



Comhairle Cathrach
na Gaillimhe
Galway City Council

Screening for Appropriate Assessment Determination

under Planning and Development Act 2024, as amended, for the

Proposed Variation No. 3 to the Galway City Development Plan 2023-2029

In order to comply with the requirements of Section 202 of Part 6 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (SI No. 34), as amended, and Article 6(3) of the European Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC), as amended, this determination is being made by Galway City Council relating to the potential for the emerging Proposed Variation No. 3 to the Galway City Development Plan 2023-2029 to have likely significant effects on any European Site.

In making the determination that Appropriate Assessment (AA) is required, the information on the likely significant effects, if unmitigated, on European Sites arising from the emerging Proposed Variation has been taken into account (this information will be placed on public display in an AA Natura Impact Report alongside the Proposed Variation).

The screening process concludes that an AA of the Proposed Variation is required, as the Proposed Variation: is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of European Sites; and may, on the basis of objective information, individually, or in combination with other plans and projects, if unmitigated, have likely significant effects on 9 (no.) European Sites.

The aspects of the Proposed Variation that present sources with pathways for potential significant effects to European sites as a result of its implementation are:

- potential increases in visitor pressures (including amenity and leisure activities) on European sites from the proposed increases in population densities and housing targets, including from associated active travel infrastructure such as greenways, blueways, cycleways etc.;
- increase in built environment across greenfield areas; and
- increases in greenhouse gas emissions as a result of an increase in development.

Therefore, Stage 2 AA (including the preparation of the Natura Impact Report) is required for the emerging Proposed Variation. The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above. The undersigned hereby determines pursuant to Section 202 of Part 6 of the Planning and Development Act 2024, as amended, and for the purposes of Article 6(3) of the European Habitats Directive, as amended, that it could not be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the emerging Proposed Variation, individually, or in combination with other plans and projects would have a likely significant effect on 9 (no.) European sites. Therefore, an AA is required.

Signatory:

Peter Staunton

Senior Executive Planner (signed on behalf of Galway City Council)

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Fáiltítear roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge.

Correspondence in Irish is welcome.

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