August 2023

Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) Report – Dalymount Park Redevelopment

Dalymount Park
Dalymount,
Phibsborough,
Dublin 7

ASH Ecology & Environmental

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Report

An Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Assessment was undertaken by Ash Ecology & Environmental Ltd (AEE) on behalf of Dublin City Council (DCC) for the redevelopment of Dalymount Park (the 'proposed works') at the existing Dalymount Park, Dalymount, Phibsborough, Dublin 7, See Figures 1 and 2 for location.

The purpose of the assessment was to determine the potential impacts, if any, of the proposed works on nearby sites with European conservation designations (i.e. Natura 2000 sites).

1.2 Competency of Assessor

This report has been prepared by Aisling Walsh whose qualifications includes an MSc in Biodiversity and Conservation (TCD), B.Sc. (Hons) Zoology (NUIG), B.Sc. Applied and Aquatic Science (GMIT) along with a Certificate of Competence in Environmental Noise Measurement from the Institute of Acoustics. Aisling is the Managing Director of Ash Ecology & Environmental Ltd and has over 16 years of experience providing environmental consultancy and environmental assessment services. Aisling has written numerous Ecological Impact Assessments (EcIA), Screening for Appropriate Assessment Stage I and Stage II Natura Impact Statements, Environmental Impact Assessments/Statements, Badger Surveys, Bat Surveys and Habitat Surveys. She has also provided input and reviewed Ecological and Environmental assessments for several EIS and EIAR and conducted numerous noise surveys for EPA licenced facilities. AEE is a Registered Practice of the CIEEM.

1.3 Project Description

The proposed redevelopment of Dalymount Park which provides a site area of approx. 2.39ha will consist of the following:

The proposed development will consist of:

i. The demolition of the existing stadium and structures located on the site;
ii. The development of a new c.8,066 capacity stadium with provision for c. 6,272 seats and c.1,794 standing and new modern floodlighting;
iii. Reorientation of the pitch to a North/South Axis (105m x 68m) and installation of a new sand based grass pitch;
iv. A basement area (640 sq.m) to facilitate competition area changing rooms and facilities;
v. The provision of modern match-day facilities for teams and officials;
vi. Club offices & a merchandise shop for the anchor tenants Bohemian FC;
vii. The provision of a stadium bar/function room;
viii. The provision of 12 car parking spaces and 25 bicycle spaces within the site;
ix. A community facility with an area of 673sq.m over two floors to include a multi-functional community room and a community gym;
x. The provision of a public plaza and public thoroughfare along the eastern boundary to include various shops and eateries; and

xi. All associated plant, substation, waste storage, landscaping, boundary treatment, lighting and all ancillary site works to facilitate the proposed development.

See Figure 3 for existing site layout and Figure 4 for the outline of the proposed works.

The Construction phase will be carried out in accordance with industry best practice, as per building and environmental regulations. Site procedures to avoid construction site run-off to existing site drainage will be implemented.

The surface drainage will be dealt with a combination of SUDS and attenuation tanks. The drainage strategy is still under preparation and will be submitted with final documents.

A confirmation of feasibility remains outstanding with Irish Water at time of this report; however is likely to be successful and will be submitted with final documents.

2.0 Methodology

This report has been prepared by AEE using the following guidance documents:

- European Commission (Nov 2018) Managing Natura 2000 sites, The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC
- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities. (Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2010).
- Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive: Guidance for Planning Authorities. Circular NPW 1/10 & PSSP 2/10.
- Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological Guidance on the Provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (European Commission Environment Directorate-General, 2001). The Guidance within this document provides a non-mandatory methodology for carrying out assessments required under Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive.
- Managing Natura 2000 Sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (EC Environment Directorate-General, 2000).
- Guidance Document on Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. Clarification of the Concepts of Alternative Solutions, Imperative Reasons of Over-riding Public Interest, Compensatory Measures, Overall Coherence. Opinion of the European Commission (European Commission, January 2007).

2.1 Desk Based Studies

A desk-based review of information sources was completed. Information contained on the websites of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)[1] and the National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC)[2] was reviewed. In addition, the following publications and websites were also reviewed and consulted:

- Ordnance Survey of Ireland mapping and aerial photography available from www.heritagemaps.ie;
- Online data available on European sites as held by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) from www.npws.ie;
- Information on water quality and water body mapping in the area available from EPA ENVISION mapping; http://maps.epa.ie/internetmapviewer/mapviewer.aspx
- EPA www.epa.ie/QValue/webusers
- Information on the status of EU protected habitats and species in Ireland (National Parks & Wildlife Service, 2013a and 2013b)[3]

[1] The National Parks and Wildlife Services map viewer http://webgis.npws.ie/npwsviewer/
[2] The National Biodiversity Data Centre www.NBDC.ie
[3] NPWS (2013a). The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Species Assessments Volume 2, Version 1.1. Unpublished Report, National Parks & Wildlife Services. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Dublin, Ireland.
NPWS (2013b). The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Species Assessments Volume 3, Version 1.0. Unpublished Report, National Parks & Wildlife Services. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Dublin, Ireland.

- Information on Special Conservation Interests for SPAs in Ireland from Irelands Article 12 submission to the EU Commission on the Status and trends of birds species 2008- 2012
- NRA (2009) Guidelines for the Treatment of Otters prior to the Construction of National Road Schemes, National Roads Authority
- Water Framework Ireland website http://www.wfdireland.ie/maps.html
- IFI (2016) Guidelines on Protection of Fisheries during Construction Works in and Adjacent to Waters, Inland Fisheries Ireland;
- River Basin Management District 2018-2021;
- Natura Impact Statement of the RBMP 2018-2021;
- The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) website www.npws.ie
- National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC) www.NBDC.ie
- *Clare County Development Plan 2017-2023 (as varied)*

2.2 Habitat Survey

Habitats were identified and classified according to Fossitt (2000)[4] and Smith *et al.* (2011)[5] during a site visit in September 2021. During the survey, particular attention was given to the possible presence of habitats or species which are legally protected under Irish or European legislation (Wildlife Acts 1976 to 2021; EU Habitats Directive; EU Birds Directive), or listed on the Flora Protection Order (2015) or Red Data books.[6, 7] Plant nomenclature follows Parnell and Curtis (2012).[8]

Results are described in Section 4.1.

2.3 Appropriate Assessment Methodology

2.3.1 Regulatory Context

The Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna better known as "*The Habitats Directive*" provides the framework for legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. Articles 3 to 9 of the Directive provide the legislative means to protect habitats and species of Community interest through the establishment and conservation of an EU-wide network of sites known as Natura 2000. These are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) (better known as "The Birds Directive").

Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans and projects likely to affect Natura 2000 sites (Annex 1.1). Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for Appropriate Assessment:

[4] Fossitt, J. (2000). A *Guide to Habitats in Ireland*. The Heritage Council, Kilkenny.
[5] Smith, G.F., O'Donoghue, P., O'Hora, K. and Delaney, E. (2011) Best practice guidance for habitat survey and mapping. The Heritage Council, Kilkenny.
[6] Curtis, T.G.F. & McGough, H.N. 1988. *The Irish Red Data Book 1: Vascular Plants*. Stationery Office, Dublin.
[7] Newton, S., Donaghy, A., Allen, D., Gibbons, D. (1999). *Birds of Conservation Concern in Ireland. Irish Birds* 6 (3): 333-344.
[8] Parnell, J and Curtis, J. (2012). *Webb's, An Irish Flora*. Cork University Press.

"Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the [Natura 2000] site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, shall be subjected to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implication for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the component national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public".

Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive require an Appropriate Assessment of plans to prevent significant adverse effects on European conservation sites, also known as Natura 2000 sites. In this particular case the purpose of Appropriate Assessment is to assess the potential impacts of the proposed activities on the conservation objectives of European sites. The assessment will determine whether the plan would have significant adverse affects upon the integrity of each site in terms of its nature conservation objectives.

The integrity of the site has been defined as "*the coherence of the site's ecological structure and function, across its whole area, or the habitats, complex of habitats and/or populations of species for which the site is or will be classified*" (PPG 9, UK Department of the Environment, October 1994).Where negative effects are identified other options should be thoroughly examined to avoid any potential damaging effects prior to implementing the plan.

2.3.2 AA Process

The European Commission's Methodological Guidance recommends a 4 stage approach:

Stage 1: Screening

Determining whether the plan 'either alone or in combination with other plans or projects' is likely to have a significant effect on a European site.

Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment

Determining whether, in view of the site's conservation objectives, the plan 'either alone or in combination with other plans or projects' would have an adverse effect (or risk of this) on the integrity of the site. If not, the plan can proceed.

Stage 3: Assessment of Alternative Solutions

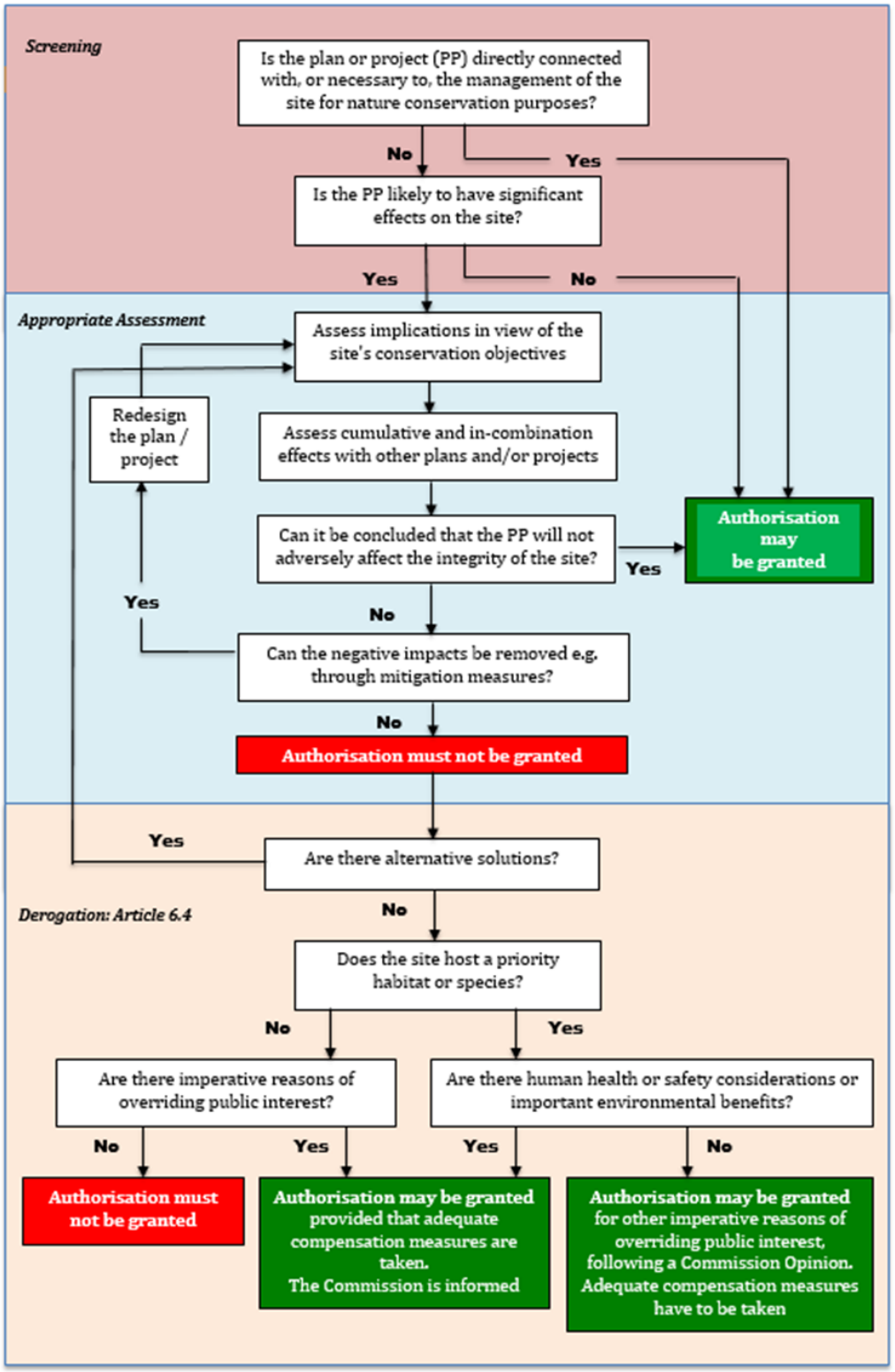
Where it has not been proven that measures considered will not avoid or mitigate the adverse affect on the Natura 2000 site, then an assessment of the alternatives will be required; and if none are acceptable then stage 4 is required to be considered.

Stage 4: Assessment where no Alternative Solutions Exist & where Adverse Impacts Remain

This will involve assessment where the Plan is considered to result in adverse impacts on the Natura 2000 site and no alternative solutions remain – the imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI) test must be met before authorisation, permission or adoption of the Plan is agreed. This includes the

agreement of compensatory measures. This report covers Stage 1 of Appropriate Assessment - Screening. The outcome of each stage determines whether a further stage in the process is required. This report comprises a Stage 1 Screening Report.

A flow diagram illustrating the various stages of AA are outlined below (EC 2018)[9]:



[9] Figure taken from - European Commission (Nov 2018) Managing Natura 2000 sites, The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC

3.0 Stage I Appropriate Assessment

3.1 Source-Pathway-Receptor Approach and Identification of Zone of Influence

In establishing which European sites are potentially at risk (in the absence of mitigation) from the proposed development, a source-pathway-receptor approach was applied. In order for an impact to occur, there must be a risk enabled by having a source (*e.g.* water abstraction or construction works), a receptor (*e.g.* a European site or its Qualifying Interest(s) (QIs) or Special Conservation Interest(s) (SCIs) species), and a pathway between the source and the receptor (*e.g.* pathway by air for air borne pollution, or a pathway by a watercourse for mobilisation of pollution). For an impact to occur, all three elements must exist; the absence or removal of one of the elements means there is no possibility for the impact to occur.

