



Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination under the EU Habitats Directive 6(3) and European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) for the Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030

An Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening determination has been made by Fingal County Council regarding the Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030 in accordance with the EU Habitats Directive 6(3), Regulation 42 of the European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and Section 177U of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

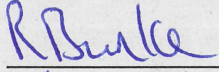
The Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030 sets out a vision for the protection of the shared heritage of Fingal. The Plan includes a framework set out under six themes to guide the community, the Council and all stakeholders working across Fingal to protect, share and celebrate the county's unique heritage. The requirement to prepare the Fingal Heritage Plan is identified in the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029.

Proposed plans must undergo a formal 'test' or 'screening' to ascertain whether they are likely to result in any significant adverse effects on specific sites designated for their nature conservation importance. These sites are those designated under the European Commission's Natura 2000 network of sites (European sites). European sites are designated on the basis of the presence of certain habitats and species that are deemed to be of international importance. The Irish Government, and planning authorities, have a legal obligation to protect these sites. The Habitats Directive requires the screening of plans and projects. If the screening process concludes that likely significant effects cannot be ruled out, then a more detailed assessment is required.

Following review of the Heritage Plan against the Conservation Objectives of the relevant European sites, it is concluded that there is no possibility that the implementation of the Heritage Plan could result in any likely significant effects on European sites either on its own or in combination with other plans and programmes. This conclusion was reached without considering or taking into account mitigation measures or measures intended to avoid or reduce any impact on European sites.

The findings of the AA process are detailed in the AA Screening Report that accompanies this Determination. Fingal County Council has determined the

Heritage Plan, individually or in combination with other plans, does not have the potential to have effects on European Sites. Therefore, Stage 2 AA and the preparation of a Natura Impact Report is not required. The Plan was screened out for Appropriate Assessment based on the nature of the Heritage Plan and in accordance with the source-pathway-receptor model.



Róisín Burke

Senior Planner

Date: 6. Feb 2024