

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

FOR
PROPOSED EXTENSION OF DURATION
OF THE
CURRENT
MAYO COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2014
(AS VARIED)

for:

Mayo County Council

Áras an Chontae
The Mall
Castlebar
County Mayo



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council

by:

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Section 1 Introduction and Background

1.1 Introduction

This is the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report for the proposed extension of duration of the current Mayo County Development Plan adopted in 2014 and subsequently varied.

SEA is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme, alteration to a plan or programme, etc., before a decision is made to adopt it. The SEA Directive¹ requires, inter alia, that SEA is undertaken for certain plans, programmes or alterations to these. Screening is the process for deciding whether a particular plan, programme, proposal, etc., other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant SEA.

The purpose of this report is to inform: whether the proposal to extend would, or would not, be likely to have significant environmental effects, taking into account relevant criteria set out under the SEA Directive; and therefore would, or would not, necessitate the undertaking of SEA under the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2021 (SI No. 18 of 2021).

This report should be read in conjunction with the proposal to extend the duration of the current Mayo County Development Plan and all other associated documents including the:

- Mayo County Development Plan;
- SEA Environmental Report for the Mayo County Development Plan;
- Appropriate Assessment (AA) Natura Impact Report for the Mayo County Development Plan;
- Variations No. 1 and 2 to the County Development Plan and associated environmental documents; and
- Screening for AA Determination for the proposal to extend.

1.2 Proposal to Extend

As the competent authority, Mayo County Council has initiated the process of extending the Mayo County Development Plan review period. The extension is needed as, due to disruption arising from Covid-19 restrictions, an additional period will be needed to complete the review of the current Development Plan and to make a new Development Plan. The lifespan of the current Plan would be extended for a maximum period of six months until 20th September 2022.

1.3 Consultations

As part of the screening process, environmental authorities² were notified that a submission or observation in relation to whether the proposal to extend would, or would not, be likely to have significant effects on the environment may be made to the Council.

In order to help facilitate the environmental authorities' response, an earlier Draft version of this final SEA Screening Report was provided. A submission was received from the Environmental Protection Agency, which is responded to on Table 1. Further to this submission, both Galway County Council and the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (Geological Survey of Ireland) responded, indicating that they had no specific comments to make at this time.

¹ Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of Ministers, of 27th June 2001, on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment

² The following environmental authorities are being notified: Environmental Protection Agency; Department of Environment, Climate and Communications; Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine; Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media; Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage; and adjoining planning authorities.

Table 1 Response to Environmental Protection Agency Submission

| Ref. | Issue raised in submission | SEA Response |
|------|--|---|
| 1 | <p>We acknowledge your notice, dated 1st December 2021, in relation to the Draft SEA Screening Report for the Proposed Extension of Duration to the Mayo County Development Plan 2014-2020 (the 'Plan').</p> <p>The EPA is one of the statutory environmental authorities under the SEA Regulations. In our role as an SEA environmental authority, we focus on promoting the full and transparent integration of the findings of the Environmental Assessment into the Plan and advocating that the key environmental challenges for Ireland are addressed as relevant and appropriate to the plan. Our functions as an SEA environmental authority do not include approving or enforcing SEAs or plans. As a priority, we focus our efforts on reviewing and commenting on key sector plans. For land use plans at county and local level, we provide a 'self-service approach' via our attached guidance document 'SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans – EPA Recommendations and Resources'. This document is updated regularly and sets out our key recommendations for integrating environmental considerations into Local Authority land use plans. We recommend you take this guidance into account in finalising your SEA screening determination.</p> | <p>Noted. The SEA Screening process has and will continue to take the guidance document 'SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans – EPA Recommendations and Resources' into account.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Proposed SEA Determination</p> <p>We note your likely determination that SEA is not required for the Proposed Extension. Mayo County Council should determine whether implementing the extended Plan would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.</p> <p>We refer you to Schedule 2A of the SEA Regulations (S.I. No. 436 of 2004 as amended by S.I. No. 201 of 2011) which sets out the 'Criteria for determining whether a Plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment', to use to determine whether the Plan would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.</p> <p>Guidance on the SEA process, including an SEA pack and checklist available on our website at: https://www.epa.ie/our-services/monitoring--assessment/assessment/strategic-environmental-assessment/sea-resources-andguidance-/.</p> <p>We recommend that you take the available guidance into account in making your SEA Screening Determination and incorporate the relevant recommendations as relevant and appropriate to the extended Plan.</p> | <p>Following completion of this report, Mayo County Council will make a determination as to whether implementing the extended Plan would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.</p> <p>The criteria set out under Annex II of the SEA Directive (Schedule 2A of the SEA Regulations) and the EPA's Guidance on the SEA process has and will be taken into account through the SEA Screening process.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Sustainable Development</p> <p>In proposing and in implementing the extended Plan. Mayo County Council should ensure that the Plan is consistent with the need for proper planning and sustainable development. Adequate and appropriate critical service infrastructure should be in place, or required to be put in place, to service any development proposed and authorised during the lifetime of the Plan.</p> <p>In considering the extended Plan, Mayo County Council should take into account the need to align with national commitments on climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as incorporating any relevant recommendations in sectoral, regional and local climate adaptation plans.</p> | <p>Noted. Mayo County Council will ensure that implementation of the Plan: provides for proper planning and sustainable development; and ensures that appropriate responses to critical infrastructure and climate action needs are integrated where relevant.</p> |
| 4 | <p>Mayo County Council should also ensure that the extended Plan aligns with key relevant higher-level plans and programmes and is consistent with the relevant objectives and policy commitments of the National Planning Framework and the Northern & Western Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.</p> | <p>Noted. Mayo County Council will ensure that implementation of the Plan will aligns with and is consistent with higher-level plans and programmes, including the National Planning Framework and Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.</p> |
| 5 | <p>Guidance & Resources</p> <p>Our website contains various SEA resources and guidance, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SEA process guidance and checklists - Inventory of spatial datasets relevant to SEA - topic specific SEA guidance (including Good practice note on Cumulative Effects Assessment (EPA, 2020), Guidance on SEA Statements and Monitoring (EPA, 2020), Integrating climatic factors into SEA (EPA, 2019), Developing and Assessing Alternatives in SEA (EPA, 2015), and Integrated Biodiversity Impact Assessment (EPA, 2012)) <p>You can access these guidance notes and other resources at: https://www.epa.ie/ourservices/monitoring--assessment/assessment/strategic-environmentalassessment/sea-topic-and-sector-specific-guidance-/</p> <p>Environmental Sensitivity Mapping (ESM) WebTool</p> <p>This new tool was launched recently by the EPA. It is a new decision support tool to assist SEA and planning processes in Ireland. It is available at www.enviromap.ie. The tool brings together over 100 datasets and allows users to create plan-specific environmental sensitivity maps. These maps can help planners examine environmental considerations, anticipate potential land-use conflicts, and help identify suitable development locations while also protecting the environment.</p> <p>EPA SEA WebGIS Tool</p> <p>Our SEA WebGIS Tool has been updated recently and is now publicly available at https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/SEA. It allows public authorities to produce an indicative report on key aspects of the environment in a specific geographic area. It is intended to assist public authorities in SEA screening and scoping exercises.</p> <p>EPA WFD Application</p> <p>Our WFD Application provides access to water quality and catchment data from the national WFD monitoring programme. The Application is accessed through EDEN https://wfd.edenireland.ie/ and is available to public agencies. Publicly available data can be accessed via the www.catchments.ie website.</p> <p>EPA AA GeoTool</p> <p>Our AA GeoTool application has been developed in partnership with the NPWS. It allows users to select a location, specify a search area and gather available information for each European Site within the area. It is available at: https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/AAGeoTool.</p> | <p>Noted. These tools, applications, guidance and resources have and will be taken into account through the SEA Screening process.</p> |

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| Ref. | Issue raised in submission | SEA Response |
|------|--|--|
| 6 | <p>Environmental Authorities</p> <p>Under the SEA Regulations, prior to making your SEA determination you should consult with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Protection Agency; • Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage • Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications; and • Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine. • any adjoining planning authority whose area is contiguous to the area of a planning authority which prepared a draft plan, proposed variation or local area plan. | <p>Noted. The relevant environmental authorities have been consulted with through the SEA Screening process.</p> |
| 7 | <p>SEA Determination</p> <p>As soon as practicable after making your final determination as to whether SEA is required or not, you should make a copy of your decision, including, as appropriate, the reasons for not requiring an environmental assessment, available for public inspection in your offices and on your website. You should also send a copy of your determination to the relevant environmental authorities consulted.</p> | <p>Noted. Following the making of the determination, a copy of the decision, including, the reasons for not requiring an environmental assessment, will be made available for public inspection in the Council's offices and on the Council's website. A copy of the determination will also be sent to the environmental authorities consulted.</p> |
| 8 | <p>If you have any queries or need further information in relation to this submission, please contact me directly. I would be grateful if you could send an email confirming receipt of this submission to: sea@epa.ie.</p> | <p>None.</p> |

Section 2 SEA Screening

2.1 Introduction

The section examines whether the proposal to extend would be likely to have significant environmental effects (and thus would warrant the undertaking of SEA).

This examination takes account of relevant criteria set out Annex II of the SEA Directive (see Section 2.4).

2.2 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Appropriate Assessment (AA) is an impact assessment process concerning *Natura 2000*, or *European*, sites - these sites have been designated or proposed for designation by virtue of their ecological importance. The Habitats Directive³ and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) provide the requirement to screen for effects on European Sites. If the effects are deemed to be *significant, potentially significant or uncertain* then Stage 2 AA must be undertaken.

The proposal to extend the duration of the current Development Plan has been subject to a Screening for AA process in order to establish whether or not AA must be undertaken. The conclusion of the Screening for AA process is that the proposal will not affect the integrity of any European site.

2.3 Screening Analysis

The analysis of the proposal to extend the duration is undertaken with reference to the main interactions with Strategic Environmental Objectives⁴ (SEOs). SEOs are taken from the current Mayo County Development Plan SEA and are detailed in full at Table 2.1. The range of interactions identified with symbols are detailed on Table 2.2.

Using the SEO codes (Table 2.1) and interaction symbols (Table 2.2), Table 2.3 examines whether each relevant part of the Proposed Variation would be likely to have significant environmental effects (and thus would warrant the undertaking of SEA).

Table 2.3 is supplemented by Table 2.4 which provides details on:

- The likely significant effects of implementing the extended Plan, if unmitigated;
- Key mitigation measure(s) in force under the current Mayo County Development Plan that any projects under the Plan as extended would be required to comply with; and
- Residual non-significant adverse effects arising from the extended Plan.

Effects encompass the full range of effects⁵, including those arising cumulatively – such as those potentially arising as a result of interactions with other plans and programmes.

The examination of Proposal also takes into account relevant criteria set out under Annex II of the SEA Directive '*Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in Article 3(5)*' (see Section 2.4).

The current Mayo County Development Plan sits within a hierarchy of strategic actions such as plans and programmes and is subject to a number of high-level environmental protection and management policies

³ Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora

⁴ Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) are methodological measures developed from policies which generally govern environmental protection objectives established at international, Community or Member State level and are used as standards against which the provisions of the Plan can be considered in order to help identify whether any provisions would be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

⁵ These include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects

and objectives with which the implementation of the Plan must comply (including those detailed in Appendix I). The Plan is already being implemented within areas that have existing plans and programmes for a range of sectors at a range of levels (e.g. National, River Basin District, Regional, County and Local) that are already subject to more specific higher and lower tier SEA and AA. The implementation of the Plan and the proposal to extend it in order for a new Plan to be made are consistent with such plans, programmes and legislation and may, in turn, guide lower level strategic actions. In this regard, Appendix I includes statutory provisions, plans, policies and strategies that set the context within which the implementation of the current Plan and associated proposal to extend the duration of the Plan are framed.