The identification of source-pathway-receptor connection(s) between the proposed development and European sites essentially is the process of identifying which European sites are within the Zone of Influence (ZoI) of the proposed development, and therefore potentially at risk of significant effects. The ZoI is defined as the area within which the proposed development could affect the receiving environment such that it could potentially have significant effects on the QI habitats or QI/SCI species of a European site, or on the achievement of their conservation objectives (as defined in CIEEM, 2018).

The identification of a source-pathway-receptor risk does not automatically mean that significant effects will arise. The likelihood for significant effects will depend upon the characteristics of the source (*e.g.* extent and duration of construction works), the characteristics of the pathway (*e.g.* direction and strength of prevailing winds for air borne pollution) and the characteristics of the receptor (*e.g.* the sensitivities of the European site and its QIs/SCIs). However, identification of the risk does mean that there is a possibility of ecological or environmental damage occurring, with the significance of the effect depending upon the nature and exposure to the risk and the characteristics of the receptor. In this case, where uncertainty existed, the precautionary principle was applied.

3.2 Description of Relevant Receptor-Source-Pathway Connections between the proposed development site and European sites Identified

In accordance with the European Commission Methodological Guidance (EC2001), a list of Natura 2000 Sites that can be potentially affected by the proposed works has been compiled. Adopting the precautionary principle in identifying these sites, it has been decided to include all SACs (Special Areas of Conservation) and SPAs (Special Protection Areas) within 15km of the site in Dalymount, Dublin. National Heritage Areas (NHAs) and proposed NHAs within 5km of the site are also considered, which are of national (NHA), or proposed (pNHA) national importance.

European sites that occur within 15km of the proposed project are listed in Table 1 and illustrated in the Figure 5 (10 No. SACs) and Figure 6 (7 No. SPAs). Details on the

specific QIs and SCIs of each European site are also identified in Appendix A as well as site-specific threats and vulnerabilities of each of the sites in Appendix B and C. There is also a total of 2 No. proposed National Heritage Areas (pNHAS) within 5km of the site, see Figure 7. The proposed works do not occur within a SAC, SPA or pNHA.

Table 1 Natura 2000 Sites within 15km of the Site and pNHA Sites within 5km

	Code	Site Name	Approx. Distance (as the crow flies)	Screening Conclusion
SAC Sites				
1	000210	South Dublin Bay SAC	5km SW	These 10 No. SAC sites are Screened out as they are outside the Zone of Influence. There are no hydrological impacts to these sites. The distance of over 5km is sufficient for there to be no disturbance impacts to the conservation interests of any SAC sites due to works. Therefore, there is no further consideration required. No Pathway for Significant Effects. No Potential for In-Combination Effects
2	000206	North Dublin Bay SAC	6.1km E, NE	
3	000199	Baldoyle Bay SAC	10. 1km NE	
4	000202	Howth Head SAC	11.7km E	
5	003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	12.3km E, SE, NE	
6	002193	Ireland's Eye SAC	14.5km NE	
7	000205	Malahide Estuary SAC	12.1km NE	
8	001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	13km SW	
9	002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	13.7km S	
10	001398	Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC	14.3km W	
SPA Sites				
1	004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	3km E, SE	These 7 No. SPA sites are Screened out as they are outside the Zone of Influence. There are no hydrological impacts to these sites. The distance of over 3km is sufficient for there to be no disturbance impacts to the conservation interests of the SPA site. For birds, disturbance effects would not be expected to extend beyond a distance of c.250m, as noise levels associated with general construction activities would attenuate to close to background levels. Therefore, there is no further consideration required. No Pathway for Significant Effects. No Potential for In-Combination Effects.
2	004006	North Bull Island SPA	6.1km E	
3	004016	Baldoyle Bay SPA	10.5km NE	
4	004025	Malahide Estuary SPA	12.1km NE	
5	004117	Ireland's Eye SPA	14.2km NE	
6	004113	Howth Head Coast SPA	14.5km E	
7	004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	13.9km S	
pNHA Sites				
1	002103	Royal Canal pNHA	260m N, NE, E, NW	These 2 No. pNHA sites are Screened out as they are outside the Zone of Influence. There are no hydrological impacts to these sites. The distance of over 260km is sufficient for there to be no disturbance impacts to the conservation interests of any pNHA sites due to works.
2	002104	Grand Canal pNHA	3.1km SE, S, SW	

4.0 Screening Assessment of Likely Effects

A number of factors were examined at this stage and dismissed, or carried forward for appropriate assessment as relevant.

4.1 Habitat Loss/Alteration

The site survey of September 2021 observed the following habitat types:

- Buildings and Artificial Surfaces (BL3) - Low ecological diversity.
- Amenity Grassland (GA2) - Low ecological diversity.
- Grassy Verges (GS2) - Low ecological diversity.

A series of photographic plates are attached in Appendix D. Protected species previously recorded in grid square O13 where the site is located. No protected species were identified on site.

These habitats are of limited ecological importance due to their low/no biodiversity value. A habitat map is shown as Figure 8.

As there will be no direct habitat loss of any Natura 2000 site (or pNHA) site listed in Table 1, impacts of habitat loss/alteration of any QIs or SCIs of any SAC or SPA (and pNHA) sites is screened out.

4.2 Disturbance and/or Displacement of Species

Disturbance and displacement of fauna species as a result of construction related disturbance could potentially occur within the vicinity of the proposed works. For birds and mammal species such as otter and badger, disturbance effects would not be expected to extend beyond 250m[10] as noise levels associated with general construction activities would attenuate to close to background levels.

The proposed works are located over 5km from the closest SAC (South Dublin Bay SAC) and over 3km from the closest SPA (South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA). Disturbance impacts to any QIs or SCIs of any SAC or SPA (and pNHA) sites is therefore screened out.

4.3 Habitat /Species Fragmentation

Habitat fragmentation has been defined as the 'reduction and isolation of patches of natural environment'[11] usually due to an external disturbance such that an alteration of the spatial composition of a habitat occurs that alters the habitat and

[10] This is consistent with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) guidance (Guidelines for the Treatment of Otters prior to the Construction of National Road Schemes and Guidelines for the Treatment of Badgers prior to the Construction of National Road Schemes) documents. This is a precautionary distance, and likely to be moderated by the screening effect provided by surrounding vegetation and buildings, with the actual ZoI of construction related disturbance likely to be much less in reality.
[11] Franklin, A. N. (2002). What is Habitat Fragmentation? *Studies in Avian Biology*, 20-29.

'create[s] isolated or tenuously connected patches of the original habitat.' This results in spatial separation of habitat units which had previously been in a state of greater continuity.

It is not expected that the proposed works will cause habitat fragmentation of any QIs or SCIs of any SAC or SPA (and pNHA) sites and is therefore screened out.

4.4 Changes in Population Density

It is not expected that the proposed works will cause any reduction in the baseline population of QIs or SCIs of any SAC or SPA (and pNHA) sites and is therefore screened out.

4.5 Impacts to Water Quality

The route is within Hydrometric Area '09 – Liffey and Dublin Bay'

The most recent 2016-2021 WFD data for the area is listed below and shown in Figure 9.

- WFD Subcatchment 'Tolka_SC_020'
- WFD River Sub-Basin 'TOLKA_060'
- '2016-2021 WFD River Status of 'Royal Canal Main Line (Liffey and Dublin Bay)' is 'Good'
- 2016-2021 WFD River Risk Status of 'Royal Canal Main Line (Liffey and Dublin Bay)' is 'Review'
- 2016-2021 WFD Groundwater Body Status of 'Dublin' is 'Good'
- 2016-2021WFD Groundwater Body Risk Status of 'Dublin' is 'Review'
- Transitional Waterbody WFD Status 2016-2021 of 'Liffey Estuary Upper' is 'Good' and Risk is 'Review'
- Transitional Waterbody WFD Status 2016-2021 of 'Liffey Estuary Lower' is 'Moderate' and Risk is 'At Risk'

No watercourses will be affected by the proposed works.

The nearest watercourse is the Royal Canal (260m north of the site at the closest point and also designated as the Royal Canal pNHA). There are no watercourses onsite that would form a direct hydrological connection to the Royal Canal.

The potential risk to water quality during the construction phase of the proposed works e.g. silt and harmful substances becoming entrained in surface water run-off is ruled out as there is no direct pathway to cause water pollution.

Any foul waters generated during the operational phase will be directed to the public sewer, as is currently the case. A feasibility letter from Irish water has been sought and confirmation is pending. It is likely to be successful and letter will be submitted with final documents.

The surface drainage will be dealt with a combination of SUDS and attenuation tanks. The drainage strategy is still under preparation and will be submitted with final documents.

Overall negative impacts to ground and surface water quality resulting from the redevelopment works, affecting QIs or SCIs of any SAC or SPA (and pNHA) sites are screened out.

4.6 Climate Change Impacts

The proposed redevelopment works will not result in any greenhouse gas emissions to air during the operational phase. The construction phase works will have increased temporary emissions which will be localised. However, given the distance to the nearest Natura 2000 sites these are determined to be negligible.

Overall negative climate change impacts, resulting from the redevelopment works, affecting QIs or SCIs of any SAC or SPA (and pNHA) sites are screened out.

5.0 In Combination Effects of Plans & Projects

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or projects that might, in combination with the plan or project, have the potential to adversely affect European sites.
As part of this assessment each plan or project is considered within a radius of the red line boundary of the proposed area as defined by the ecologist. The distance of this radius works from a standard 200m, but can be extended if the ecologist deems it necessary depending on whether certain characteristics are present, such as:

- Direct or indirect connectivity to a European site;
- In close proximity to a European site;
- The proposal is of a substantial scale relative to the conditions and/or current works taking place in the surrounding landscape.

These factors are considered particular to each proposal for each particular location and specification. Considering the characteristics of the proposed project with respect to the scale and nature of the works, the 200m search for in-combination effects was deemed to be sufficient
Plans of relevance in the context of this proposal include:

- Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028

Considering that the proposed project has a temporary construction phase and the operational phase is consistent with the existing land use, it is not foreseen that the proposed project will have any significant in-combination effects with the above plans.

Projects of relevance to this development:

To identify projects for consideration for the in-combination effects section, the National Planning and Housing development database was used. A review of all planning applications within the identified zone was conducted focusing on all application within the past 5 years.

The most pertinent application related to the current redevelopment works is for the demolition of the Connaught Stand which is within the existing Dalymount Park. A Screening for Appropriate Assessment (CAAS Ltd., March 2021) for the demolition works concluded that "*the proposed demolition project is not foreseen to give rise to any significant adverse effects on any designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects . This evaluation is made in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species for which these sites have been designated. Consequently, a Stage Two AA (NIS) is not required.*"

Dublin City Council also assess each planning application requiring a Screening for Appropriate Assessment on an individual basis and ask for further information accordingly depending on scale and location of development. The three largest developments in the area are 2709/17, 2628/17 and 3209/16 which relate to demolition works and augmentations to existing structures such as paved areas and the shopping centre. It is worth noting that Planning 2628/17, Phibsboro Shopping Centre, has not had any works commenced as yet and unlikely to be delivered before expiry (October 2023). Given the approved use is now no longer permitted, an extension of duration is also ruled out considering significant works have not commenced on site (at the time of writing, May 2023).

The rest of the projects are small scale augmentations to residential developments and similar works. The project has no operational effects and a temporary small scale construction phase with no pathways for effects identified. Furthermore, all of the projects in the receiving environment are also small scale with non-intensive project characteristics. Additionally, there are no pathways for effects identified; therefore, there are no in-combination effects identified that are likely to result in significant effects to European sites.

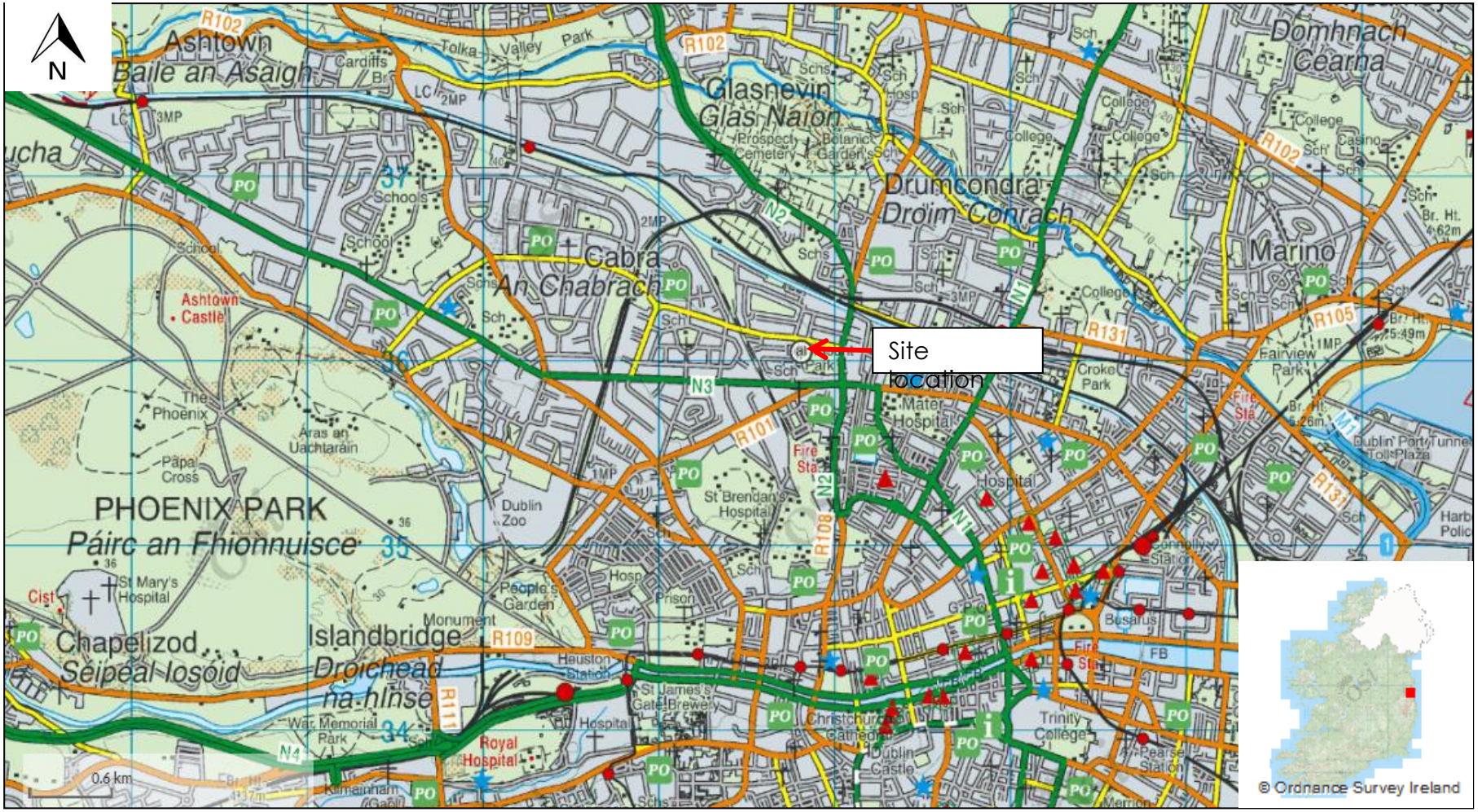
6.0 Screening Statement Conclusions

According to NPWS (2009), the Appropriate Assessment Screening exercise can either identify that an Appropriate Assessment is not required; or that there is no potential for significant effects (i.e. Appropriate Assessment is not required); or that significant effects are certain, likely or uncertain (i.e. the project must either proceed to Stage 2 (AA) or be rejected).

