bird species, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation • the permanent area of wetland habitat, other than that occurring from natural patterns of variation

<p>A149 Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i></p> <p>A156 Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i></p> <p>A157 Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i></p> <p>A160 Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i></p> <p>A999 Wetlands and Waterbirds</p>	<p>Sections of the plan of particular relevance are described in more detail below.</p> <p><u>Economic Development Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop the extended Eastern Economic Corridor linking the Rosslare Europort and the Southern Region with Dublin and Belfast (ED05) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities, all due to expanding human encroachment, and resulting activities (for example transport infrastructure like roads or tourism-related infrastructure like cycleways) into natural habitats, in particular SACs and SPAs in Wexford (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999). • To raise the profile of County Wexford as an attractive location for... green and blue growth (ED27) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to, for example, expanding renewable energy developments in the coastal zone of the county (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999). • To provide and support the provision and improvement of infrastructure required to facilitate economic development including water, waste, transport and communications infrastructure (ED41) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities all depending on where this infrastructure is physically located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999). • Maximise the tourism potential of Wexford town through the development of the Wexford Town ‘Maritime Town’ brand, and planned Greenways (ED60) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Sloba SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999). • Maximise the economic opportunities offered by developing the tourism potential of Enniscorthy, both direct and indirect (ED62) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Sloba SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic potential, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999). • Facilitating marine related development at appropriate locations in the towns, villages, ports and harbours of the county (ED72, ED74, ED77, ED80) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999). • To facilitate the development of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the processing facilities that go with them (ED81, ED82) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing marine-related development, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this infrastructure is located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999). • To develop the rural economy (TV37), including through agriculture and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities (ED91) - this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in
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habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999).

Tourism Development

- To consider the development of rural based tourism development and to develop niche activities (for example, eco-tourism and bird watching holidays) (TM19) – potential for significant effects on European sites and their QIs/SCIs due to the location and operation of these tourist facilities and activities - could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities (potential effects on all SCI species).
- To support and develop our town and villages and rural heritage sites including our beaches for tourism purposes through the facilitation of links by public transport, greenways, blueways and associated infrastructure (TM14, TM29, TM30, TM33, TM53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the physical processes they may influence or change, water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999).
- To consider proposals for and facilitate tourism in the coastal zone, such as marinas, harbours, marine adventure activities, beach nourishment (TM21, TM25, TM26, TM28) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999).
- Ensure the recreational potential of the rivers Slaney and Barrow are fully realised (TM37) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities in Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing economic opportunities, the physical processes these developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where potential infrastructure is located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999).

Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning

- To ensure the sustainable development of the county's coastal areas and the maritime area (CZM01, CZM11, CZM14) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999).
- To maximise economic development potential and the development of infrastructure in the county's coastal and maritime areas (CZM03, CZM04, CZM58, CZM63, CZM64, CZM65, CZM66, CZM67, CZM68, CZM69, CZM70, CZM71) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999).
- To carry out environmentally sensitive local authority own coastal protection works (CZM31) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the development of vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sectors (CZM47) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these activities, the effects on physical processes supporting wetland and coastal habitats, nutrient and water quality changes and where these developments are located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999). <p>Recreation and Open Space Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek to promote and support access to rural areas including upland areas, forestry, coastal areas and the development of existing walking routes, pilgrim paths, mountain trails and nature trails (ROS38, ROS52, ROS53) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999). To facilitate the development of coastal and riverside pathways and walking trails and greenways (ROS35, ROS36, ROS41, ROS42, ROS43, ROS45) – this could potentially lead to loss or reduction in habitat area, species or habitat fragmentation, disturbance to key species and reduction in species densities due to the intensity and scale of these developments and activities associated with increasing access and tourism opportunities, the physical processes these activities or developments may influence or change, water quality changes and where this potential infrastructure is located (A046, A140, A141, A142, A149, A156, A157, A160, A999).
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