Table 2.1 Strategic Environmental Objectives

| Environmental Component | SEO Code | Strategic Environmental Objectives |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna | B1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To protect, conserve and restore habitats and species of local, national and international importance and interdependent species and habitats within the wider environment |
| Population and Human Health | P1 HH1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure population growth is managed within a sustainable framework to reduce any potential impact a dispersed rural population may have on the environmental quality of the County To protect human health by the minimisation of pollution incidences to water, air and soil and increased traffic arising from incompatible land uses or development in inappropriate locations |
| Soil (and Land) | SG1 SG2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify and protect areas which may be deemed to have a significant risk of landslide or erosion To maximise the sustainable re-use of brownfield lands, and maximise the use of the existing built environment rather than developing greenfield lands SG3 To ensure sustainable quarrying of non-renewable sand, gravel and rock deposits and to protect the IGH sites as identified by the GSI |
| Water | W1 W2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To prevent deterioration of the status of waters with regard to quality, quantity and to improve status for rivers, lakes, transitional and coastal waters and groundwaters to at least good status, in accordance with the Water Framework Directive and associated legislation and plans (Western River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015, Pollution Reduction Plans for shellfish and <i>M. margaritifera</i> sub-basin management plans) To achieve and maintain required water quality standards and reduce discharges of pollutants or contamination to waters |
| Material Assets | T1 T2 T3 W1 W2 WW1 DW1 DW2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To protect the road network of Mayo To continue to maintain and protect the piers and harbours of Mayo in an environmentally-sensitive manner with due consideration for water quality of designated and non-designated sites To continue to develop and promote the Great Western Greenway and other cycle / walking routes while ensuring no significant adverse effects on the environment, including the integrity of Natura 2000 sites. To reduce waste volumes through an integrated approach incorporating education and awareness and to increase reuse of waste by recycling and recovery To divert biowaste from landfill and reduce of landfill emissions To serve new development under the County Development Plan with appropriate waste water treatment To serve new development under the County Development Plan with appropriate waste water treatment To maintain and / or improve drinking water quality and quantity throughout the county |
| Air and Climatic Factors | AR1 AR2 N1 CF1 CF2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain and improve air quality status in line with appropriate policies and legislative requirements To minimise increases in travel related air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions To avoid, prevent and reduce on a prioritised basis exposure to unacceptable levels of environmental noise To keep areas free of development that would be subject to an inappropriate risk of flooding or would cause or exacerbate such a risk at other locations To protect aquatic and terrestrial habitats from the spread of invasive species |

| Environmental Component | SEO Code | Strategic Environmental Objectives |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Cultural Heritage | A1 AH1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect the archaeological heritage and especially sites identified in the Record of Monuments and Places, National Monuments in the ownership or guardianship of the State and National Monuments that are subject to Preservation Orders and to safeguard the integrity of the archaeological sites in their setting • To protect and where appropriate, enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of the architectural heritage of County Mayo |
| Landscape | L1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect Mayo's sensitive landscapes, vulnerable landscape features and listed highly scenic views, scenic views, scenic viewing points, scenic routes and to protect the visual amenity of Mayo |

Table 2.2 Main Interactions and associated Symbols

| Symbol | Main Interactions Identified |
|---------------|--|
| + | Potential beneficial environmental effects that would arise from the existing Plan in combination with the wider planning framework and the extension are present already and would be further contributed towards for a maximum period of six months |
| - | Potential adverse effects that would arise from the existing Plan in combination with the wider planning framework and the six month (maximum) extension are present already and were envisaged and mitigated by the original SEA of the existing Plan |
| * | Please also refer to Section 2.2 |

Table 2.3 SEA Screening Analysis of Proposal to Extend Duration

| Description of Proposal | SEO Codes (see Table 2.2) for Main Interactions | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Additional SEA Screening Comments |
|-------------------------|--|------|-----|------------|----------|----------------|----------|-----|------------|------------|-----|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------------------------|
| | B1 | P1 | HH1 | SG1 SG2 | W1 W2 | T1 T2 T3 | W1 W2 | WW1 | DW1 DW2 | AR1 AR2 | N1 | CF1 CF2 | A1 | AH1 | L1 | |
| | <p><i>As the competent authority, Mayo County Council has initiated the process of extending the Mayo County Development Plan review period. The extension is needed as, due to disruption arising from Covid-19 restrictions, an additional period will be needed to complete the review of the current Development Plan and to make a new Development Plan. The lifespan of the current Plan would be extended for a maximum period of six months until 20th September 2022.</i></p> | -/+* | -/+ | -/+ | -/+ | -/+ | -/+ | -/+ | -/+ | -/+ | -/+ | -/+# | -/+ | -/+ | -/+ | |

Table 2.4 Detail of effects⁶, if unmitigated, mitigation measures for potential effects and residual adverse effects

| Environmental Component | Environmental Effects, in combination with the wider planning framework Effects include in-combination effects that are planned for through the wider planning framework including the National Development Plan 2021 and associated National Planning Framework, the Northern and Western RSES, sectoral plans contributing towards environmental protection and management including the Climate Action Plan 2021 and the National River Basin Management Plan 2018, adjacent Development Plans and lower-tier land use plans – see Appendix I | | | Mitigation Measures, integrated into the Plan, including the following: | SEO Codes |
|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------|
| | Significant Positive Effect, likely to occur | Potentially Significant Adverse Environmental Effects, if unmitigated | Likely Residual Adverse Non-Significant Effects | | |
| All | All | All | All | Monitoring of Environmental Impacts MEI-01 | All |
| Biodiversity and Flora and Fauna | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution towards protection of ecology (including designated sites, ecological connectivity, habitats) by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. Contribution towards the maintenance of existing green infrastructure and associated ecosystem services, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats. Contribution towards protection and/or maintenance of biodiversity and flora and fauna by contributing towards the protection of natural capital including the environmental vectors of air, water and soil. Biodiversity and flora and fauna includes biodiversity in designated sites (including European Sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species (including birds and bats), listed/protected species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats (including terrestrial and aquatic habitats), and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna – including terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity and flora and fauna. Sustains existing sustainable rural management practices – and the communities who support them – to ensure the continuation of long-established managed landscapes and the flora and fauna that they contain. | <p>Arising from both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of/damage to biodiversity in designated sites (including European Sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna; Habitat loss, fragmentation and deterioration, including patch size and edge effects; and Disturbance (e.g. due to noise and lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species such as birds and bats. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of an extent of non-protected habitats and species arising from the replacement of semi-natural land covers with artificial surfaces. Losses or damage to ecology (these would be in compliance with relevant legislation). | Coastal Zone Management & Protection CZ-01 to CZ-05 Landscape Protection LP-01 to LP-03 Heritage GH-01 Natural Heritage NH-01 to NH-09 Natural Recreation, Amenities & Open Space NR-01 Access to Heritage and Amenities AC-01 to AC-03 Physical and Social Infrastructure Policy P-07 to Objective O-04 Green Infrastructure Policy P-08 to Objective O-05 Natural and Cultural Heritage Policy P-09 to Objective O-06 | B1 |
| Population and Human Health | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of economic growth to encourage retention of working age population and funding of sustainable development and environmental protection and management. Contribution towards appropriate provision of infrastructure and services to existing population and planned growth by facilitating compact development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond Contribution towards the protection of human health by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential adverse effects arising from flood events. Potential interactions if effects arising from environmental vectors. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential interactions with residual effects on environmental vectors – please refer to residual adverse effects under "Soil", "Water" and "Air and Climatic Factors" below. | Air Quality & Noise AN-01 to AN-03 Flooding & Soil Erosion FS-01 to FS-02 Water Quality WQ-01 to WQ-03 Natural Recreation, Amenities & Open Space NR-01 Access to Heritage and Amenities AC-01 to AC-03 Physical and Social Infrastructure Policy P-07 to Objective O-04 Green Infrastructure Policy P-08 to Objective O-05 | P1 HH1 |

⁶ Environmental effects of implementing the Plan, including in combination with the wider planning framework

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| Environmental Component | Environmental Effects, in combination with the wider planning framework Effects include in-combination effects that are planned for through the wider planning framework including the National Development Plan 2021 and associated National Planning Framework, the Northern and Western RSES, sectoral plans contributing towards environmental protection and management including the Climate Action Plan 2021 and the National River Basin Management Plan 2018, adjacent Development Plans and lower-tier land use plans – see Appendix I | | Mitigation Measures, integrated into the Plan, including the following: | SEO Codes | |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|
| | <p>can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributes towards protection of human health as a result of contributing towards the protection of natural capital including environmental vectors, including air and water. | | | | |
| Soil | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution towards the protection of soils (including those used for agriculture) and designated sites of geological heritage by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. Contribution towards the protection of the environment from contamination the highest standards of remediation, and where appropriate to consultations with the EPA and other relevant bodies, will be required to resolve any instances of environmental pollution created by contaminated land. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential adverse effects on the hydrogeological and ecological function of the soil resource, including as a result of development on contaminated lands. Potential for riverbank erosion. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of an extent of soil function arising from the replacement of semi-natural land covers with artificial surfaces. | <p>Flooding & Soil Erosion FS-01 to FS-02 Water Quality WQ-01 to WQ-03 Heritage GH-01 Natural Recreation, Amenities & Open Space NR-01 Access to Heritage and Amenities AC-01 to AC-03</p> | <p>SG1 SG2</p> |
| Water | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution towards the protection of water by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. Contributions towards the protection of water resources including the status of surface and groundwaters and water-based designations. Contribution towards flood risk management and appropriate drainage. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential adverse effects upon the status of water bodies and entries to the WFD Register of Protected Areas (ecological and human value), arising from changes in quality, flow and/or morphology. Increase in flood risk and associated effects associated with flood events. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any increased loadings as a result of development to comply with the River Basin Management Plan. Flood related risks remain due to uncertainty with regard to extreme weather events – however such risks will be mitigated by measures that have been integrated into the Plan. | <p>Flooding & Soil Erosion FS-01 to FS-02 Water Quality WQ-01 to WQ-03 Natural Recreation, Amenities & Open Space NR-01 Access to Heritage and Amenities AC-01 to AC-03 Physical and Social Infrastructure Policy P-07 to Objective O-04 Green Infrastructure Policy P-08 to Objective O-05</p> | <p>W1 W2</p> |
| Material Assets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution towards appropriate provision of infrastructure and services to existing population and planned growth by facilitating compact development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. Contribution towards compliance with national and regional water services and waste management policies. Contribution towards increase in renewable energy use by facilitating renewable energy and electricity transmission infrastructure developments. Contribution towards limits in increases in energy demand from the transport sector by facilitating sustainable compact growth. Contribution towards reductions in average energy consumption per capita including promoting energy efficient buildings, retrofitting, smart buildings, cities and grids. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to provide adequate and appropriate waste water treatment (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts). Failure to adequately treat surface water run-off that is discharged to water bodies (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts). Failure to comply with drinking water regulations and serve new development with adequate drinking water (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts). Increases in waste levels. Potential impacts upon public assets and infrastructure. Interactions between agriculture and soil, water, biodiversity and human health - including phosphorous and nitrogen deposition as a result of agricultural activities and the production of secondary inorganic particulate matter. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceedance of capacity in critical infrastructure risks remain, including due to uncertainty with regard to climate – however, such risks will be mitigated by: measures, including those requiring the timely provision of critical infrastructure, and compliance with the Water Framework Directive and associated River Basin Management Plan. Residual wastes to be disposed of in line with higher-level waste management policies. Any impacts upon public assets and infrastructure to comply with statutory planning/consent-granting framework. | <p>Flooding & Soil Erosion FS-01 to FS-02 Archaeological Heritage AoH-01 Architectural Heritage AH-01 to AH-13 Heritage GH-01 Natural Recreation, Amenities & Open Space NR-01 Access to Heritage and Amenities AC-01 to AC-03 Physical and Social Infrastructure Policy P-07 to Objective O-04 Green Infrastructure Policy P-08 to Objective O-05 Natural and Cultural Heritage Policy P-09 to Objective O-06</p> | <p>T1 T2 T3 W1 W2 WW1 DW1 DW2</p> |