In conclusion, upon the examination, analysis and evaluation of the relevant information including, in particular, the nature of the proposed works and the likelihood of significant effects on any Natura 2000 site, in addition to considering possible in-combination effects, and applying the precautionary principles, it is concluded by the author of this report that, on the basis of objective information, the possibility may be excluded that the proposed redevelopment works of Dalymount Park will have a significant effect on any of the Natura 2000 sites below:

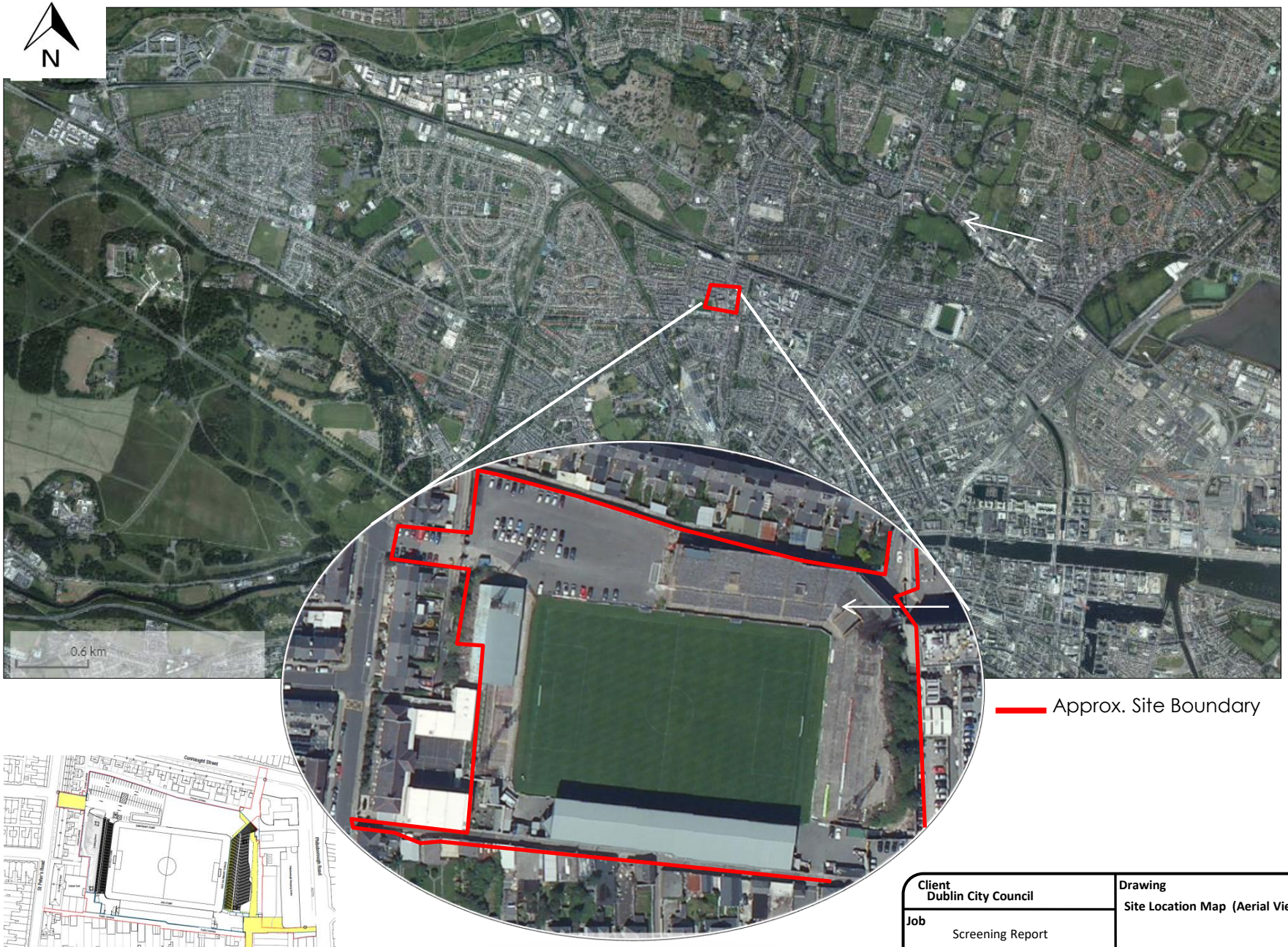
- South Dublin Bay SAC
- North Dublin Bay SAC
- Baldoyle Bay SAC
- Howth Head SAC
- Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC
- Ireland's Eye SAC
- Malahide Estuary SAC
- Glenasmole Valley SAC
- Wicklow Mountains SAC
- Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC
- South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA
- North Bull Island SPA
- Baldoyle Bay SPA
- Malahide Estuary SPA
- Ireland's Eye SPA
- Howth Head Coast SPA
- Wicklow Mountains SPA

These complete, precise and definitive findings, based on the best available scientific evidence, remove all reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed renovation works will have any significant impacts on the Natura 2000 sites detailed above; and it is therefore concluded that there will be no likely significant negative impacts caused to any Natura 2000 sites as a result of the proposed works. A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) is not required.



Client: Dublin City Council						Drawing: Site location map
Job: Screening Report						
	Drawing Number: Figure 1	Status: Final	Sht. Size: A4	Scale: As Shown	Date: Aug 23	Drawn: AW

Map sourced from National Biodiversity Data Centre Website – www.nbdc.ie



Map sourced from EPA Maps https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/

Client: Dublin City Council			Drawing: Site Location Map (Aerial View)			
Job: Screening Report						
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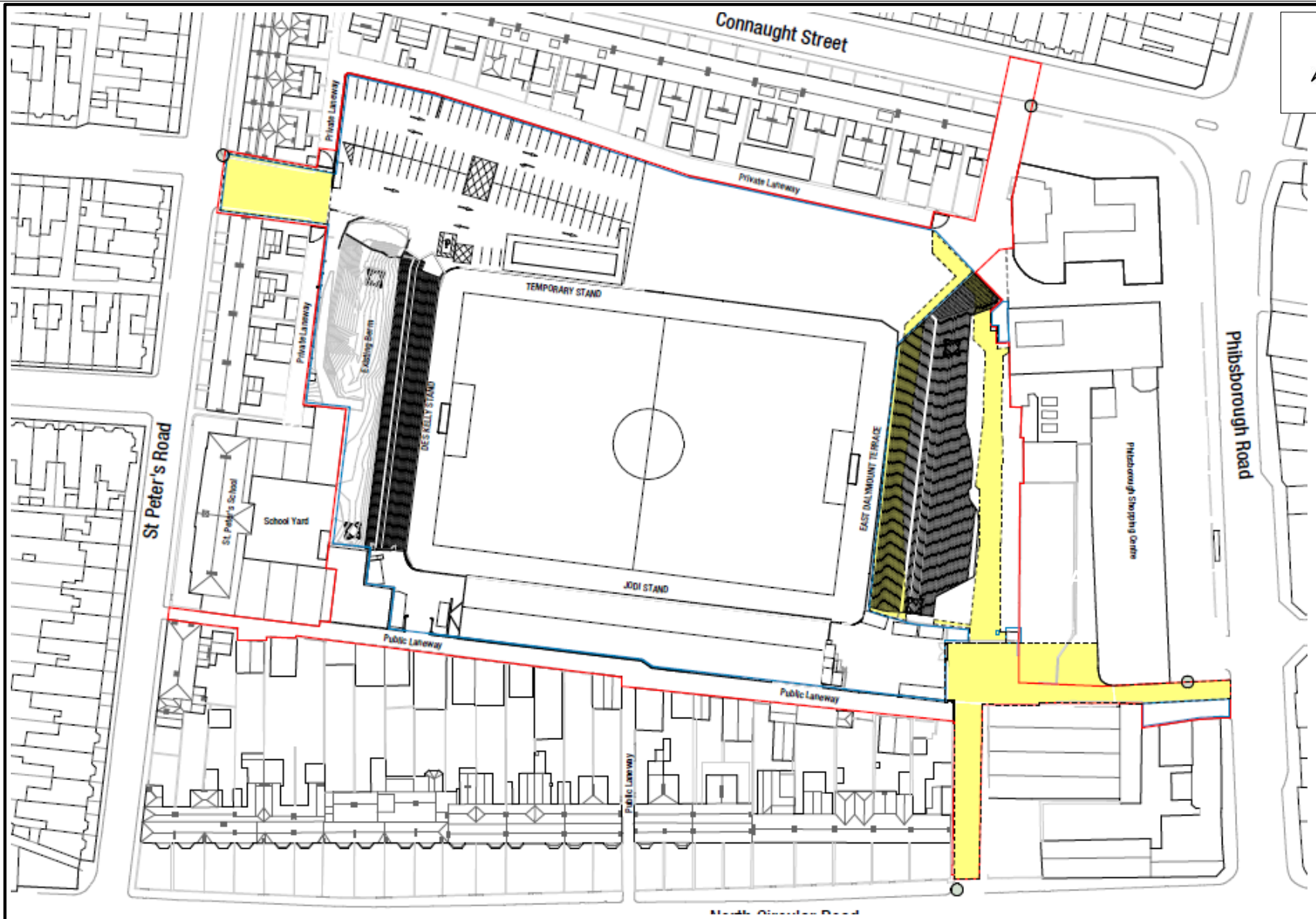
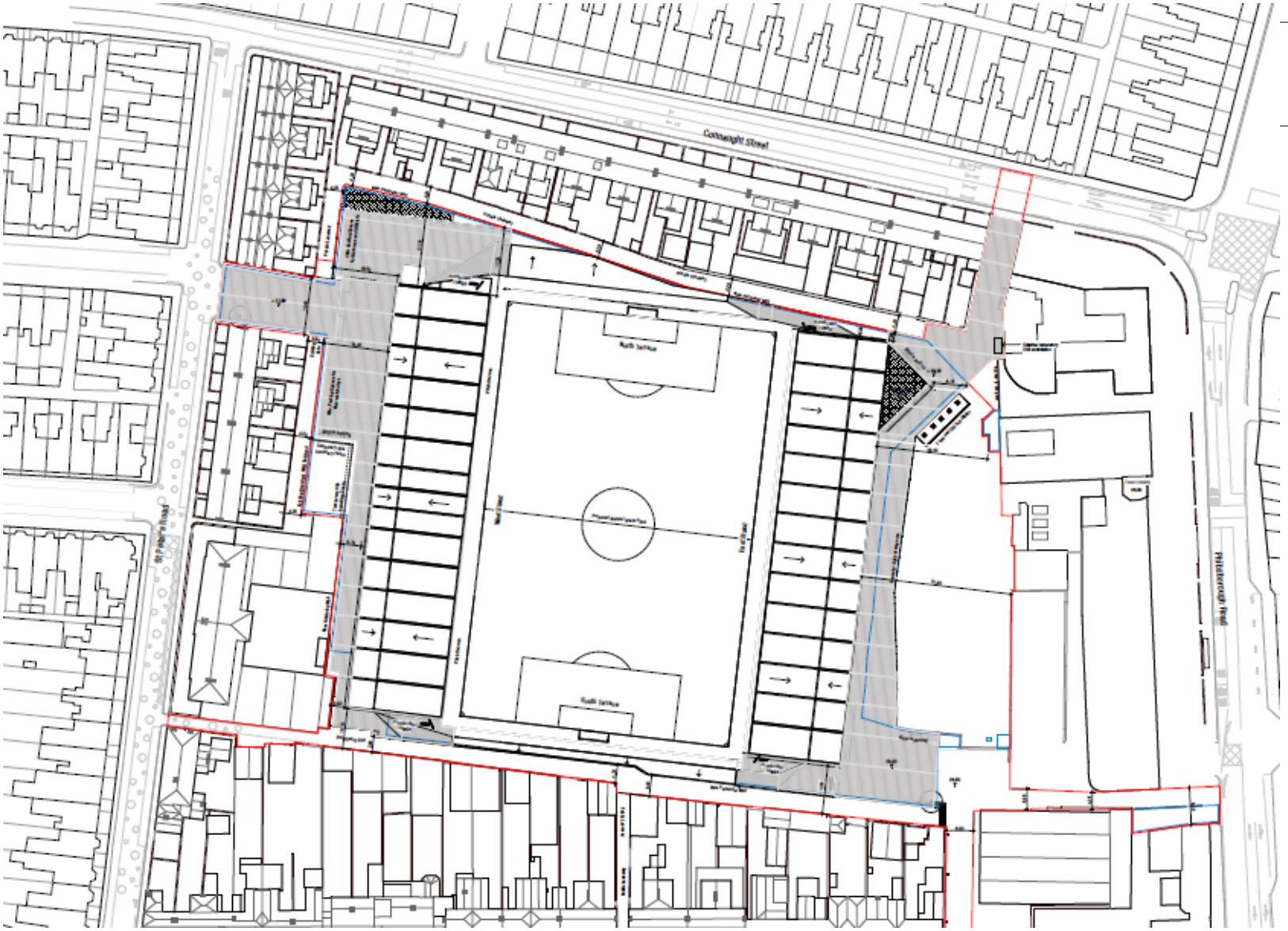


Site Boundary

Client: Dublin City Council			Drawing: Existing Site Layout			
Job: Screening Report						
	Drawing Number: Figure 3	Status: Final	Sht. Size: A4	Scale: As Shown	Date: Aug 23	Drawn: AW



Site Boundary

Client: Dublin City Council			Drawing: Proposed Site Layout			
Job: Screening Report						
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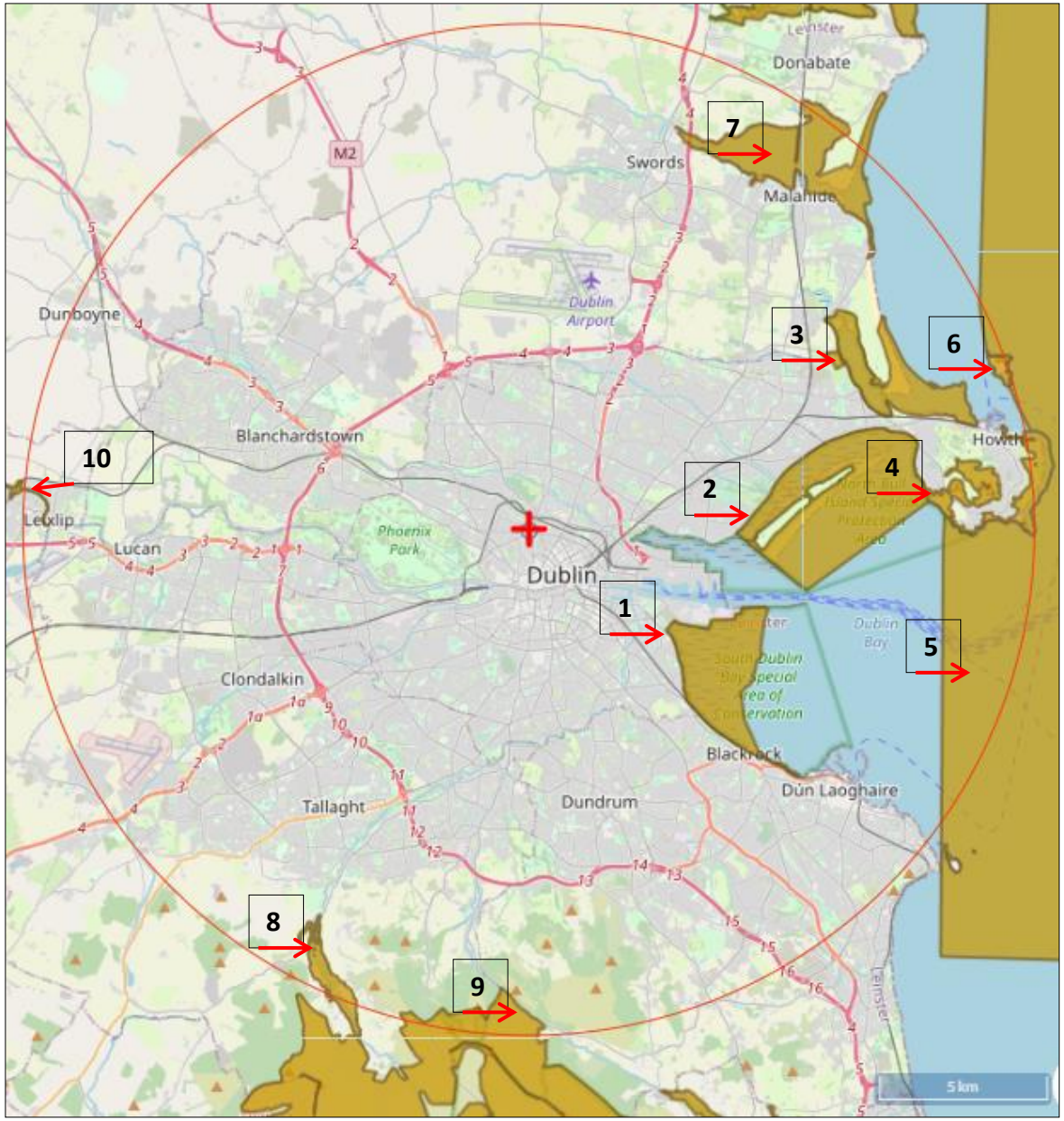


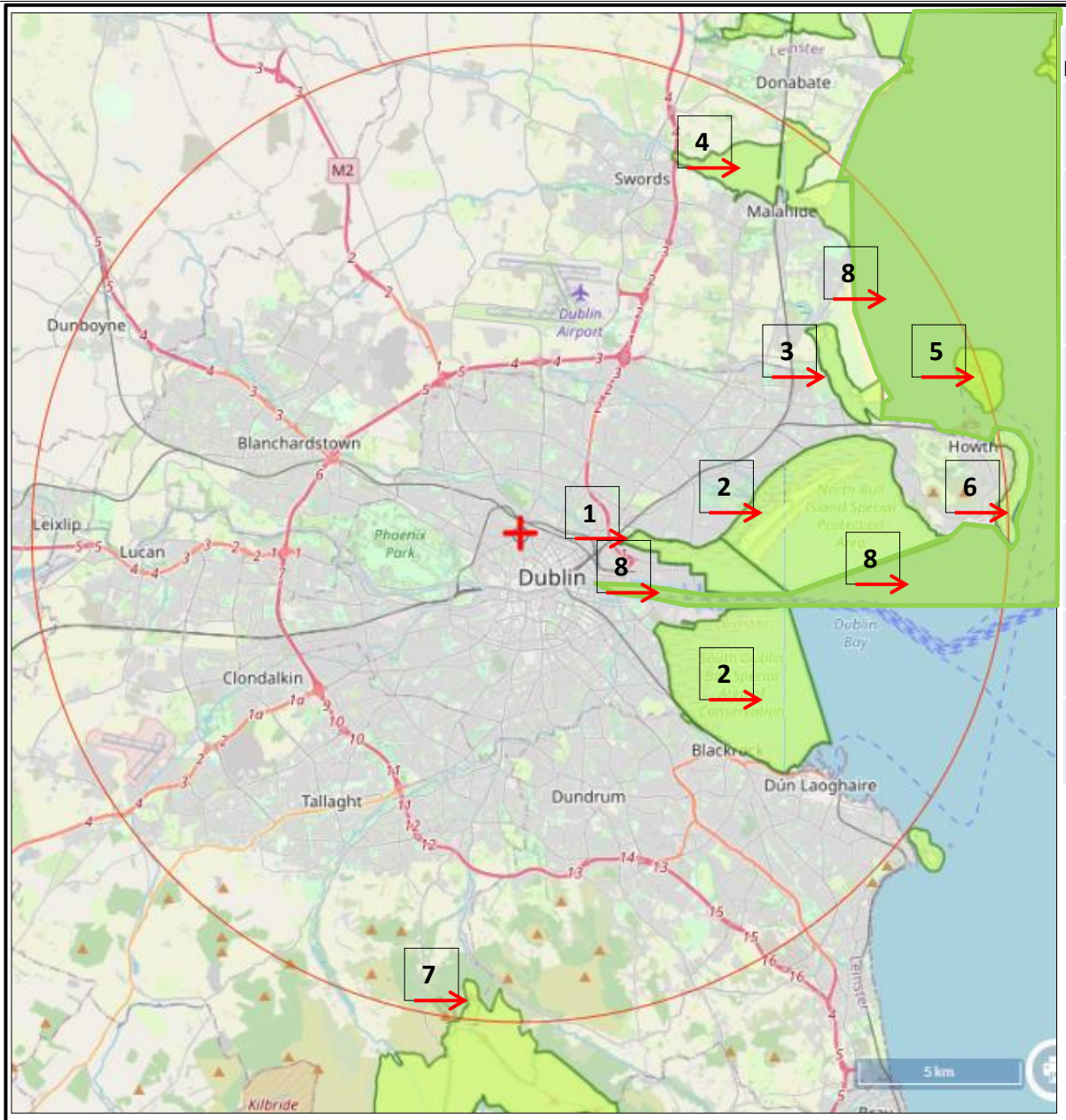
No.	Site Code	Name	Distance (km)
1	000210	South Dublin Bay SAC	5km SW
2	000206	North Dublin Bay SAC	6.1km E, NE
3	000199	Baldoyle Bay SAC	10. 1km NE
4	000202	Howth Head SAC	11.7km E
5	003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	12.3km E, SE, NE
6	002193	Ireland's Eye SAC	14.5km NE
7	000205	Malahide Estuary SAC	12.1km NE
8	001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	13km SW
9	002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	13.7km S
10	001398	Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC	14.3km W

Special Area of Conservation

Site Location

N

Client: Dublin City Council			Drawing: Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) within 15km of Site			
Job: Screening Report						
	Drawing Number: Figure 5	Status: Final	Sht. Size: A4	Scale: As Shown	Date: Aug 23	Drawn: AW



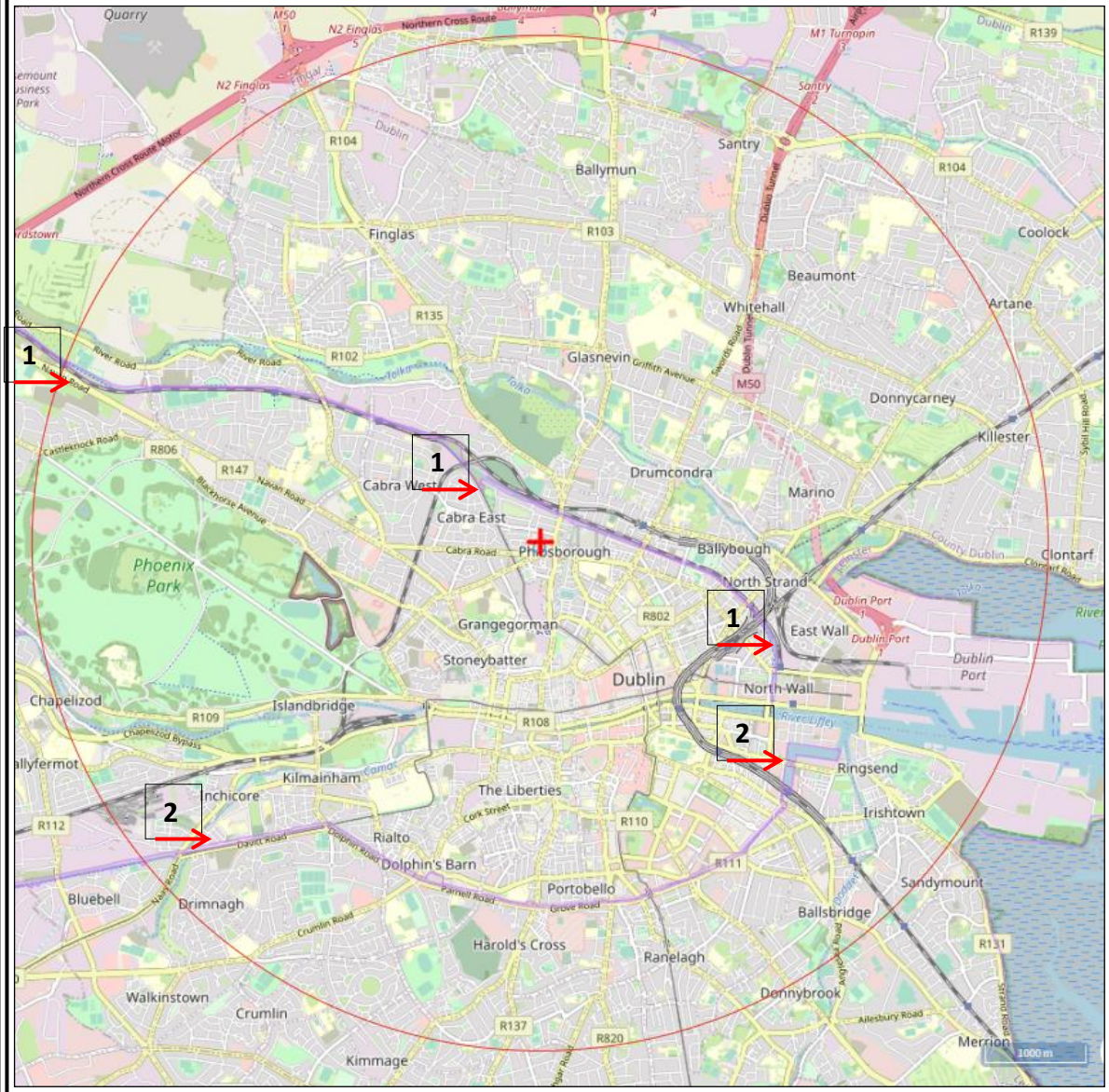
No.	Site Code	Name	Distance (km)
1	004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	3km E, SE
2	004006	North Bull Island SPA	6.1km E
3	004016	Baldoyle Bay SPA	10.5km NE
4	004025	Malahide Estuary SPA	12.1km NE
5	004117	Ireland's Eye SPA	14.2km NE
6	004113	Howth Head Coast SPA	14.5km E
7	004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	13.9km S
8	004236	North-West Irish Sea cSPA	2.7km E, NE