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| Environmental Component | Environmental Effects, in combination with the wider planning framework Effects include in-combination effects that are planned for through the wider planning framework including the National Development Plan 2021 and associated National Planning Framework, the Northern and Western RSES, sectoral plans contributing towards environmental protection and management including the Climate Action Plan 2021 and the National River Basin Management Plan 2018, adjacent Development Plans and lower-tier land use plans – see Appendix I | | | Mitigation Measures, integrated into the Plan, including the following: | SEO Codes |
|---------------------------------|--|---|--|---|---|
| Air and Climatic Factors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution towards climate mitigation and adaptation by facilitating compact development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-serviced lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. In combination with other plans, programmes etc., contribution towards the objectives of the wide policy framework relating to climate mitigation and adaptation, and associated contribution towards maintaining and improving air quality and managing noise levels, including through measures relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable compact growth; Sustainable mobility, including walking, cycling and public transport; and Drainage, flood risk management and resilience; Sectors including agriculture, forestry, energy and buildings. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential conflict between development under the Plan and aiming to reduce carbon emissions in line with local, national and European environmental objectives. Potential conflicts between transport emissions, including those from cars, and air quality. Potential conflicts between increased frequency of noise emissions and protection of sensitive receptors. Potential conflicts with climate adaptation measures including those relating to flood risk management. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An extent of travel related greenhouse gas and other emissions to air. This has been mitigated by provisions which have been integrated into the Plan, including those relating to sustainable compact growth and sustainable mobility. Interactions between noise emissions and sensitive receptors. Various provisions have been integrated into the Plan to ensure that noise levels at sensitive receptors will be minimised. | General approach to compact development, place-making and sustainable mobility provided for by the Plan. Climate Change CC-01 to CC-02 Air Quality & Noise AN-01 to AN-03 Flooding & Soil Erosion FS-01 to FS-02 | AR1 AR2 N1 CF1 CF2 |
| Cultural Heritage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributes towards protection of cultural heritage elsewhere in the County by facilitating development within existing settlements. Contributes towards protection of cultural heritage within existing settlements by facilitating brownfield development and regeneration. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential effects on protected and unknown archaeology and protected architecture arising from construction and operation activities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential effects on known architectural and archaeological heritage and unknown archaeology however, these will occur in compliance with legislation. | Archaeological Heritage AoH-01 Architectural Heritage AH-01 to AH-13 Access to Heritage and Amenities AC-01 to AC-03 Natural and Cultural Heritage Policy P-09 to Objective O-06 | A1 AH1 |
| Landscape | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributes towards protection of wider landscape and landscape designations by facilitating development within existing settlements. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occurrence of adverse visual impacts and conflicts with the appropriate protection of designations relating to the landscape. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscapes will change overtime as a result of natural changes in vegetation cover combined with new developments that will occur in compliance with the Plan's landscape protection measures. | Landscape Protection LP-01 to LP-03 Views and Prospects VP-01 | L1 |

2.4 Annex II of the SEA Directive

PART 1

1. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources*

The current County Development Plan provides a framework for the proper planning and sustainable development of County Mayo. The Proposal is to extend the Plan would be extended for a maximum period of six months until 20th September 2022.

Mayo County Council has assessed the degree to which the existing, currently in force County Development Plan provides for development that appropriately reflects the existing, relevant Statutory National and Regional Guidelines for proper planning and sustainable development for the County. The Council have found that the current Plan remains consistent with the aims and objectives of the relevant Statutory National and Regional Guidelines, being the National Planning Framework 2040 and the North Western Regional Assembly's Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2020-2032.

Furthermore:

- Apart from the lifespan of the Plan, the proposal does not affect the provisions of the current Plan that are already in force;
- The Plan sits within a hierarchy of strategic actions (including those detailed in Appendix I) that provide a number of high-level environmental protection and management policies and objectives with which implementation of the Plan must comply;
- The implementation of the Plan and the proposal to extend it in order for a new Plan to be made are consistent with such plans, programmes and legislation and may, in turn, guide lower level strategic actions; and
- The proposal to extend the Plan is for a maximum period of six months until 20th September 2022

Potential adverse effects that would arise from the existing Plan in combination with the wider planning framework and the extension are present already and were envisaged and mitigated by the original SEA of the existing Plan. The presence of these effects will be extended by a further six months, however; they are likely to be present once the new Plan is adopted in any case. Any future development under the extended Plan would have to be subject to the various provisions of the existing Plan that relate to sustainable development and the protection and management of the environment (as well as the other provisions from the hierarchy of strategic actions detailed in Appendix I) – see Table 2.4. Considering these provisions, any residual adverse environmental effects occurring would not be significant.

Positive effects that would arise from the existing Plan in combination with the wider planning framework and the extension are present already, were envisaged by the original SEA of the existing Plan and would be further contributed towards. In this way, the extended Plan would further contribute towards the environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development that is already provided for by the current Plan. The presence of these positive effects will be extended by a further six months, however; they are likely to be present once the new Plan is adopted in any case.

Taking the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the degree to which the Plan and the Proposal would set a framework for projects and other activities, the Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

2. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the degree to which the plan influences other plans, including those in a hierarchy*

The Proposal is to extend the current Plan. The current Plan provides a framework for the proper planning and sustainable development of County Mayo. Implementation of the current Plan is influenced by higher-level legislation, plans and programmes and it influences lower-tier plans. Any future development under the Plan would have to comply with the various provisions of the Plan that relate to sustainable development and the protection and management of the environment, as well as those of the wider planning framework – see Table 2.4.

Taking the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the degree to which the Plan and the Proposal would influence other plans, the Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

3. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development*

The current Plan - to which the Proposal relates - has undergone SEA. This process integrated environmental considerations into the Plan and found that the Plan contributes towards environmental protection and management and sustainable development. Implementation of the current Plan, including in-combination with the wider planning framework, contributes towards the integration of environmental considerations in decision-making and sustainable development

Taking the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the degree to which the Plan and the Proposal would be relevant for the integration of environmental considerations with a view to promoting sustainable development, the Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

4. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: environmental problems relevant to the plan*

Environmental problems arise where there is a conflict between current environmental conditions and legislative targets. Through its provisions relating to environmental protection and management, the Plan contributes towards ensuring that environmental conditions do not get worse and, where possible, they contribute towards its amelioration.

Taking the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from environmental problems relevant to the Plan and the Proposal, the Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

5. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the relevance of the plan for the implementation of European Union legislation on the environment (e.g. plans linked to waste-management or water protection)*

The current Plan relates to the land use and town planning sector and has fulfilled requirements in relation to SEA. This process integrated considerations with regard to EU and national legislation on the environment, including those relating to the waste management and the Water Framework Directive. Furthermore, the Plan sits within a hierarchy of strategic actions that provide a number of high-level environmental protection and management policies and objectives with which implementation of the Plan must comply.

Taking the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the relevance of the Plan and the Proposal for the implementation of European Union legislation on the environment, the Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects

PART 2

1. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the cumulative nature of the effects

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

3. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the transboundary nature of the effects

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

4. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

5. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

6. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:

- a) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;**
The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).
- b) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values, and;**
The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).
- c) intensive land-use.**
The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

7. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, European Union or international protection status

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

Section 3 Conclusion

Screening is the process for deciding whether a particular plan, programme, proposal, etc., other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant SEA.

The current Mayo County Development Plan, as varied, provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Mayo County Council. The purpose of this report is to inform: whether the proposal to extend would, or would not, be likely to have significant environmental effects, taking into account relevant criteria set out under the SEA Directive; and therefore would, or would not, necessitate the undertaking of SEA under the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2021 (SI No. 18 of 2021).

This SEA Screening Report has examined the Proposal, including against relevant criteria set out in Annex II '*Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in Article 3(5)*' of the SEA Directive.

Taking into account this examination, the findings of which are provided in this report, it is advised that the proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

This SEA Screening Report is an updated version of an earlier Draft SEA Screening Report that was circulated to environmental authorities as part of the required SEA Screening consultations. This report, which takes into account responses from environmental authorities, will be referred to Mayo County Council for an SEA Screening Determination.

Appendix I Relationship with Legislation and Other Plans and Programmes

This appendix is not intended to be a full and comprehensive review of EU Directives, the transposing regulations or the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. The information is not exhaustive and it is recommended to consult the Directive, Regulation, Plan or Programme to become familiar with the full details of each.

| Legislation, Plan, etc. | Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective | Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc. | Relevance to the Plan and associated Proposal |
|---|---|---|---|
| International/ European Level SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. Provide for a high level of protection of the environment by carrying out an environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out an environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive. Prepare an environmental report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives that consider the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme. Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission. Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects. Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme. Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive. Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. Aims to assess and implement avoidance or mitigation measures to eliminate environmental effects, before consent is given of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to a requirement for development consent and an assessment with regard to their effects. Those projects are defined in Article 4. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA. For projects listed in Annex II, a "screening procedure" is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account Annex III. The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor. Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of community interest. Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species. Establish a network of European sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, to enable the natural habitat types and the species' habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range. Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present. Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats. Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation. The species included in Annex I shall be the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1. Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas). Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones, re-establish destroyed biotopes and creation of biotopes. Measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I is required as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. The protection of wetlands and particularly wetlands of international importance. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and – preventing further such pollution. | <p>Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme is designed to prevent pollution of surface waters and ground water from agricultural sources and to protect and improve water quality. Ireland's third NAP came into operation in 2014. Each Member State's NAP must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a limit on the amount of livestock manure applied to the land each year set periods when land spreading is prohibited due to risk | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply |

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| Legislation, Plan, etc. | Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective | Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc. | Relevance to the Plan and associated Proposal |
|---|--|---|---|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> set capacity levels for the storage of livestock manure | with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive (2008/1/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of this Directive is to achieve integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from the activities listed in Annex I. It lays down measures designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions in the air, water and land from the abovementioned activities, including measures concerning waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole, without prejudice to Directive 85/337/EEC and other relevant Community provisions. | <p>The IPPC Directive is based on several principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an integrated approach best available techniques, flexibility; and public participation | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Directive aims at reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment by introducing different targets, tools and measures such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM) or National Action Plans (NAPs). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Framework Directive applies to pesticides which are plant protection products. Regarding pesticide application equipment already in professional use, the Framework Directive introduces requirements for the inspection and maintenance to be carried out on such equipment. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU Renewables Directive (2009/28/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Renewable Energy Directive establishes an overall policy for the production and promotion of energy from renewable sources in the EU. It requires the EU to fulfil at least 20% of its total energy needs with renewables by 2020 – to be achieved through the attainment of individual national targets. All EU countries must also ensure that at least 10% of their transport fuels come from renewable sources by 2020. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Directive promotes cooperation amongst EU countries (and with countries outside the EU) to help them meet their renewable energy targets. The Directive specifies national renewable energy targets for each country, taking into account its starting point and overall potential for renewables. EU countries set out how they plan to meet these targets and the general course of their renewable energy policy in national renewable energy action plans. Progress towards national targets is measured every two years when EU countries publish national renewable energy progress reports. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Indirect Land Use Change Directive (2012/0288 (COD)) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 3(4) of Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (3) requires Member States to ensure that the share of energy from renewable energy sources in all forms of transport in 2020 is at least 10 % of their final energy consumption. The blending of biofuels is one of the methods available for Member States to meet this target, and is expected to be the main contributor. Other methods available to meet the target are the reduction of energy consumption, which is imperative because a mandatory percentage target for energy from renewable sources is likely to become increasingly difficult to achieve sustainably if overall demand for energy for transport continues to rise, and the use of electricity from renewable energy sources. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit the contribution that conventional biofuels (with a risk of ILUC emissions) make towards attainment of the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive; Improve the greenhouse gas performance of biofuel production processes (reducing associated emissions) by raising the greenhouse gas saving threshold for new installations subject to protecting installations already in operation on 1st July 2014; Encourage a greater market penetration of advanced (low-ILUC) biofuels by allowing such fuels to contribute more to the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive than conventional biofuels; Improve the reporting of greenhouse gas emissions by obliging Member States and fuel suppliers to report the estimated indirect land-use change emissions of biofuels. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (2014/94/EU) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive establishes a common framework of measures for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure in the Union in order to minimise dependence on oil and to mitigate the environmental impact of transport. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive sets out minimum requirements for the building-up of alternative fuels infrastructure, including recharging points for electric vehicles and refuelling points for natural gas (LNG and CNG) and hydrogen, to be implemented by means of Member States' national policy frameworks, as well as common technical specifications for such recharging and refuelling points, and user information requirements. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes a set of binding measures to help the EU reach its 20% energy efficiency target by 2020. Under the Directive, all EU countries are required to use energy more efficiently at all stages of the energy chain, from production to final consumption. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy distributors or retail energy sales companies have to achieve 1.5% energy savings per year through the implementation of energy efficiency measures EU countries can opt to achieve the same level of savings through other means, such as improving the efficiency of heating systems, installing double glazed windows or insulating roofs | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply |

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|--|---|--|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The public sector in EU countries should purchase energy efficient buildings, products and services Every year, governments in EU countries must carry out energy efficient renovations on at least 3% (by floor area) of the buildings they own and occupy Energy consumers should be empowered to better manage consumption. This includes easy and free access to data on consumption through individual metering National incentives for SMEs to undergo energy audits Large companies will make audits of their energy consumption to help them identify ways to reduce it Monitoring efficiency levels in new energy generation capacities. | <p>with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive lays down rules for the prevention of major accidents which involve dangerous substances, and the limitation of their consequences for human health and the environment, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection throughout the Union in a consistent and effective manner. | <p>The Seveso Directive is well integrated with other EU policies, thus avoiding double regulation or other administrative burden. This includes the following related policy areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals; The Union's Civil Protection Mechanism; The Security Union Agenda including CBRN-E and Protection of critical infrastructure; Policy on environmental liability and on the protection of the environment through criminal law; Safety of offshore oil and gas operations. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>European Union Biodiversity Strategy to 2020</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims to halt or reverse biodiversity loss and speed up the EU's transition towards a resource efficient and green economy. Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them in so far as feasible. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines six targets and twenty actions to aid European Union in halting the loss to biodiversity and eco-system services. The six targets cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity Maintaining, enhancing and protecting for ecosystems, and green infrastructure Ensuring sustainable agriculture, and forestry Sustainable management of fish stocks Reducing invasive alien species Addressing the global need to contribute towards averting global biodiversity loss | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>EU Green Infrastructure Strategy</p> | <p>Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas. Supporting EU-level GI projects. Improving access to finance for GI projects. Improving information and promoting innovation. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>UNESCO (1972) The Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> links concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties; and recognizes the way in which people interact with nature, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sets out the duties of States Parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them; each country pledges to conserve not only the World Heritage sites situated on its territory, but also to protect its national heritage; encourages to integrate the protection of the cultural and natural heritage into regional planning programmes, set up staff and services at their sites, undertake scientific and technical conservation research and adopt measures which give this heritage a function in the day-to-day life of the community. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>UN (1992) The Convention on Biological Diversity</p> | <p>An overall objective is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.</p> | <p>The Convention has three main goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity); the sustainable use of its components; and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |

SEA Screening Report

| Legislation, Plan, etc. | Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective | Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc. | Relevance to the Plan and associated Proposal |
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| UN (1992) Framework Convention on Climate Change | It is aimed at stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. | The Convention acknowledges the vulnerability of all countries to the effects of climate change and calls for special efforts to ease the consequences, especially in developing countries which lack the resources to do so on their own. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| UN Kyoto Protocol (2nd Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement) | <p>The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol.</p> <p>At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II). EU member states implement measures to improve on or compliment the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP. Under COP21, governments agreed to come together every 5 years to set more ambitious targets as required by science; report to each other and the public on how well they are doing to implement their targets; track progress towards the long-term goal through a robust transparency and accountability system. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Binding legislation which aims to ensure the European Union meets its climate and energy targets for 2020. Aims to achieve a 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels. Aims to raise the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20%. Achieve a 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency. | <p>Four pieces of complimentary legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reform of the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) to include a cap on emission allowances in addition to existing system of national caps. Member States have agreed national targets for non-EU ETS emissions from countries outside the EU. Meet the national renewable energy targets of 16% for Ireland by 2020. Preparing a legal framework for technologies in carbon capture and storage. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 2030 Framework for climate and energy, including EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period between 2020 and 2030 that has been agreed by European countries. Targets include a 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels, at least a 27% share of renewable energy consumption and at least 27% energy savings compared with the business-as-usual scenario. | <p>To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A reformed EU emissions trading scheme (ETS). New indicators for the competitiveness and security of the energy system, such as price differences with major trading partners, diversification of supply, and interconnection capacity between EU countries. First ideas for a new governance system based on national plans for competitive, secure, and sustainable energy. These plans will follow a common EU approach. They will ensure stronger investor certainty, greater transparency, enhanced policy coherence and improved coordination across the EU. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC) (EU Air Framework Directive) Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive). Sets new air quality objectives for PM_{2.5} (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives. Allows the possibility for time extensions of three years (PM₁₀) or up to five years (NO₂, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission. The Fourth Daughter Directive lists pollutants, target values and monitoring requirements for the following: arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets objectives for ambient air quality designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole. Aims to assess the ambient air quality in Member States on the basis of common methods and criteria. Obtains information on ambient air quality in order to help combat air pollution and nuisance and to monitor long-term trends and improvements resulting from national and community measures. Ensures that such information on ambient air quality is made available to the public. Aims to maintain air quality where it is good and improving it in other cases. Aims to promote increased cooperation between the Member States in reducing air pollution. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Noise Directive (2002/49/EC) | The Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source. | <p>The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw up strategic noise maps for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators and use these maps to assess the number of people which may be impacted upon as a result of excessive noise levels; Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise. <p>The Directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities.</p> | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| Floods Directive (2007/60/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess all water courses and coast lines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps outlining the extent or potential of flooding and assets and humans at risk in these areas at River Basin District level (Article 3(2) (b)) and areas covered by Article 5(1) and Article 13(1) (b) in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3. Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above. Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies to include inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater and their dependent wildlife and habitats. Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain “good status” of water bodies. Promote sustainable water usage. The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive Sampling Drinking Water Directive Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive Shellfish Directive Freshwater Fish Directive Groundwater (Dangerous Substances) Directive Dangerous Substances Directive | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive. Achieve "good status" for all waters. Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts. Involve the public and streamline legislation. Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas. Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas. Recover costs for water services. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, control and conserve groundwater. Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater. Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive. Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve and maintain the quality of water intended for human consumption. Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set values applicable to water intended for human consumption for the parameters set out in Annex I. Set values for additional parameters not included in Annex I, where the protection of human health within national territory or part of it so requires. The values set should, as a minimum, satisfy the requirements of Article 4(1) (a). Implement all measures necessary to ensure that regular monitoring of the quality of water intended for human consumption is carried out, in order to check that the water available to consumers meets the requirements of this Directive and in particular the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5. Ensure that any failure to meet the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5 is immediately investigated in order to identify the cause. Ensure that the necessary remedial action is taken as soon as possible to restore its quality and shall give priority to their enforcement action. Undertake remedial action to restore the quality of the water where necessary to protect human health. Notify consumers when remedial action is being undertaken except where the competent authorities consider the non-compliance with the parametric value to be trivial. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors. The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban waste water entering collecting systems shall before discharge, be subject to secondary treatment. Annex II requires the designation of areas sensitive to eutrophication which receive water discharges. Establishes minimum requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems in specified agglomerations to include special requirements for sensitive areas and certain industrial sectors. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| <p>Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC and Directive 2013/30/EU</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent. Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures. Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7. The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive. The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator. The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met. The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing knowledge and new needs. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this (revised) Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study. | <p>The Valletta Convention makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies. The Convention sets guidelines for the funding of excavation and research work and publication of research findings. It also deals with public access, in particular to archaeological sites, and educational actions to be undertaken to develop public awareness of the value of the archaeological heritage. It also constitutes an institutional framework for pan-European co-operation on the archaeological heritage, entailing a systematic exchange of experience and experts among the various States.</p> | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It also affirms the need for European solidarity with regard to heritage conservation and is designed to foster practical co-operation among the Parties. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reinforcement and promotion of policies for protecting and enhancing the heritage within the territories of the parties. The affirmation of European solidarity with regard to the protection of the heritage and the fostering of practical co-operation between states and regions. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes ('Dublin Principles')</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is aimed to assist in the documentation, protection, conservation and appreciation of industrial heritage as part of the heritage of human societies around the World. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (I) Document and understand industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes and their values; (II) Ensure effective protection and conservation of the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; (III) Conserve and maintain the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; and (IV) Present and communicate the heritage dimensions and values of industrial structures, sites, areas and landscapes to raise public and corporate awareness, and support training and research. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro 2005)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time. A heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise that rights relating to cultural heritage are inherent in the right to participate in cultural life, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Recognise individual and collective responsibility towards cultural heritage. Emphasise that the conservation of cultural heritage and its sustainable use have human development and quality of life as their goal. Take the necessary steps to apply the provisions of this Convention concerning the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination</p> |