Special Protection Area

Site Location

N

Client: Dublin City Council			Drawing: Special Protection Areas (SPAs) within 15km of Site			
Job: Screening Report						
	Drawing Number: Figure 6	Status: Final	Sht. Size: A4	Scale: As Shown	Date: Aug 23	Drawn: AW



No.	Site Code	Name	Distance (km)
1	002103	Royal Canal pNHA	260m N, NE, E, NW
2	002104	Grand Canal pNHA	3.1km SE, S, SW

Proposed NHAs

Site Location

N

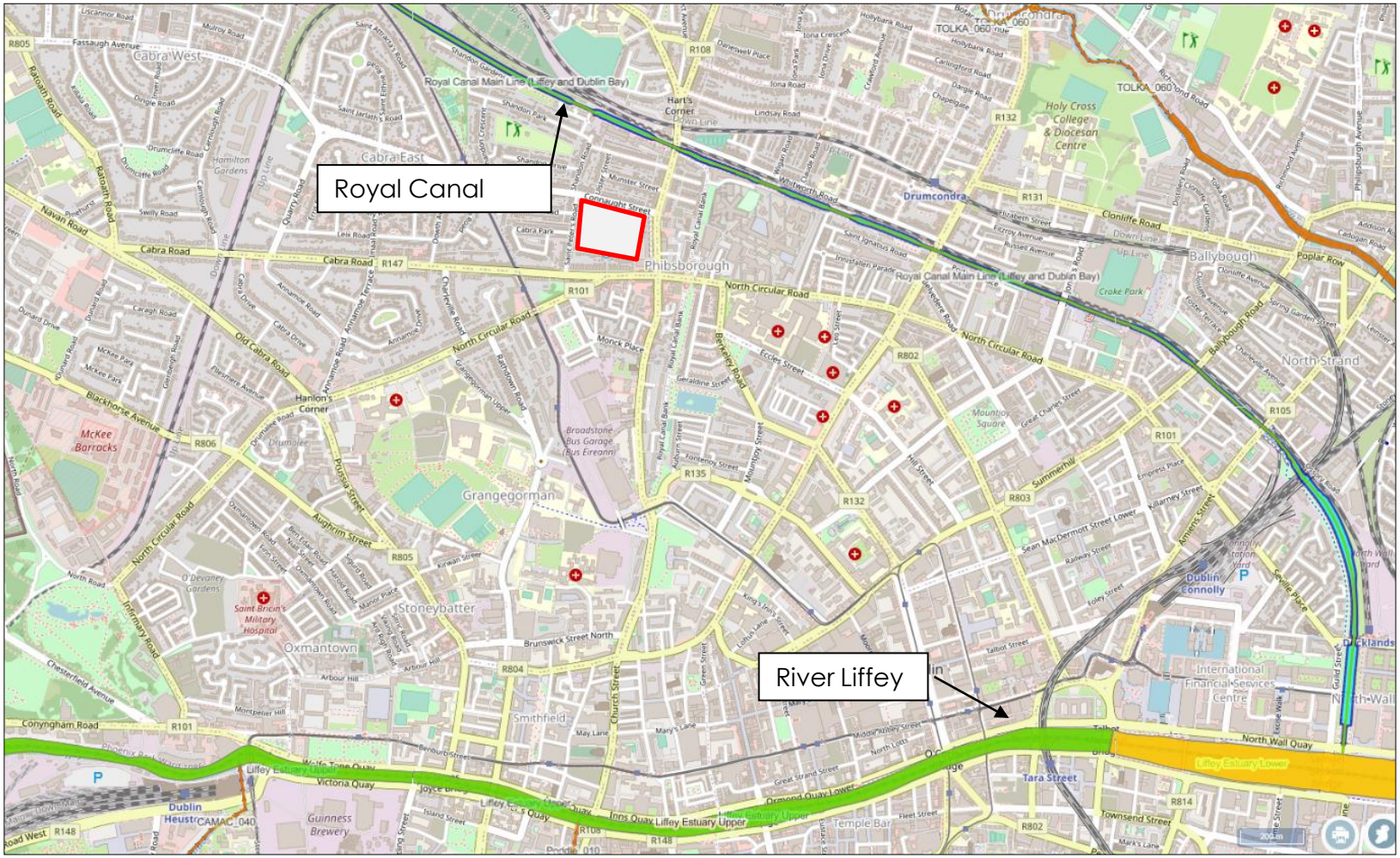
Client Dublin City Council			**Drawing**			
Job Screening Report			Proposed National Heritage Areas (pNHAs) within 5km of Site			
	Drawing Number Figure 7	Status Final	Sht. Size A4	Scale As Shown	Date Aug 23	Drawn AW

Site Boundary

Buildings and Artificial Surfaces (BL3)
Amenity Grassland (GA2)
Grassy Verges (GS2)

Client: Dublin City Council	Drawing: Habitat Map
Job: Screening Report	

Drawing Number	Status	Sht. Size	Scale	Date	Drawn
Figure 8	Final	A4	As Shown	Aug 23	AW

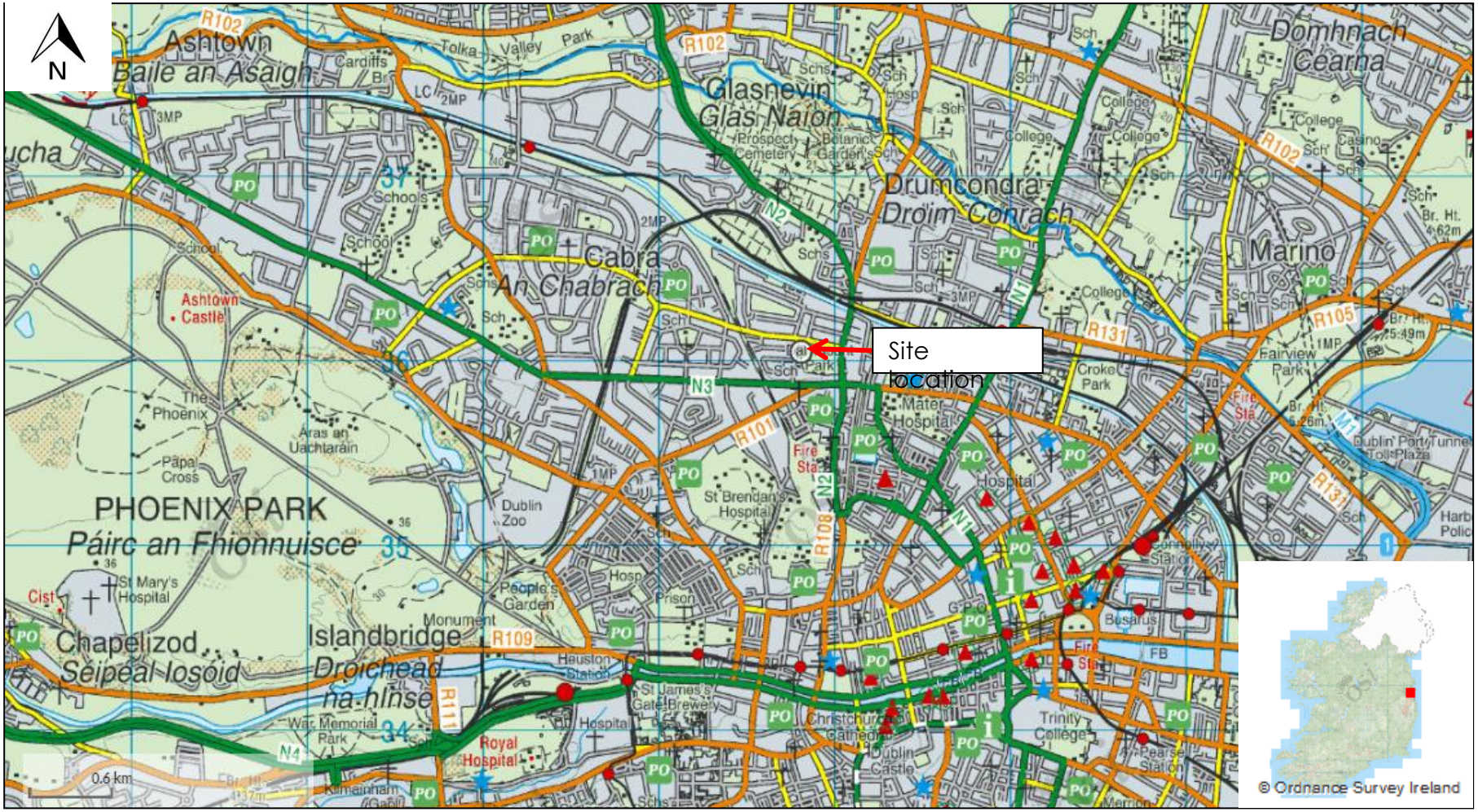


Site Location

Hydrometric Area '09 – Liffey and Dublin Bay'
WFD Subcatchment 'Tolka_SC_020'
WFD River Sub-Basin 'TOLKA_060'
'2016-2021 WFD River Status of 'Royal Canal Main Line (Liffey and Dublin Bay)' is 'Good'
2016-2021 WFD River Risk Status of 'Royal Canal Main Line (Liffey and Dublin Bay)' is 'Review'
2016-2021 WFD Groundwater Body Status of 'Dublin' is 'Good'
2016-2021WFD Groundwater Body Risk Status of 'Dublin' is 'Review'
Transitional Waterbody WFD Status 2016-2021 of 'Liffey Estuary Upper' is 'Good' and Risk is 'Review'
Transitional Waterbody WFD Status 2016-2021 of 'Liffey Estuary Lower' is 'Moderate' and Risk is 'At Risk'

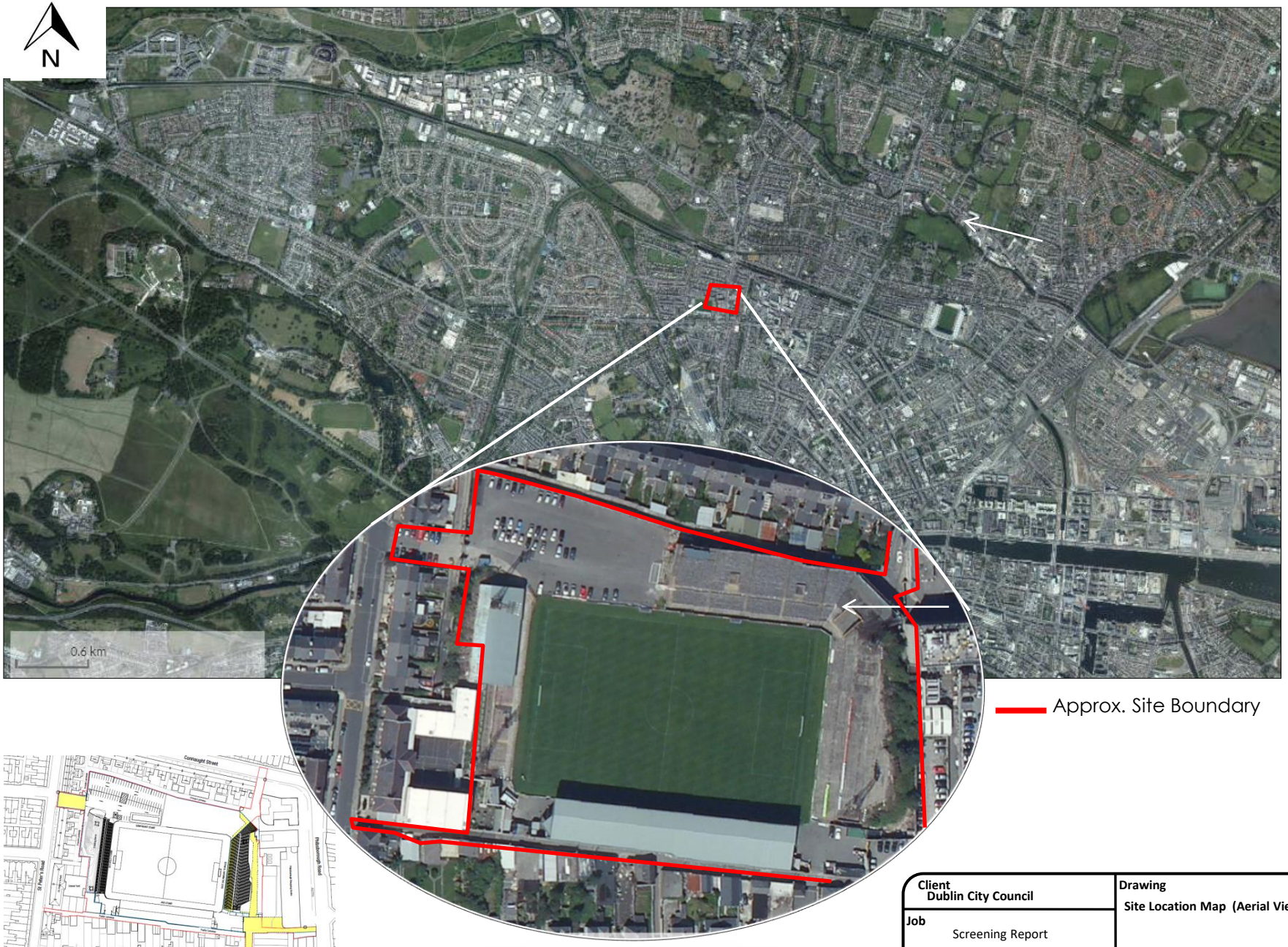
Client: Dublin City Council			Drawing: WFD Catchment Drainage Information			
Job: Screening Report						
	Drawing Number: Figure 9	Status: Final	Sht. Size: A4	Scale: As Shown	Date: Aug 23	Drawn: AW

FIGURES



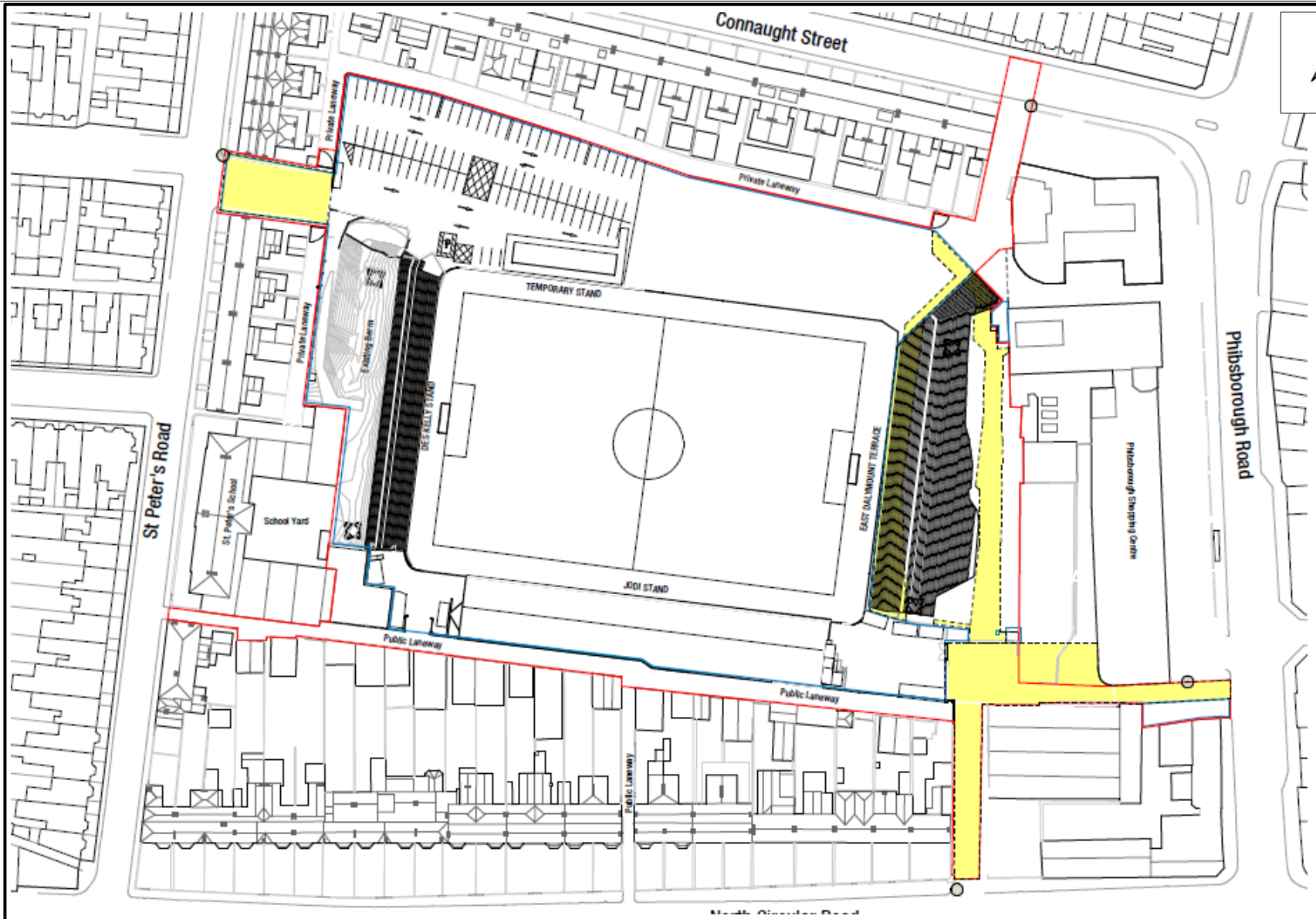
Client: Dublin City Council						Drawing: Site location map
Job: Screening Report						
	Drawing Number: Figure 1	Status: Final	Sht. Size: A4	Scale: As Shown	Date: Aug 23	Drawn: AW

Map sourced from National Biodiversity Data Centre Website – www.nbdc.ie



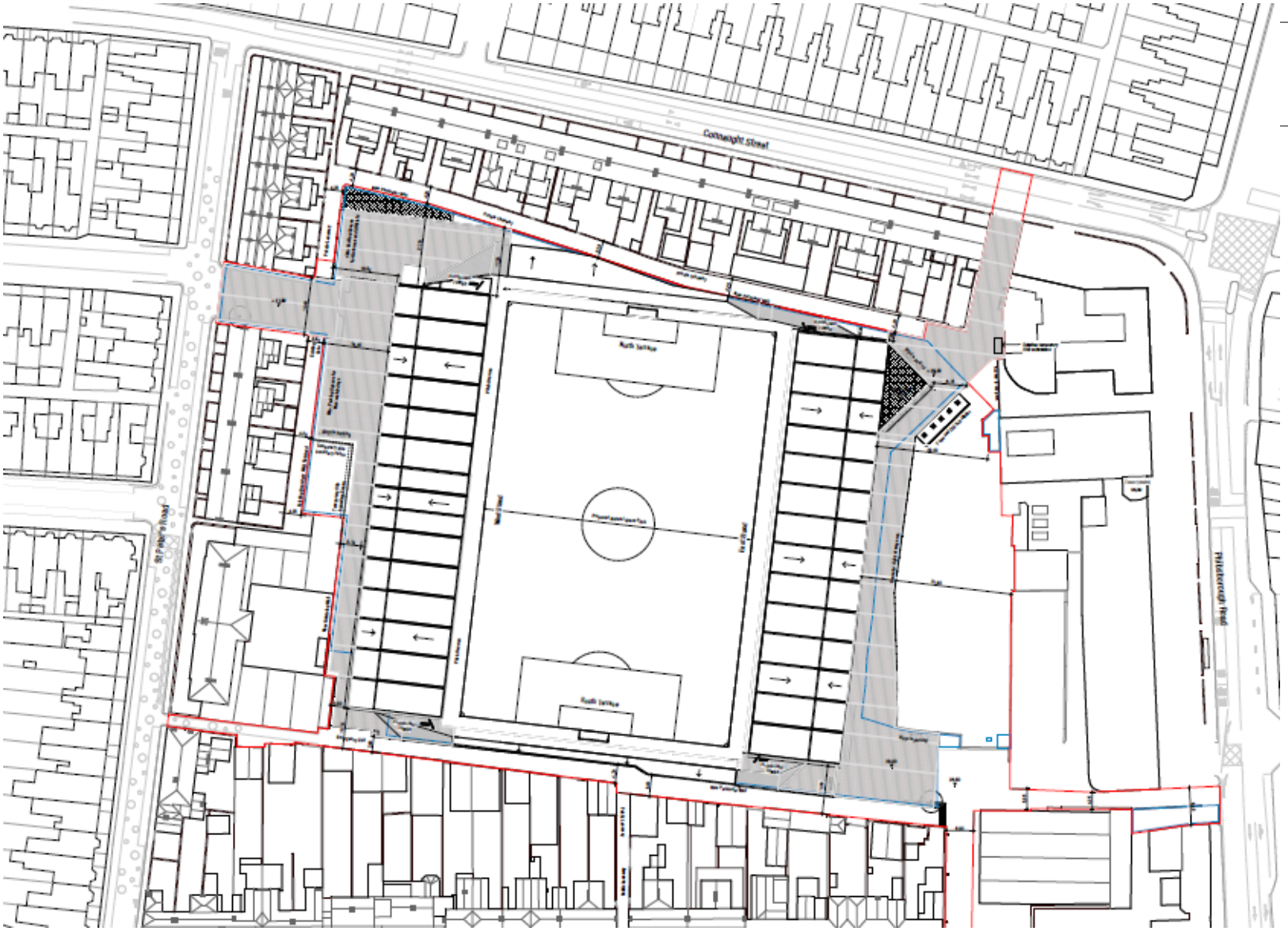
Map sourced from EPA Maps https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/

Client: Dublin City Council			Drawing: Site Location Map (Aerial View)			
Job: Screening Report						
	Drawing Number: Figure 2	Status: Final	Sht. Size: A4	Scale: As Shown	Date: Aug 23	Drawn: AW



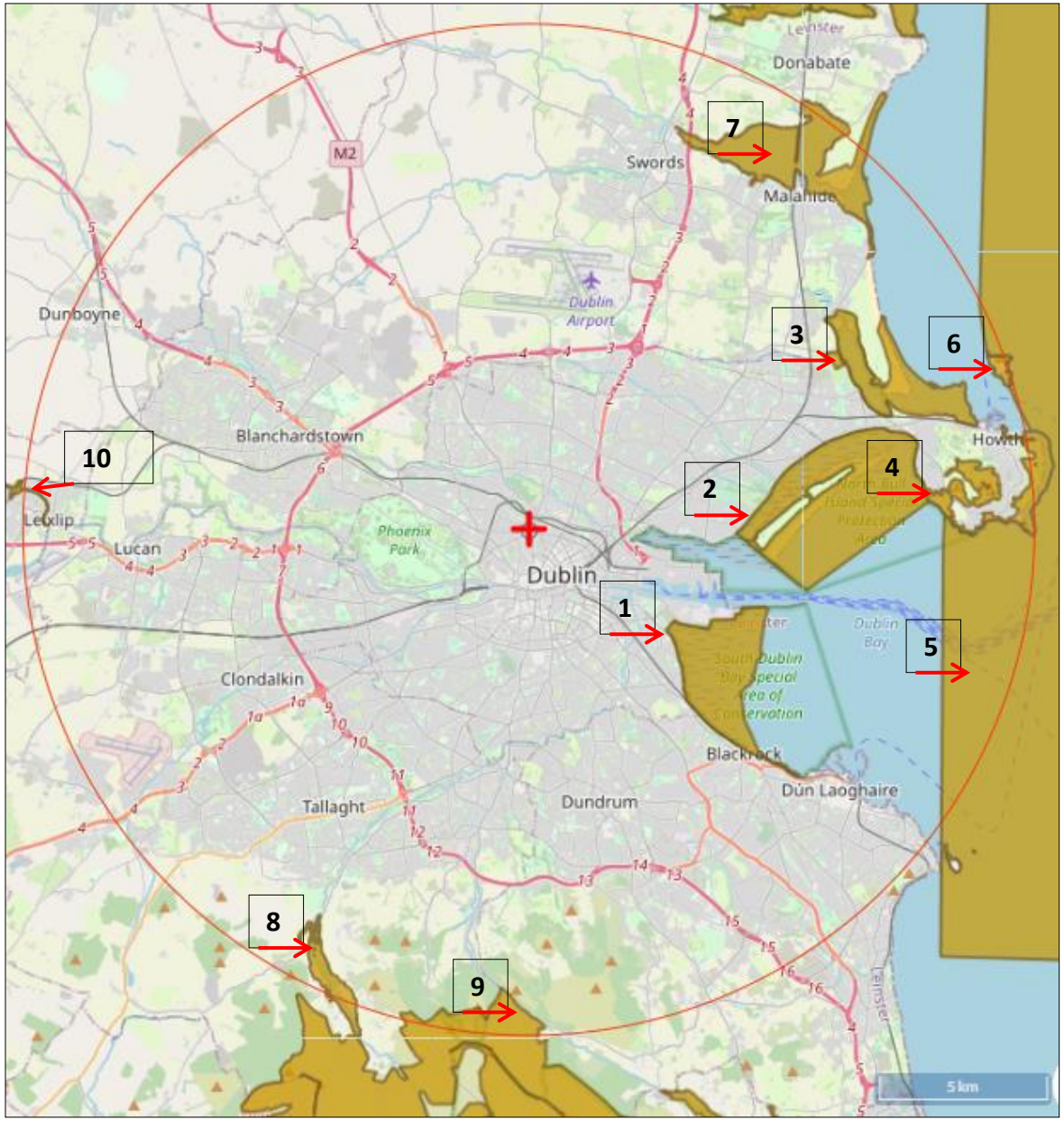
Site Boundary

Client: Dublin City Council			Drawing: Existing Site Layout			
Job: Screening Report						
	Drawing Number: Figure 3	Status: Final	Sht. Size: A4	Scale: As Shown	Date: Aug 23	Drawn: AW



Site Boundary

Client: Dublin City Council			Drawing: Proposed Site Layout			
Job: Screening Report						
	Drawing Number: Figure 4	Status: Final	Sht. Size: A4	Scale: As Shown	Date: Aug 23	Drawn: AW