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| | to sustain and transmit to future generations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater synergy of competencies among all the public, institutional and private actors concerned. | with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| European Landscape Convention 2000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, together with the practices followed in town and country planning, transport, networks, tourism and recreation, and at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases accelerated the transformation of landscapes. The Convention expresses a concern to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. It aims to respond to the public's wish to enjoy high quality landscapes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. Organise European co-operation on landscape issues. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| The Seventh Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community (2013-2020) | <p>It identifies three key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing | <p>Four so called "enablers" will help Europe deliver on these objectives (goals):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better implementation of legislation. Better information by improving the knowledge base. More and wiser investment for environment and climate policy. Full integration of environmental requirements and considerations into other policies. <p>Two additional horizontal priority objectives complete the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make the Union's cities more sustainable. To help the Union address international environmental and climate challenges more effectively. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats) | <p>The convention has three main aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats to promote cooperation between states to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species | <p>The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to ensure the conservation of nature in their countries, paying particular attention to planning and development policies and pollution control. Look at implementing the Bern Convention in central Eastern Europe and the Caucasus. Take account of the potential impact on natural heritage by other policies. Promote education and information of the public, ensuring the need to conserve species is understood and acted upon. Develop an extensive number of species action plans, codes of conducts, and guidelines, at their own initiative or in co-operation with other organisations. Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Bali Road Map (2007) | <p>The overall goals of the project are twofold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase national capacity to co-ordinate ministerial views, participate in the UNFCCC process, and negotiate positions within the timeframe of the Bali Action Plan; and To assess investment and financial flows to address climate change for up to three key sectors and/or economic activities. | <p>The Bali Action Plan is centred on four main building Blocks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> mitigation adaptation technology financing | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Cancun Agreements (2010) | <p>Set of decisions taken at the COP 16 Conference in Cancun in 2010 which addresses a series of key issues in the fight against climate change. Cancun Agreements' main objectives cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigation Transparency of actions Technology Finance Adaptation Forests Capacity building | Among the most prominent agreements is the establishment of a Green Climate Fund to transfer money from the developed to developing world to tackle the impacts of climate change. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Doha Climate Gateway (2012) | Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which pave the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015 (to come into effect in 2020); Complete the work under Bali Action Plan and to focus on new completing new targets; Strengthen the aim to cut greenhouse gases and help vulnerable countries to adapt; Amend Kyoto Protocol to include a new commitment period for cutting down the greenhouse gases emissions; and | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide the financial and technology support and new institutions to allow clean energy investment and sustainable growth in developing countries. | with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU Common Agricultural Policy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve agricultural productivity, so that consumers have a stable supply of affordable food; and To ensure that EU farmers can make a reasonable living. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensuring viable food production that will contribute to feeding the world's population, which is expected to rise considerably in the future; Climate change and sustainable management of natural resources; Looking after the countryside across the EU and keeping the rural economy alive. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances. | The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation; and Restriction of chemicals. REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Stockholm Convention | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit and/or eliminate the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) that are listed in Annex A to the Convention Restrict the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex B to the Convention Reduce or eliminate releases from unintentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex C to the Convention Ensure that stockpiles and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs are managed safely and in an environmentally sound manner To target additional POPs Other provisions of the Convention relate to the development of implementation plans, information exchange, public information, awareness and education, research, development and monitoring, technical assistance, financial resources and mechanisms, reporting, effectiveness evaluation and non-compliance | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Ramsar Convention | The Convention's mission is "the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world". | Under the "three pillars" of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work towards the wise use of all their wetlands; Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") and ensure their effective management; Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| European 2020 Strategy for Growth | Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe's social market economy for the 21st century and puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation; Sustainable growth: promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy; Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion. | In order to reach these priorities, the Commission proposes five quantitative targets to fulfil by 2020: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed; 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D; the "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right); the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree; 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| European Parliament resolutions, including the European Green Deal (EGD) 2020 | The deal sets out how to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, boosting the economy, improving people's quality of life, caring for nature and leaving no one behind. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It sets out a roadmap with actions to boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy, restore biodiversity and cut pollution. It outlines investments required, financing tools available and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition. In order to meet the goal to become climate neutral by 2050 as part of the European | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply |

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| | | Green Deal, the European Union (EU) Commission proposed on 4th March 2020 to bring about the first European Climate Law and legally bind the target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. | with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU (2020) Biodiversity Strategy | A long-term plan for protecting nature and reversing the degradation of ecosystems across the European Union. | The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea, building upon existing Natura 2000 areas, with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value. An EU Nature Restoration Plan - a series of concrete commitments and actions to restore degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, and manage them sustainably, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss. A set of measures to enable the necessary transformative change: setting in motion a new, strengthened governance framework to ensure better implementation and track progress, improving knowledge, financing and investments and better respecting nature in public and business decision-making. Measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge, demonstrating that the EU is ready to lead by example towards the successful adoption of an ambitious global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package | Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU. | The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030, and contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Leaders Pledge for Nature 2020 | Political leaders (including Taoiseach Michael Martin) participating in the United Nations Summit on Biodiversity in September 2020, representing 75 countries from all regions and the European Union, have committed to reversing biodiversity loss by 2030. | As part of the UN Decade of Action to achieve sustainable development, the leaders commit to achieve the vision of Living in Harmony with Nature by 2050 by undertaking ten actions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Putting biodiversity, climate, and the environment at the heart of COVID-19 recovery strategies and investments as well as national and international development and cooperation; Developing and implementing an ambitious and transformational post-2020 global biodiversity framework for adoption at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Kunming, China, as a key instrument to reach the SDGs; Raising ambition and aligning domestic climate policies with the Paris Agreement on climate change, with enhanced nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and long-term strategies consistent with the temperature goals of the Paris Agreement, and the objective of net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by mid-century, and strengthen climate resilience of economies and ecosystems; and Mainstream biodiversity into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policies at all levels, including in food production, agriculture, fisheries and forestry, energy, tourism, infrastructure and extractive industries, and trade and supply chains, as well as into key international agreements and processes. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Level | | | |
| Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, the National Planning Framework and the National Development Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Planning Framework is the Government’s high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of to the year 2040. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for people, and to protect and enhance the environment - from villages to cities, and everything around and in between. The National Development Plan sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the successful implementation of the new National Planning Framework. This will guide national, regional and local planning and investment decisions in Ireland up to 2040, to cater for an expected population increase of over 1 million people. | National Strategic Outcomes as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Compact Growth Enhanced Regional Accessibility Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities Sustainable Mobility A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills High-Quality International Connectivity Enhanced Amenity and Heritage Transition to a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Society Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040 [in preparation] | The PLUTO will take account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies and will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term; | In preparation | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of |

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| | <p>2. Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and, 3. Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040.</p> | | <p>the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The core principal objectives of this Act are to amend the Planning Acts of 2000 – 2009 with specific regard given to supporting economic renewal and sustainable development. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development, with certain exceptions, is subject to development control under the Planning Acts and the local authorities grant or refuse planning permission for development, including ones within protected areas. There are, however, a range of exemptions from the planning system. Use of land for agriculture, peat extraction and afforestation, subject to certain thresholds, is generally exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission. Additionally, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for a range of classes and large-scale projects. Under planning legislation, Development Plans must include mandatory objectives for the conservation of the natural heritage and for the conservation of European sites and any other sites which may be prescribed. There are also discretionary powers to set objectives for the conservation of a variety of other elements of the natural heritage. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment – commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning. These Regulations also amend certain provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to provide the statutory basis for the transposition of the Directive in respect of land-use planning. Transposition in respect of the land-use planning sector is contained in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004). | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011, as amended)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These Regulations provide a new for the implementation in Ireland of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on habitats and protection of wild fauna and flora (as amended) and for the implementation of Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of wild birds. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They provide, among other things, for: the appointment and functions of authorized officers; identification, classification and other procedures relative to the designation of Community sites. The Regulations have been prepared to address several judgments of the CJEU against Ireland, notably cases C-418/04 and C-183/05, in respect of failure to transpose elements of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive into Irish law. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Waste Management Act 1996, as amended</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make provision in relation to the prevention, management and control of waste; to give effect to provisions of certain acts adopted by institutions of the European communities in respect of those matters; to amend the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992, and to repeal certain enactments and to provide for related matters. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Waste Management Act contains a number of key legal obligations, including requirements for waste management planning, waste collection and movement, the authorisation of waste facilities, measures to reduce the production of waste and/or promote its recovery. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>European Communities Environmental Objectives (FPM) Regulations 2009 (S.I 296 of 2009)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set environmental quality objectives for the habitats of the freshwater pearl mussel populations named in the First Schedule to these Regulations that are within the boundaries of a site notified in a candidate list of European sites, or designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 94/1997). Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of measures to achieve these objectives. Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |

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| <p>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. 9 of 2010), as amended (S.I. No. 366 of 2016)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) to make further provision to implement Commission Directive 2014/80/EU of 20 June 2014 amending Annex II to Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration. | <p>The substances and threshold values set out in Schedule 5 to S.I. No. 9 of 2010 have been reviewed and amended where necessary, based on existing monitoring information and international guidelines on appropriate threshold values.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part A of Schedule 6 has been amended to include changes to the rules governing the determination of background levels for the purposes of establishing threshold values for groundwater pollutants and indicators of pollution. Part B of Schedule 6 has been amended to include nitrites and phosphorus (total) / phosphates among the minimum list of pollutants and their indicators which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must consider when establishing threshold values. Part C of Schedule 6 amends the information to be provided to the Minister by the EPA with regard to the pollutants and their indicators for which threshold values have been established. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 31 of 2014)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These Regulations, which give effect to Ireland's 3rd Nitrates Action Programme, provide statutory support for good agricultural practice to protect waters against pollution from agricultural sources | <p>The Regulations include measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Periods when land application of fertilisers is prohibited Limits on the land application of fertilisers Storage requirements for livestock manure; and Monitoring of the effectiveness of the measures in terms of agricultural practice and impact on water quality. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Act to provide for the approval of plans by the Government in relation to climate change for the purpose of pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy. | <p>When considering a plan or framework, for approval, the Government shall endeavour to achieve the national transition objective within the period to which the objective relates and shall, in endeavouring to achieve that objective, ensure that such objective is achieved by the implementation of measures that are cost effective and shall, for that purpose, have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ultimate objective specified in Article 2 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change done at New York on 9 May 1992 and any mitigation commitment entered into by the European Union in response or otherwise in relation to that objective, The policy of the Government on climate change, Climate justice, Any existing obligation of the State under the law of the European Union or any international agreement referred to in section 2; and The most recent national greenhouse gas emissions inventory and projection of future greenhouse gas emissions, prepared by the Agency. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Climate Action Plan 2021</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Climate Action Plan is an all of Government plan to tackle climate change and bring about a step change in Ireland's climate ambition over the coming years. The plan sets out an ambitious course of action over the coming years to address the diverse and wide-ranging impacts climate disruption is having on Ireland's environment, society, economic and natural resources. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Climate Action Plan sets out clear 2030 targets for each sector with the ultimate objective of achieving a transition to a competitive, low-carbon, climate-resilient, and environmentally sustainable society and economy by 2050. The Action Plan deals with both mitigation and adaptation. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>The Sustainable Development Goals National Implementation Plan (2018 – 2020)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Implementation Plan 2018 - 2020 is in direct response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a whole-of-government approach to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Plan provides an 'SDG Matrix' which identifies the responsible Government Departments for each of the 169 targets. It also includes an 'SDG Policy Map' indicating the relevant national policies for each of the targets. | <p>The Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness: raise public awareness of the SDGs; Participation: provide stakeholders opportunities to engage and contribute to follow-up and review processes, and further develop national implementation of the Goals; Support: encourage and support efforts of communities and organisations to contribute towards meeting the SDGs, and foster public participation; and Policy alignment: develop alignment of national policy with the SDGs and identify opportunities for policy coherence. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Infrastructure and Capital Investment Plan (2016-2021)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> €27 billion multi-annual Exchequer Capital Investment Plan, which is supported by a programme of capital investment in the wider State sector, and which over the period 2016 to 2021 will help to lay the foundations for continued growth in Ireland. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Capital Plan reflects the Government's commitment to supporting strong and sustainable economic growth and raising welfare and living standards for all. It includes allocations for new projects across a number of key areas and funding to ensure that the present stock of national infrastructure is refreshed and maintained. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and</p> |