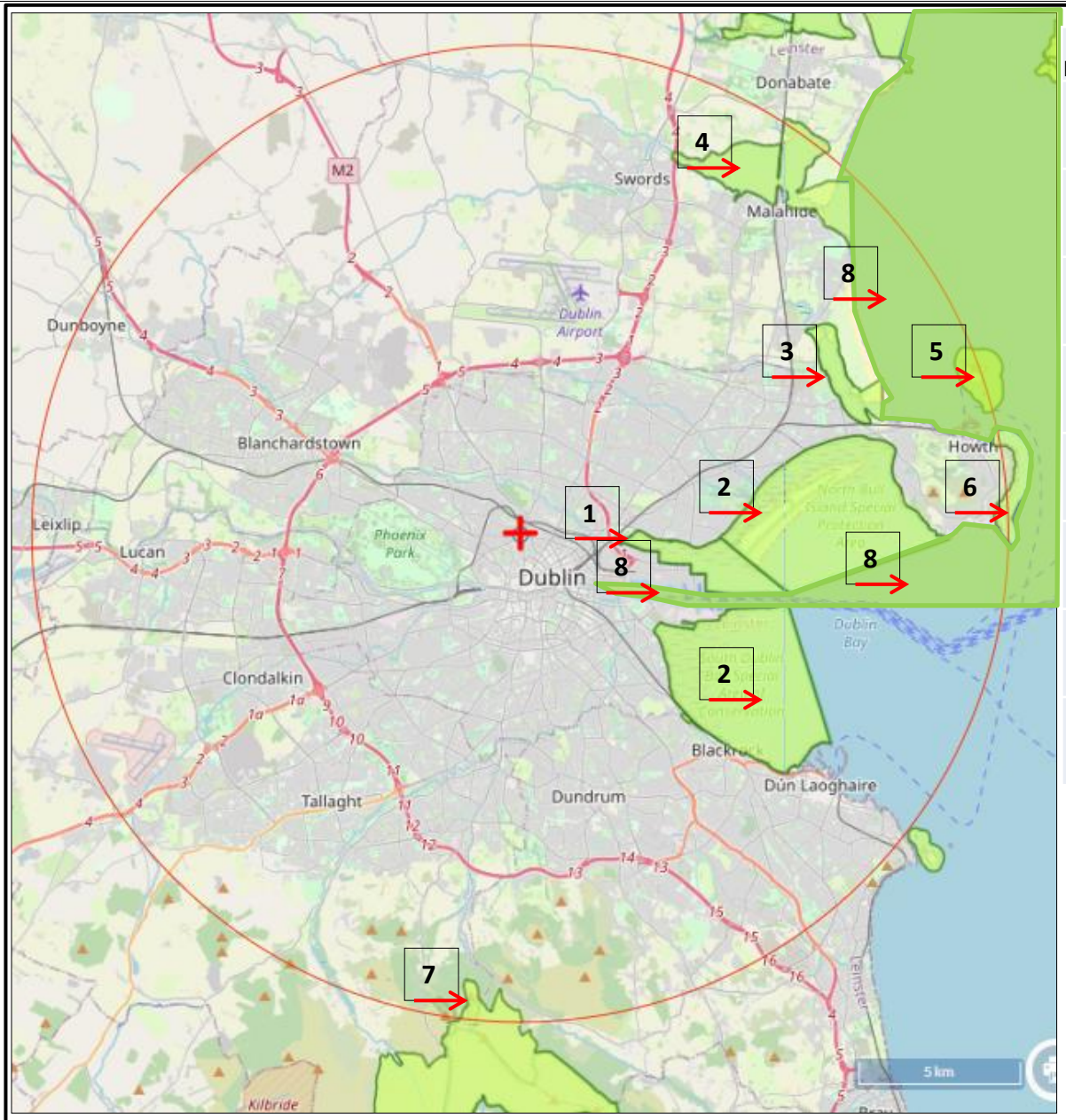
No.	Site Code	Name	Distance (km)
1	000210	South Dublin Bay SAC	5km SW
2	000206	North Dublin Bay SAC	6.1km E, NE
3	000199	Baldoyle Bay SAC	10. 1km NE
4	000202	Howth Head SAC	11.7km E
5	003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	12.3km E, SE, NE
6	002193	Ireland's Eye SAC	14.5km NE
7	000205	Malahide Estuary SAC	12.1km NE
8	001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	13km SW
9	002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	13.7km S
10	001398	Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC	14.3km W

Special Area of Conservation

Site Location

N

Client: Dublin City Council			Drawing: Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) within 15km of Site			
Job: Screening Report						
	Drawing Number: Figure 5	Status: Final	Sht. Size: A4	Scale: As Shown	Date: Aug 23	Drawn: AW



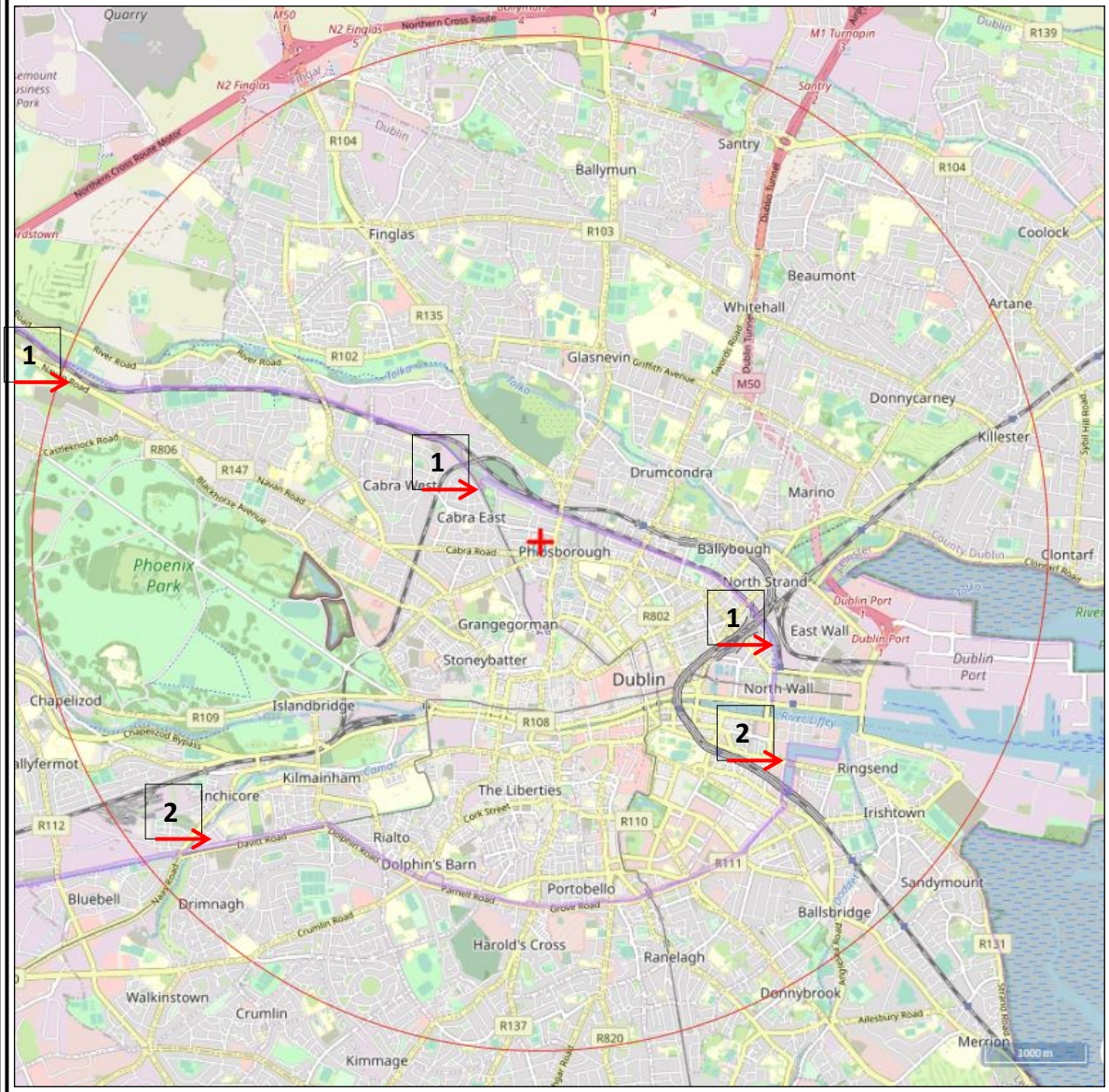
No.	Site Code	Name	Distance (km)
1	004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	3km E, SE
2	004006	North Bull Island SPA	6.1km E
3	004016	Baldoyle Bay SPA	10.5km NE
4	004025	Malahide Estuary SPA	12.1km NE
5	004117	Ireland's Eye SPA	14.2km NE
6	004113	Howth Head Coast SPA	14.5km E
7	004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	13.9km S
8	004236	North-West Irish Sea cSPA	2.7km E, NE

Special Protection Area

Site Location

N

Client: Dublin City Council			Drawing: Special Protection Areas (SPAs) within 15km of Site			
Job: Screening Report						
	Drawing Number: Figure 6	Status: Final	Sht. Size: A4	Scale: As Shown	Date: Aug 23	Drawn: AW



No.	Site Code	Name	Distance (km)
1	002103	Royal Canal pNHA	260m N, NE, E, NW
2	002104	Grand Canal pNHA	3.1km SE, S, SW

Proposed NHAs

Site Location

N

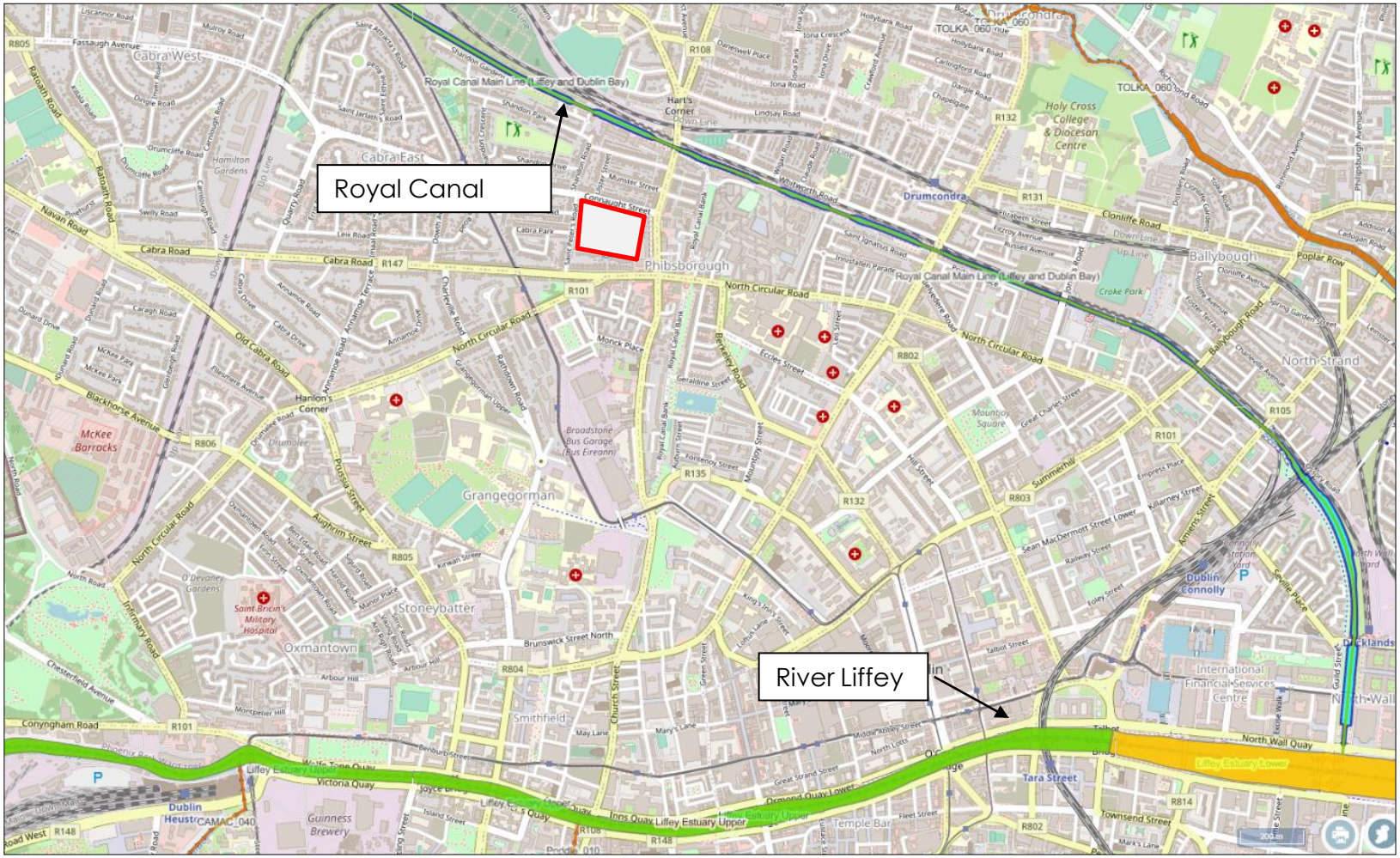
Client Dublin City Council			**Drawing**			
Job Screening Report			Proposed National Heritage Areas (pNHAs) within 5km of Site			
	Drawing Number Figure 7	Status Final	Sht. Size A4	Scale As Shown	Date Aug 23	Drawn AW

Site Boundary

Buildings and Artificial Surfaces (BL3)
Amenity Grassland (GA2)
Grassy Verges (GS2)

Client: Dublin City Council	Drawing: Habitat Map
Job: Screening Report	

Drawing Number	Status	Sht. Size	Scale	Date	Drawn
Figure 8	Final	A4	As Shown	Aug 23	AW



Site Location

Hydrometric Area '09 – Liffey and Dublin Bay'
WFD Subcatchment 'Tolka_SC_020'
WFD River Sub-Basin 'TOLKA_060'
'2016-2021 WFD River Status of 'Royal Canal Main Line (Liffey and Dublin Bay)' is 'Good'
2016-2021 WFD River Risk Status of 'Royal Canal Main Line (Liffey and Dublin Bay)' is 'Review'
2016-2021 WFD Groundwater Body Status of 'Dublin' is 'Good'
2016-2021WFD Groundwater Body Risk Status of 'Dublin' is 'Review'
Transitional Waterbody WFD Status 2016-2021 of 'Liffey Estuary Upper' is 'Good' and Risk is 'Review'
Transitional Waterbody WFD Status 2016-2021 of 'Liffey Estuary Lower' is 'Moderate' and Risk is 'At Risk'