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| European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-Fisheries) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 290 of 2013) | These regulations have been drafted to implement the responsibilities of the Minister for Agriculture Food and the Marine in relation to sea fisheries in European sites, in accordance with the Habitats and Birds Directives as transposed by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation 3 provides for the submission of a Fisheries Natura Plan in relation to planned fisheries; Regulation 4 provides for a screening of a Fisheries Natura Plan to determine whether or not an appropriate assessment is required; Regulation 5 provides for an appropriate assessment of a Fisheries Natura Plan and also provides for public and statutory consultation; Regulation 6 provides for the Minister to make a determination to adopt a Fisheries Natura Plan. The Minister may amend, withdraw or revoke a plan; Regulation 7 provides for publication of the adopted Fisheries Natura Plan; Regulation 8 provides for a Risk Assessment of unplanned fisheries and also provides for public and statutory consultation on the assessment; Regulation 9 provides for the issue of a Natura Declaration to prohibit, restrict including restricting by permit, control, etc. of sea fishing activities; Regulation 10 provides for Natura Permits to be issued where required by Natura Declarations; and Regulations 11 to 31 deal with functions of authorised officers and related matters, offences, etc. | cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Ireland's National Renewable Energy Action Plan 2010 (Irish Government submission to the European Commission) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) sets out the Government's strategic approach and concrete measures to deliver on Ireland's 16% target under Directive 2009/28/EC. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NREAP sets out the Member State's national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020, and demonstrates how the Member State will meet its overall national target established under the Directive. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Strategy for Renewable Energy (2012-2020) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government's overarching strategic objective is to make renewable energy an increasingly significant component of Ireland's energy supply by 2020, so that at a minimum it will achieve its legally binding 2020 target in the most cost-efficient manner for consumers. Of critical importance is the role which the renewable energy sector plays in job creation and economic activity as part of the Government's action plan for jobs. | <p>This document sets out five strategic goals, reflecting the key dimensions of the renewable energy challenge to 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing on and offshore wind, Building a sustainable bioenergy sector, Fostering R&D in renewables such as wave & tidal, Growing sustainable transport; and Building out robust and efficient networks. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Governments White Paper 'Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future' (2015 – 2030) | The White Paper sets out a vision and a framework to guide Irish energy policy between now and 2030. A complete energy policy update informed by the vision to transform Ireland into a low carbon society and economy by 2050. | <p>2030 will represent a significant milestone, meaning:</p> <p>Reduced GHG emissions from the energy sector by between 80% and 95%</p> <p>Ensuring that secure supplies of competitive and affordable energy remain available to citizens and businesses.</p> | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (2014) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Policy Position provides a high-level policy direction for the adoption and implementation by Government of plans to enable the State to move to a low carbon economy by 2050. Statutory authority for the plans is set out in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015. | <p>National climate policy in Ireland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognises the threat of climate change for humanity; Anticipates and supports mobilisation of a comprehensive international response to climate change, and global transition to a low-carbon future; Recognises the challenges and opportunities of the broad transition agenda for society; and Aims, as a fundamental national objective, to achieve transition to a competitive, low carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| National Clean Air Strategy [in preparation] | The Clean Air Strategy will provide the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having a National Strategy will provide a policy framework by which Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation. The Strategy should also help tackle climate change. The Strategy will consider a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture. In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people's health is paramount and this will be a strong theme of the Strategy. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| EirGrid's Grid25 Strategy and associated Grid25 Implementation Programme 2017-2022 | EirGrid's mission is to develop, maintain and operate a safe, secure, reliable, economical and efficient transmission system for Ireland; <i>"Our vision is of a grid developed to match future needs, so it can safely and reliably carry power all over the country to the major towns and cities and onwards to every home, farm and business where the electricity is consumed and so it can meet the needs of consumers and generators in a sustainable way."</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grid25, EirGrid's roadmap to uprate the electricity transmission grid by 2025, continues to be implemented so as to increase the capacity of the grid, to satisfy future demand, and to help Ireland meet its target of 40 per cent of electricity from renewable energy by 2020. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| All Island Grid Study 2008 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The All Island Grid Study is the first comprehensive assessment of the ability of the electrical power system and, as part of that, the transmission network ("the grid") on the island of Ireland to absorb large amounts of electricity produced from renewable energy sources. The objective of this five-part study is to assess the technical feasibility and the relative costs and benefits associated with various scenarios for increased shares of electricity sourced from renewable energy in the all island power system. | <p>Key conclusions of the study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presented results indicate that the differences in cost between the highest cost and the lowest cost portfolios are low (7%), given the assumptions made and costs included in the Study. All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to significant reductions of CO₂ emissions compared to portfolio 1 All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to reductions on the dependency of the all island system on fuel and electricity imports. The limitations of the study may overstate the technical feasibility of the portfolios analysed and could impact the costs and benefits resulting. Further work is required to understand the extent of such impact. Timely development of the transmission networks, requiring means to address the planning challenge, is a precondition for implementation of the portfolios considered. Market mechanisms must facilitate the installation of complementary, i.e. flexible, dispatchable plant, so as to maintain adequate levels of system security. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The objective of this Strategy is to assist in the strategic development of nationally and regionally significant Greenways in appropriate locations constructed to an appropriate standard in order to deliver a quality experience for all Greenways users. It also aims to increase the number and geographical spread of Greenways of scale and quality around the country over the next 10 years with a consequent significant increase in the number of people using Greenways as a visitor experience and as a recreational amenity. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Strategic Greenway network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and/or link with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure; Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in activity tourism to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors, domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity; Greenways that provide a substantially segregated off road experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; and Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Water Resources Plan [in preparation] | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NWRP is a plan on how to provide a safe, secure and reliable water supply to customers for the next 25 years, without causing adverse impact on the environment. The objective of the NWRP is to set out how we intend to maintain the supply and demand for drinking water over the short, medium and long term whilst minimising the impact on the environment. | <p>The key objectives of the plan are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account normal and extreme weather conditions Assess the current and future water demand from homes, businesses, farms, and industry Consider the impacts of climate change on Ireland's water resources Develop a drought plan advising measures to be taken before and during drought events Develop a plan detailing how we deal with the material that is produced as a result of treating drinking water Identify, develop and assess options to help meet potential shortfalls in water supplies Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Development (2014-2020) | Vision: "Aquaculture in RC is economically, socially and ecologically sustainable, with a developed infrastructure, strong human potentials and an organized market. The consumption of aquaculture products is equal or above EU average, while the technological development of the sector is among the best in the EU." | General development and growth objectives of marine and freshwater aquaculture (2014 – 2020): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the social, business and administrative environment for aquaculture development Increase in the total production to 24,050 tonnes while adhering to the principles of economic, social and ecological sustainability Improvement of the perception and increase in the national consumption of National products | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry. The Strategy aims both to increase the capacity of the sector to create and maintain jobs, and to deliver a sustainable sector, operating at an appropriate level. It seeks to learn the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated. | This Strategy therefore addresses issues including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A strategic approach to the provision of housing, based on real and measured needs, with mechanisms in place to detect and act when things are going wrong; Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements; The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects; Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms; Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety; Ensuring a fit for purpose sector supported by a highly skilled workforce achieving high quality and standards; and Ensuring opportunities are provided to unemployed former construction workers to contribute to the recovery of the sector. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland (1997) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The overall aim of this Strategy is to ensure that economy and society in Ireland can develop to their full potential within a well-protected environment, without compromising the quality of that environment, and with responsibility towards present and future generations and the wider international community. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Strategy addresses all areas of Government policy, and of economic and societal activity, which impact on the environment. It seeks to re-orientate policies as necessary to ensure that the strong growth Ireland enjoys and seeks to maintain will be environmentally sustainable. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character Assessment (pending preparation) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Landscape Strategy will be used to ensure compliance with the European Landscape Convention and to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change. It will provide a high-level policy framework to achieve balance between the protection, management and planning of the landscape by way of supporting actions. Landscape Strategy Vision: "Our landscape reflects and embodies our cultural values and our shared natural heritage and contributes to the well-being of our society, environment and economy. We have an obligation to ourselves and to future generations to promote its sustainable protection, management and planning." | The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the European Landscape Convention by integrating landscape into the approach to sustainable development; Establish and embed a public process of gathering, sharing and interpreting scientific, technical and cultural information in order to carry out evidence-based identification and description of the character, resources and processes of the landscape; Provide a policy framework, which will put in place measures at national, sectoral - including agriculture, tourism, energy, transport and marine - and local level, together with civil society, to protect, manage and properly plan through high quality design for the sustainable stewardship of the landscape; Ensure that we take advantage of opportunities to implement policies relating to landscape use that are complementary and mutually reinforcing and that conflicting policy objectives are avoided in as far as possible. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Ireland's National Waste Policy 2020 – 2025 | The Policy sets out new targets to tackle waste and move towards a circular economy. | The plan includes halving our food waste by 2030, the introduction of a deposit and return scheme for plastic bottles and cans, a ban on certain single use plastics from July 2021, and a levy on disposable cups. Other measures include applying green criteria and circular economy principles in all public procurement, a waste recovery levy to encourage recycling, and ensuring all packaging is reusable or recyclable by 2030. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2014-2020 | This Plan sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous plan and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous plan was published. Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996 as amended, sets out the overarching objectives for the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan. In this context, the following objectives are included as priorities for the revised Plan period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To prevent and reduce the generation of hazardous waste by industry and | The revised Plan makes 27 recommendations under the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention Collection Self-sufficiency Regulation Legacy issues North-south cooperation Guidance and awareness | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – |

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| | <p>society generally;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maximise the collection of hazardous waste with a view to reducing the environmental and health impacts of any unregulated waste; To strive for increased self-sufficiency in the management of hazardous waste and to minimise hazardous waste export; To minimise the environmental, health, social and economic impacts of hazardous waste generation and management. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation | <p>the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department produces a range of guidelines designed to help planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála, developers and the general public and cover a wide range of issues amongst others, architectural heritage, child care facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minister issues statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act which planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to in the performance of their planning functions. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vision is: <i>"A Healthy Ireland, where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone's responsibility."</i> | <p>These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012</p> | <p>A medium to long term framework for advancing sustainable development and the green economy in Ireland. It identifies spatial planning as a key challenge for sustainable development and sets a series of measures to address these challenges.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out the challenges facing us and how we might address them in making sure that quality of life and general wellbeing can be improved and sustained in the decades to come. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future – A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2020 (2009)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines a policy for how a sustainable travel and transport system can be achieved. Sets out five key goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce overall travel demand. To maximise the efficiency of the transport network. To reduce reliance on fossil fuels. To reduce transport emissions. To improve accessibility to transport. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Others lower level aims include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reduce distance travelled by private car and encourage smarter travel, including focusing population growth in areas of employment and to encourage people to live in close proximity to places of employment ensuring that alternatives to the car are more widely available, mainly through a radically improved public transport service and through investment in cycling and walking improving the fuel efficiency of motorised transport through improved fleet structure, energy efficient driving and alternative technologies strengthening institutional arrangements to deliver the targets | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Investing in our Future: A Strategic Framework for Investment in Land Transport (SFILT) – Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SFILT sets out a set of priorities to guide the allocation of the State's investment to best develop and manage Ireland's land transport network over the coming decades. | <p>The three priorities stated in SFILT are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority 1: Achieve steady state maintenance (meaning that the maintenance and renewal of the existing transport system is at a sufficient level to maintain the system in an adequate condition); Priority 2: Address urban congestion; and Priority 3: Maximise the value of the road network. <p>In delivering on the steady state maintenance objective set out in SFILT, the Plan includes for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned replacement programme for the bus fleet operated under Public Service Obligation ("PSO") contracts; Tram refurbishment and asset renewal in the case of light rail; and To the extent within the Authority' remit, support for the operation of the existing rail network within the GDA. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |

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| Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland – The Energy Policy Framework 2007 – 2020 (2007) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> White paper setting out a framework for delivering a sustainable energy future in Ireland. Outlines strategic Goals for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Security of Supply Sustainability of Energy Competitiveness of Energy Supply | The underpinning Strategic Goals are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that electricity supply consistently meets demand Ensuring the physical security and reliability of gas supplies to Ireland Enhancing the diversity of fuels used for power generation Delivering electricity and gas to homes and businesses over efficient, reliable and secure networks Creating a stable attractive environment for hydrocarbon exploration and production Being prepared for energy supply disruptions | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2018 and associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NAF specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities in their administrative areas in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptation under this Framework should seek to minimise costs and maximise the opportunities arising from climate change. Adaptation actions range from building adaptive capacity (e.g. increasing awareness, sharing information and targeted training) through to policy and finance-based actions. Adaptation actions must be risk based, informed by existing vulnerabilities of our society and systems and an understanding of projected climate change. Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| 2030 Climate and Energy Framework | Adopted October 2014, includes EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period from 2021 to 2030. | Key targets for 2030: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions (from 1990 levels). At least 32% share for renewable energy. This was revised upwards in 2018. At least 32.5% improvement in energy efficiency. This was revised upwards in 2018. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Renewable Energy Action Plan (2010) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out the Member State’s national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020, and demonstrates how the Member State will meet its overall national target established under the Directive. | Including Ireland’s 16% target of gross final consumption to come from renewables by 2020. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland (2009 – 2020) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the second National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Plan reviews the original 90 actions outlined in the first Plan and updates/renews/removes them as appropriate. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Energy & Climate Plan (NECP) 2021 – 2030 | Irelands National Energy & Climate Plan (NECP) 2021-2030 takes into account energy and climate policies developed up to 2019, the levels of demographic and economic growth identified in the National Planning Framework - Project 2040 and includes all of the climate and energy measures as set out in the National Development Plan 2018-2027. | The planned policies and measures that were identified up to the end of 2019, collectively deliver a 30% reduction by 2030 in non-Emission Trading Systems greenhouse gas emissions (from 2005 levels). Ireland is committed to achieving a 7% annual average reduction in greenhouse gas emissions between 2021 and 2030. The NECP was drafted in line with the current EU effort-sharing approach, before the Government committed to this higher level of ambition, and therefore does not reflect this higher commitment. Ireland is currently developing those policies and measures and intends to integrate the revision of the NECP into the process which will be required for increasing the overall EU contribution under the Paris Agreement. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| <p>Wildlife Act of 1976</p> <p>Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems Give statutory protection to NHAs Enhances wildlife species and their habitats Includes more species for protection | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Actions for Biodiversity (2017-2021) Ireland's National Biodiversity Plan</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out strategic objectives, targets and actions to conserve and restore Ireland's biodiversity and to prevent and reduce the loss of biodiversity in Ireland and globally. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To mainstream biodiversity in the decision-making process across all sectors. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity. To increase awareness and appreciation of biodiversity and ecosystems services. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider countryside. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the marine environment. To expand and improve on the management of protected areas and legally protected species. To substantially strengthen the effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>National Broadband Plan (2012)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out the strategy to deliver high speed broadband throughout Ireland. | <p>The Plan sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High-Speed Broadband. Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high-speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered. The strategy and interventions that will underpin the successful implementation of these targets. A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of 2003)</p> <p>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014)</p> <p>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation. Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water. Identifies the competent authorities in charge of water policy (amended to Irish Water in 2013) and gives EPA and the CER the authority to regulate and supervise their actions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on River Basin Districts (RBDs). Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies. Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body. Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances. Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater. Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies. Outlines surface water quality standards. Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations of 2010 (SI 9 of 2010)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transpose the requirements of the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC into Irish Legislation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for groundwater bodies of groundwater against pollution and deterioration in quality. Sets groundwater quality standards. Outlines threshold values for the classification and protection of groundwater. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Water Pollution Acts 1977 to 1990</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division. | <p>The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prosecute for water pollution offences. Attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters. Issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution. Issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remedying of any effects of the pollution in the manner and within the period specified in such notices; | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects. Prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas. | framework for environmental protection and management. |
| <p>Water Services Act 2007</p> <p>Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012</p> <p>Water Services Act (No. 2) 2013</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides the water services infrastructure. Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services. Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and waste water supply. Irish Water was given the responsibility of the provision of water and waste water services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland. | <p>Key strategic objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring Irish Water delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector. Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services in the gateways and hubs listed in the National Spatial Strategy, and in other locations where services need to be enhanced. Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary waste water treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Waste water Treatment Directive. Promoting water conservation through Irish Water's Capital Investment Plan, the Rural Water Programme and other measures. Monitoring the on-going implementation of septic tanks inspection regime and the National Inspection Plan for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems. Ensuring a fair funding model to deliver water services. Overseeing the establishment of an economic regulation function under the CER. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| <p>Irish Water's Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and associated Proposed Capital Investment Plan (2014-2016)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Water Services Strategic Plan sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040. It details current and future challenges which affect the provision of water services and identifies the priorities to be tackled in the short and medium term. | <p>Six strategic objectives as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet Customer Expectations. Ensure a Safe and Reliable Water Supply. Provide Effective Management of Waste water. Protect and Enhance the Environment. Support Social and Economic Growth. Invest in the Future. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| <p>Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Areas</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims to meet nature conservation obligations while having regard to national and local economic, social and cultural needs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the implications of management choices for water levels, quantity and quality are fully explored, understood and factored into policy making and land use planning. Review the current raised bog NHA network in terms of its contribution to the national conservation objective for raised bog habitats and determine the most suitable sites to replace the losses of active raised bog habitat and high bog areas within the SAC network and to enhance the national network of NHAs. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| <p>Food Harvest 2020</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Harvest 2020 is a roadmap for the Irish food industry, as it seeks to innovate and expand in response to increased global demand for quality foods. It sets out a vision for the potential growth in agricultural output after the removal of milk quotas. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| <p>Agri-vision 2015 Action Plan</p> | <p>Outlines the vision for agricultural industry to improve competitiveness and response to market demand while respecting and enhancing the environment</p> | <p>not applicable</p> | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |

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| <p>Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS)</p> <p>Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS)</p> <p>Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection. • GLAS is the new replacement for REPS and AEOS which are both expiring. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation. • Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats. • Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment. • Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans. • Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>National Rural Development Programme</p> | <p>The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas</p> | <p>At a more detailed level, the programme also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation; • Aims to improve the environment, biodiversity and the amenity value of the countryside by support for land management through funds such as Natura 2000 payments etc.; and • Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as non-agricultural activities | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Realising our Rural Potential: The Action Plan for Rural Development 2017</p> | <p>The Plan aims to unlock the potential of rural Ireland through a framework of supports at national and local level which will ensure that people who live in rural areas have increased opportunities for employment locally, and access to public services and social networks that support a high quality of life.</p> | <p>The Plan contains 276 actions across five key pillars. The five pillars are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Sustainable Communities, • Supporting Enterprise and Employment, • Maximising our Rural Tourism and Recreation Potential, • Fostering Culture and Creativity in Rural Communities, and • Improving Rural Infrastructure and Connectivity. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>National Forestry Programme (2014-2020)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represents Ireland’s proposals for 100% State aid funding for a new Forestry Programme for the period 2014 – 2020. | <p>Measures include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afforestation and Creation of Woodland • NeighbourWood Scheme • Forest Roads • Reconstitution Scheme • Woodland Improvement Scheme • Native Woodland Conservation Scheme • Knowledge Transfer and Information Actions • Producer Groups • Innovative Forest Technology • Forest Genetic Reproductive Material • Forest Management Plans | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>River Basin Management Plan</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The River Basin Management Plan sets out the measures planned to maintain and improve the status of waters. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim to protect and enhance all water bodies in the RBD and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Water Framework Directive. • Identify and manages water bodies in the RBD. • Establish a programme of measures for monitoring and improving water quality in the RBD. • Involve the public through consultations. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)</p> | <p>This Strategy aims to provide a long-term framework within which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and economic contribution to the well-being of this and future generations.</p> | <p>Objectives of the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To give direction to Ireland’s approach to peatland management. • To apply to all peatlands, including peat soils. • To ensure that the relevant State authorities and state-owned companies that influence such decisions contribute to meeting cross-cutting objectives and obligations in their policies and actions. • To ensure that Ireland’s peatlands are sustainably managed so that their benefits can be enjoyed responsibly. • To inform appropriate regulatory systems to facilitate good decision making in support of responsible use. • To inform the provision of appropriate incentives, financial supports and | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |

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| | | <p>disincentives where required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a framework for determining and ensuring the most appropriate future use of cutover and cutaway bogs. To ensure that specific actions necessary for the achievement of its objectives are clearly identified and delivered by those involved in or responsible for peatlands management or for decisions affecting their management. | |
| Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive. | CFRAM Studies have been undertaken for all River Basin Districts. The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. Flood Risk and Hazard mapping, including Flood Extent Mapping, was finalised in 2017. The final outputs from the studies are the CFRAM Plans, finalised in 2018. The Plans define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 - 2020 | <p>The Draft Bioenergy Plan sets out a vision as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bioenergy resources contributing to economic development and sustainable growth, generating jobs for citizens, supported by coherent policy, planning and regulation, and managed in an integrated manner. | <p>Three high level goals, of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To harness the market opportunities presented by bioenergy in order to achieve economic development, growth and jobs. To increase awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits of developing bioenergy. To ensure that bioenergy developments do not adversely impact the environment and its living and non-living resources. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE) 2016 | <p>Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2009/28/EC: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.</p> | <p>Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.</p> | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017- 2030 | <p>This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.</p> | <p>Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFV forecasts Electricity targets Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets Hydrogen targets Biofuels targets LPG targets Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Food Wise 2025 (DAFM) | <p>Food Wise 2025 sets out a ten-year plan for the agri-food sector. It underlines the sector's unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further.</p> | <p>Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 85% increase in exports to €19 billion. 70% increase in value added to €13 billion. 60% increase in primary production to €10 billion. The creation of 23,000 additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high-end value-added product development. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Cycle Network Scoping Study 2010 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines objectives and actions aimed at developing a strong cycle network in Ireland Sets out 19 specific objectives, and details the 109 actions, aimed at ensuring that a cycling culture is developed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets a target where 10% of all journeys will be made by bike by 2020 Proposes the planning, infrastructure, communication, education and stakeholder participations measures required to implement the initiative | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and |

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| | | | cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Policy Framework for Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport represents the first step in communicating our longer-term national vision for decarbonising transport by 2050, the cornerstone of which is our ambition that by 2030 all new cars and vans sold in Ireland will be zero-emissions capable. By 2030 it is envisaged that the movement in Ireland to electrically-fuelled cars and commuter rail will be well underway, with natural gas and biofuels developing as major alternatives in the freight and bus sectors. | <p>This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce overall travel demand Maximise the efficiency of the transport network Reduce reliance on fossil fuels Reduce transport emissions Improve accessibility to transport <p>These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework.</p> | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021 | The Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021 sets out actions that the Tourism Leadership Group has identified as priorities to be progressed until 2021 in order to maintain sustainable growth in overseas tourism revenue and employment. Each action involves specific tourism stakeholders, both in the public and private sectors, all of whom we expect to proactively work towards the completion of actions within the specified timeframe. | <p>The Plan contains 27 actions focusing on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy Context Marketing Ireland as a Visitor Destination Enhancing the Visitor Experience Research in the Irish Tourism Sector Supporting Local Communities in Tourism Wider Government Policy International Context Co-ordination Structures | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025 | The main goal of this policy statement is to have a vibrant, attractive tourism sector that makes a significant contribution to employment across the country; is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable; helps promote a positive image of Ireland overseas, and is a sector in which people want to work. | <p>The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overseas tourism revenue of €5 billion per year net of inflation excluding carrier receipts; 250,000 people employed in tourism; and 10 million overseas visitors to Ireland per year. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE) | Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2009/28/EC: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources. | <p>Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.</p> <p>Methodology: Development of the Policy and Development Framework is to be informed by the carrying out of an SEA, including widespread consultation with stakeholders and public, and with AA under the Habitats Directive.</p> | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017- 2030 | This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework. | <p>Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFV forecasts Electricity targets Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets Hydrogen targets Biofuels targets LPG targets <p>Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets</p> | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| People Place and Policy - Growing Tourism to 2025, (DTTAS, 2014) | Growing Tourism to 2025 is a policy framework for the development of tourism within the Country. | <p>The framework establishes the overall tourism goal of Government;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment in the tourism sector will be 250,000 by 2025, compared with around 200,000 at present. There will be 10 million visits to Ireland annually by 2025. <p>The Government's ambition is that overseas tourism revenue will reach €5 billion in real terms by 2025.</p> | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination |

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| Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan 2016-2020 | The overarching aim of the Plan is to: <i>"Identify and protect the unique waterways heritage and promote its sustainable use for the enjoyment of this and future generations"</i> . | Four objectives of the Plan include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective 1: Fostering partnerships to continue building waterway heritage knowledge through storing information, undertaking research and developing best practice. Objective 2: Promoting awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of our waterway heritage with a focus on community engagement. Objective 3: Promoting the integrated management, conservation, protection and sustainable use of the inland navigable waterway asset. Objective 4: To develop Waterways Ireland as a heritage organisation committed to achieving the aim of this plan. | with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Tourism Development and Innovation – A Strategy for Investment 2016-2022, (Fáilte Ireland, 2016) | This strategy sets out the framework and mechanism for the delivery of investment to cities, towns, villages, communities and businesses across the country. It identifies priorities to support innovation in the sector to retain and grow the country's competitiveness in the marketplace. Its ultimate aim is to strengthen the appeal of Ireland for international visitors. | The objectives of the Tourism Development and Innovation Strategy are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To successfully and consistently deliver a world class visitor experience; To support a tourism sector that is profitable and achieves sustainable levels of growth and delivers jobs; To facilitate communities to play an enhanced role in developing tourism in their locality, thereby strengthening and enriching local communities; and To recognise, value and enhance Ireland's natural environment as the cornerstone of Irish tourism. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Aquaculture Acts 1997 to 2006 (Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 (8/2006), s. 1(3)) Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997 (23/1997) Fisheries and Foreshore (Amendment) Act 1998 (54/1998), ss. 2, 3 and 4 Fisheries (Amendment) Act 2001 (40/2001) Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 (8/2006) | The Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division ensures the efficient and effective management of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing in respect of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities. | The Strategic Objectives of the Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to develop and manage an efficient and effective regulatory framework in respect of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities; to secure a fair financial return from the State's foreshore estate in the context of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing in respect of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities; to progressively reduce arrears in the clearing of licence applications. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Foreshore Acts 1933 to 2011 | The Foreshore Acts require that a lease or licence must be obtained from the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government for the carrying out of works or placing structures or material on, or for the occupation of or removal of material from, State-owned foreshore, which represents the greater part of the foreshore. Construction of permanent structures on privately owned foreshore also required the prior permission of the Minister under the Foreshore Act. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developments on the foreshore require planning permission in addition to a Foreshore Lease/Licence/Permission. All Foreshore Leases, Licences Permissions are without prejudice to the powers of the local planning authority. Applicants should, therefore, consult initially with the local planning authority regarding their proposal. In the case of developments on foreshore for, by or on behalf of a Local Authority where an EIS is required, applications should be made to An Bord Pleanála under Part XV, Planning and Development Act 2000. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Marine Planning Development Management Bill (General Scheme), 2019 | The Bill seeks to establish in law a completely new regime for the maritime area which will replace existing State and development consent regimes and streamline arrangements on the basis of a single consent principle. | One of the aims is to establish a legal basis for An Bord Pleanála and coastal local authorities to consent to development in the maritime area, while retaining existing foreshore and planning permission provisions for aquaculture and sea fisheries related development. It will also provide for a single environmental impact assessment (EIA) and a single appropriate assessment (AA), where applicable. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| National Seafood Operational Programme (2014-2020) | The Operational Programme (OP) supported by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) in Ireland aims at achieving key national development priorities along with the EU's "Europe 2020" objectives. The OP supports the general reform of the EU's Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and the development of its Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) in Ireland. | The Irish OP is organised around the following priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Union Priority 1 (UP1): €67 million (28% of the total allocation) aim at assuring the sustainable development of fishing activities, while protecting the marine environment. Union Priority 2 (UP2): €30 million (12% of the total allocation) will support the Irish National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture that aims at boosting the | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and |

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| | <p>The OP strategy is designed around the Irish national priorities in the agri-food sector: 'Act Smart' by encouraging knowledge and innovation, 'Think Green' through a responsible and sustainable use of resources, 'Achieve Growth' in order to maintain and create jobs.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> competitiveness of the aquaculture sector. Union Priority 3 (UP3): €84.8 million (35.4% of the total allocation) will go towards compliance with CFP rules regarding control and data collection. Union Priority 4 (UP4): €12 million (5% of the total allocation) will support local development initiatives — a substantial, eleven-fold increase compared to the 2007-2013 funding period. Union Priority 5 (UP5): €33 million (13.8% of the total allocation) will go towards creating scale in the Irish marketing and processing sectors, starting from the base of very small-scale businesses. Union Priority 6 (UP6): €10.6 million (4% of the total allocation) will be used on measures to improve the knowledge on the state of the marine environment and the level of protection of marine areas. | <p>cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth: An Integrated Marine Plan for Ireland 2012</p> | <p>Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth is an Integrated Marine Plan (IMP), setting out a roadmap for the Government's vision, high-level goals and integrated actions across policy, governance and business to enable our marine potential to be realised. Implementation of this Plan will see Ireland evolve an integrated system of policy and programme planning for our marine affairs.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable economic growth of marine/ maritime sectors; Increase the contribution to the national GDP; Deliver a business friendly yet robust governance, policy and planning framework; Protect and conserve our rich marine biodiversity and ecosystems; Manage our living and non-living resources in harmony with the ecosystem; Implement and comply with environmental legislation; Building on our maritime heritage, strengthen our maritime identity; Increase our awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits; and Engagement and participation by all. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020 and 2021-2025 (in preparation)</p> | <p>The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is an island-wide attempt to reverse declines in pollinating insects in order to ensure the sustainability of our food, avoid additional economic impacts on agriculture, and protect the health of the environment.</p> <p>The main objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making farmland, public land and private land in Ireland pollinator friendly; Raising awareness of pollinators and how to protect them; Managed pollinators – supporting beekeepers and growers; Expanding our knowledge of pollinators and pollination service; and Collecting evidence to track change and measure success. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This voluntary Plan identified 81 actions, shared out between over 100 governmental and non-governmental organisations. A large focus of the Plan is to identify actions to improve the quality and amount of flower-rich habitat. Actions range from creating pollinator highways along our transport routes, to supporting pollinators on farmland, in gardens, businesses, and on public land. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| Regional/ County/Local Level | | | |
| <p>Northern and Western Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy 2020-2032</p> | <p>The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy provides a long-term strategic planning and economic framework for the Northern and Western Region in order to support the implementation of the National Planning Framework.</p> | <p>The Northern and Western Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its nine constituent local authorities: Donegal County Council; Leitrim County Council; Cavan County Council; Monaghan County Council; Roscommon County Council; Mayo County Council; Sligo County Council; Galway City Council; Galway County Council.</p> | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>Integrated Implementation Plan 2019-2024</p> | <p>The priorities in the Integrated Infrastructure Plan align with the objectives and priorities set out in the Greater Dublin Transport Strategy 2016-2035, focused on improving public and sustainable transport. While the bulk of the Plan relates solely to the Greater Dublin Area, certain areas such as public transport services and activities related to small public service vehicles are dealt with on a national basis.</p> | <p>The Implementation Plan identifies investment proposals for a number of areas including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bus Light Rail; Heavy Rai; Integration Measures and Sustainable Transport Investment; Integrated Service Plan; and Integration and Accessibility. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> |
| <p>NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs</p> | <p>Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest To describe the site and its management To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation objectives for SACs and SPAs (i.e. sites within the Natura 2000 network) have to be set for the habitats and species for which the sites are selected. These objectives are used when carrying out appropriate assessments for plans and projects that might impact on these sites. | <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives | | with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Groundwater Protection Schemes | A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Groundwater Protection Scheme aims to maintain the quantity and quality of groundwater, and in some cases improve it, by applying a risk assessment-based approach to groundwater protection and sustainable development. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Land Use Plans (including Development Plans Local Area Plans) in force within County Mayo and in other adjoining planning authorities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline planning objectives for land use development. Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Northern and Western Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy. Set out the policies and proposals to guide development in the relevant area. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify future infrastructure, development and zoning required. Protect and enhances amenities and environment. Guide planning authority in assessing proposals. Aim to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development. Aim to promote sustainable development. Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs), including the Mayo LECP 2016-2022 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The overarching vision for each LECP is: “to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of the LECP, as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development of the relevant local authority area, both by itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| County Mayo Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Character Assessments in adjoining counties | Characterises the geographical dimension of the landscape. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area. Guides strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| County Mayo Heritage Plan 2020 – 2025 | The Mayo Heritage Plan is a working document, which identifies priorities and outlines the actions that will be taken by the Heritage Office, in partnership with the Heritage Forum, over a six year period, to conserve and raise awareness of natural, built and cultural heritage in Mayo. | <p>The County Council, specifically the Heritage Officer, has a coordinating role in developing and implementing the County Heritage Plan. However, the County Heritage Plan is a cross-sectoral plan, incorporating commitments and actions to be implemented by many groups, agencies and organisations involved in the care, protection and management of heritage in the county.</p> <p>The implementation of the plan can only be achieved in partnership with all stakeholders.</p> | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Mayo Noise Action Plan 2019-2023 | Noise Action Plans are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, Statutory Instrument 140 of 2006. These Regulations give effect to the EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. This Directive sets out a process for managing environmental noise in a consistent manner across the EU and the Noise Regulations set out the approach to meeting the requirements of the Directive in Ireland. | The main purpose of Noise Action Plans is to: Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures which may be considered to address noise problems Address strategic noise issues by requiring competent authorities to draw up action plans to manage noise issues and their effects Reduce noise, where possible, and maintain the environmental acoustic quality where it is good | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – |

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| Mayo County Council's Climate Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 | The Strategy is developed around 4 key themes/goals: 1. Critical Buildings & Infrastructure 2. Natural and Cultural Heritage 3. Water Resources & Flood Risk Management 4. Community Services | The Mayo County Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 seeks to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve education, awareness-raising and capacity on climate change, adaptation (and mitigation), impact reduction and early warning across the Local Authority departments, businesses, communities and individuals; • Integrate climate change measures into policies, strategies and planning, as well as the identification of areas as risk to inform planning an decision making; and • Strengthen resilience and adoptive capacity and develop and implement co-ordinated responses to climate risk where needed. | the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Mayo Renewable Energy Strategy | The Strategy sets out the framework for the delivery of sustainable and renewable energies throughout the County. | The Strategy outlines the potential for a range of renewable energy resources and developments and acknowledges the significant contribution that they can make to the county in terms of energy security, reduced reliance on traditional fossil fuels, enabling future energy exports, meeting assigned national targets and the transition to a low carbon economy. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Connacht-Ulster Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021 | These plans give effect to national and EU waste policy, and address waste prevention and management (including generation, collection and treatment) over the period 2015-2021. | To manage wastes in a safe and compliant manner, a clear strategy, policies and actions are required. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Fáilte Ireland Tourism plans, strategies, including those relating to the Wild Atlantic Way | Fáilte Ireland's work includes preparing various plans and strategies for Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way and other brands and initiatives. These plans are subject to their own environmental assessment processes and any project arising is required to be consistent with and conform with the provisions of all adopted/approved Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes, including provisions for the protection and management of the environment. | Some of Fáilte Ireland's plans and strategies include various projects relating to land use and infrastructural development, including those relating to development of land or on land and the carrying out of land use activities. Many of these projects exist already while some are not currently in existence. The Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes that provide for different projects undergo a variety of environmental assessments. These assessments ensure that environmental effects are considered, including: those arising from new and intensified uses and activities; and those arising from various sectors such as tourism. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |
| Various existing, planned and emerging projects provided for by the above plans and programmes | These projects have been provided for by higher-level plans and programmes. | These projects will contribute towards the development of the area to which the Plan relates and/or wider area and will contribute towards environmental protection and management. | Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. |