Client: Dublin City Council			Drawing: WFD Catchment Drainage Information			
Job: Screening Report						
	Drawing Number: Figure 9	Status: Final	Sht. Size: A4	Scale: As Shown	Date: Aug 23	Drawn: AW

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Appendix A - Background information on European sites

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known threats and pressures
000199	Baldoyle Bay SAC	Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Atlantic salt meadows *(Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae))* [1330]	F03.01, D01.02, G02.01, E01, G01.01.02, G01.02, E03, F02.03.01, J02.01.02, K02.03, K03.06, I01	Hunting, roads, motorways, golf course, urbanised areas, human habitation, non-motorized nautical sports, walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, discharges, bait digging or collection, reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, eutrophication (natural), antagonism with domestic animals, invasive non-native species
000202	Howth Head SAC	European dry heaths [4030], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230]	C01.01.01, D01.01, C01, G05.04, G01.02, A04.03, E01, I01, J01.01	Sand and gravel quarries, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, mining and quarrying, vandalism, walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, urbanised areas, human habitation, invasive non-native species, burning down
000205	Malahide Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria *("white dunes")* [2120], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation *("grey dunes")* [2130], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Atlantic salt meadows *(Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae))* [1330], Cord-grass swards *(Spartina swards (Spartinion maritimae))* [1320]	D01.05, F03.01, E01, G01.02, I01, J02.01.02, A08, G01.03, G01.01, D01.02, G02.01	Bridge, viaduct, hunting, urbanised areas, human habitation, walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, invasive non-native species, reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, fertilisation, motorised vehicles, nautical sports, roads, motorways, golf course

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known threats and pressures
000206	North Dublin Bay SAC	Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Humid dune slacks [2190], Atlantic salt meadows *(Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)*) [1330], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation *("grey dunes")* [2130], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria *("white dunes")* [2120], Petalwort *(Petalophyllum ralfsii)* [1395], Shifting dunes *(Embryonic shifting dunes)* [2110], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]	E01, F02.03, H01.09, A04, H01.03, J01.01, G01.02, G05.05, F02.03.01, E02, I01, K03.06, G01.01, E03, G02.01	Urbanised areas, human habitation, leisure fishing, diffuse pollution to surface waters due to other sources not listed, grazing, other point source pollution to surface water, burning down, walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, intensive maintenance of public parcs or cleaning of beaches, bait digging or collection, industrial or commercial areas, invasive non-native species, antagonism with domestic animals, nautical sports, discharges, golf course
000210	South Dublin Bay SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Shifting dunes *(Embryonic shifting dunes)* [2110]	G01.01, E01, E03, G01.02, F02.03.01, M01, H03, D01.02, E02, K02, K02.02, G01.01.02, J02.01.02, D01.01	Nautical sports, urbanised areas, human habitation, discharges, walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, bait digging or collection, changes in abiotic conditions, marine water pollution, roads, motorways, industrial or commercial areas, biocenotic evolution, succession, accumulation of organic material, non- motorized nautical sports, reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, paths, tracks, cycling tracks

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known threats and pressures
001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco- Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210]	A03, A03.03, B01.02, B02.01.02, B02.02, A04.02.03, A04, H01.05, H01.08, D01, D01.03, A04.02.01, A04.02.02, C01.03, E01.02, J02, I01, H02.07, A08, F02.03, B01.01	Mowing or cutting of grassland, abandonment or lack of mowing , artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), forest replanting (non-native trees), forestry clearance, non-intensive horse grazing, grazing, diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, roads, paths and railroads, car parcs and parking areas, non-intensive cattle grazing, non-intensive sheep grazing, peat extraction, discontinuous urbanisation, human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, invasive non-native species, diffuse groundwater pollution due to non-sewered population, fertilisation, leisure fishing, forest planting on open ground (native trees)
001398	Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], Narrow-mouthed whorl snail (Vertigo angustior) [1014]	A04, A08, E01.03, D01.02, E01.01, B, A10.01, J02.05.02	Grazing, fertilisation, dispersed habitation, roads, motorways, continuous urbanisation, sylviculture, forestry, removal of hedges and copses or scrub, modifying structures of inland water courses
002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles) [91A0], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	A04, L05, A05.02, D01.01, G05.06, G02.09, K04.05, G05.04, B06, F03, G05.09,	Grazing, collapse of terrain, landslide, stock feeding, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees, wildlife watching, damage by herbivores (including game species), vandalism, grazing in forests or woodland, hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), fences, fencing, non- intensive

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known threats and pressures
		[3160], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on silicious substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in Continental Europe) [6230], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110], European dry heaths [4030], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130], Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130]	B02.05, F03.02.02, K01.01, I01, E03.01, E01, G01.02, G05.07, G04.01, G01.04, G05.01, J01.01, G01, F04.02, G01.03.02, C01.03	timber production (leaving dead wood or old trees untouched), taking from nest (e.g. Falcons), erosion, invasive non- native species, disposal of household or recreational facility waste, urbanised areas, human habitation, walking, horseriding and non- motorised vehicles, missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, military manouvres, mountaineering, rock climbing, speleology, trampling, overuse, burning down, outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, collection (fungi, lichen, berries etc.), off-road motorized driving, peat extraction
002193	Ireland's Eye SAC	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]	J01, A04.03, G01.02, G02.09, G01.01, G05.01	Fire and fire suppression, abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, wildlife watching, nautical sports, trampling, overuse

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known threats and pressures
003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	Reefs [1170], Harbour porpoise (Phocoena phocoena) [1351]	E03, J02.02, J02.11, D03.02, D02, H06.01, F02.02	Discharges, removal of sediments (mud...), siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, shipping lanes, utility and service lines, noise nuisance, noise pollution, professional active fishing
004006	North Bull Island SPA	Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Mew gull (Larus canus) [A182], Common shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], European golden plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Ruff (Philomachus pugnax) [A151], Red-breasted merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069], Ruddy turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Short- eared owl (Asio flammeus) [A222], Ringed plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Common redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Northern shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Eurasian oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130], Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144], Northern pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Red knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus)	D03.02, E01.01, E03, D01.05, G02.01, E02, E01.04, G01.02, D01.02, F02.03.01, G03, G01.01	Shipping lanes, continuous urbanisation, discharges, bridge, viaduct, golf course, industrial or commercial areas, other patterns of habitation, walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, roads, motorways, bait digging or collection, interpretative centres, nautical sports

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known threats and pressures
		[A179], Eurasian wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Grey plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Eurasian teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Bar-tailed godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Common greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164]		
004016	Baldoyle Bay SPA	Bar-tailed godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Common redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Ringed plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Northern pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Eurasian teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Red-breasted merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069], Common shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Eurasian oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130], Great crested grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005], Common greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Ruddy turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Red knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144], Northern lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Grey plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], European golden plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]	G02.01, F02.03.01, D01.02, G01.02, A08, K02.03, E01, J02.01.02, F03.01, I01	Golf course, bait digging or collection, roads, motorways, walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, fertilisation, eutrophication (natural), urbanised areas, human habitation, reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, hunting, invasive non-native species

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known threats and pressures
004024	Sandymount Strand/Tolka Estuary SPA	Ruddy turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Mediterranean gull (Larus melanocephalus) [A176], Red knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Great crested grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005], Grey plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Arctic tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A194], Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144], Bar-tailed godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Mew gull (Larus canus) [A182], Roseate tern (Sterna dougallii) [A192], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Ringed plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Red-breasted merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069], Great cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus) [A179], Common redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Eurasian oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130]	J02.01.02, F02.03, E01, G01.01, E03, K02.03, E02, F02.03.01, D01.02, G01.02	Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, leisure fishing, urbanised areas, human habitation, nautical sports, discharges, eutrophication (natural), industrial or commercial areas, bait digging or collection, roads, motorways, walking, horseriding and non- motorised vehicles
004025	Broadmeadow/ Sw ords Estuary SPA	Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Common goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Bar-tailed godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Common redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Common shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Eurasian oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130], Red-breasted merganser (Mergus serrator)	D01.04, J02.01.02, D01.05, D01.01, A08, G01.02, I01, E02, E01, G01.01	Railway lines, tgv, reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, bridge, viaduct, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, fertilisation, walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, invasive non-native species, industrial or commercial areas, urbanised areas, human habitation, nautical sports

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known threats and pressures
		[A069], European golden plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus) [A179], Ringed plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Mew gull (Larus canus) [A182], Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144], Ruff (Philomachus pugnax) [A151], Northern lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Common greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Eurasian teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Grey plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Great crested grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005], Ruddy turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Great cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Red knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Northern pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Common pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059]		
004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	Peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus) [A103], Wood warbler (Phylloscopus sibilatrix) [A314], Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098]	C01.03, G01.02, G03, D01.01, B, A04	Peat extraction, walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, interpretative centres, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, sylviculture, forestry, grazing
004113	Howth Head Coast SPA	Common guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199], Peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus) [A103], Razorbill (Alca torda) [A200], Northern fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009], Black-legged kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188]	G01.02, J01	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, fire and fire suppression

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known threats and pressures
004117	Ireland's Eye SPA	Razorbill (Alca torda) [A200], Peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus) [A103], Northern fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009], Northern gannet (Morus bassanus) [A016], Common guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199], Atlantic puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204], Black-legged kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188], Great cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]	F02.03, G01.02	Leisure fishing, walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles
004236	North-West Irish Sea cSPA	Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065] Red-throated Diver (Gavia stellata) [A001] Great Northern Diver (Gavia immer) [A003] Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009] Manx Shearwater (Puffinus puffinus) [A013] Shag (Phalacrocorax aristotelis) [A018] Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017] Little Gull (Larus minutus) [A177] Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188] Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179] Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182] Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus) [A183] Herring Gull (Larus argentatus) [A184] Great Black-backed Gull (Larus marinus) [A187] Little Tern (Sterna albifrons) [A195] Roseate Tern (Sterna dougallii) [A192] Common Tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193] Arctic Tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A194] Puffin	Not available	Not available as yet (Site Synopsis July 2023 but no Conservation Objectives published as yet - https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/spa/004236

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known threats and pressures
		(Fratercula arctica) [A204] Razorbill (Alca torda) [A200] Guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199]		

APPENDIX B

Appendix B - Qualifying Interests of SACs that have undergone assessment including summaries of current threats and sensitivities

Characterisation of Potential Effects arising from the subject land area

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Alpine and Boreal heaths	[4060]	Abandonment; overgrazing; burning; outdoor recreation; quarries; communication networks; and wind farm developments.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
Annual vegetation of drift lines	[1210]	Grazing; sand and gravel extraction; recreational activities; coastal protection works.	Overgrazing and erosion. Changes in management.
Atlantic salt meadows *(Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)*	[1330]	Overgrazing; erosion; invasive species, particularly common cordgrass (Spartina anglica); infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Overgrazing, erosion and accretion.
Blanket bogs *(* if active bog)*	[7130]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Calaminarian grasslands of the Murawy galmanowa*(Violetalia calaminariae)*	[6130]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8210]	Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Embryonic shifting dunes	[2110]	Natural erosion processes exacerbated by recreation and sand extraction. Coastal protection interfering with natural processes.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
European dry heaths	[4030]	Afforestation, overburning, over-grazing, under-grazing and bracken invasion.	Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation *(grey dunes)*	[2130]	Recreation; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing: non-native plant species, particularly sea buckthorn (Hippophae rhamnoides).	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Humid dune slacks	[2190]	Agricultural improvement; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing; forestry; recreational activity.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management. Sensitive to hydrological change.
Otter (Lutra lutra)	[1355]	Decrease in water quality: Use of pesticides; fertilization; vegetation removal; professional fishing (including lobster pots and fyke nets); unting; poisoning; sand and gravel extraction; mechanical removal of peat; urbanised areas; human habitation; continuous urbanization; drainage; management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes; and canalization or modifying structures of inland water course.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Sensitivity to pollution.
Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt- laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	[6410]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	[1140]	Aquaculture, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works and invasive species, particularly cord-grass; hard coastal defence structures; sea-level rise.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.
Natural dystrophic	[3160]	Nutrient alterations; management shifts in the	Surface and groundwater dependant.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
lakes and ponds		associated peatland habitat, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	[4010]	Reclamation, afforestation and burning; overstocking; invasion by non- heath species; exposure of peat to severe erosion.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	[91A0]	The introduction of alien species; sub-optimal grazing patterns; general forestry management; increases in urbanisation and human habitation adjacent to oak woodlands; and the construction of communication networks through the woodland.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.
Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)	[3110]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Perennial vegetation of stony banks	[1220]	Disruption of the sediment supply, owing to the interruption of the coastal processes, caused by developments such as car parks and coastal defence structures including rock armour and sea walls. The removal of gravel.	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity and gravel removal.
Petalwort(Petalophyllum ralfsii)	[1395]	There are no significant impacts affecting this species.	None identified.
Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	[7220]	Ground water interactions, on site management activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Harbour Porpoise(Phocoena phocoena)	[1351]	Pressures acting on the species in Irish waters mainly involve commercial vessel-based activities such as impacts arising from geophysical seismic exploration	Sensitive to disturbance, prey availability and pollution.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
		or from local/regional prey removal from fisheries.	
Reefs	[1170]	Professional fishing; taking for fauna; taking for flora; water pollution; climate change; and change in species composition.	Sensitive to disturbance and pollution.
Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	[1310]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Marine water dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Infilling, reclamation, invasive species.
Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco- Brometalia)* important orchid sites	[6210]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Shifting dunes along the shoreline with white dunes(Ammophila arenaria)	[2120]	Recreation and coastal defences, which may interfere with local sediment dynamics.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8220]	Pressures associated with the non-native invasive species New Zealand willowherb (Epilobium brunnescens).	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)	[8110]	Overgrazing, undergrazing and succession were recorded as medium- importance pressures in this reporting period, and Structure and functions were again assessed as Inadequate, the trend is considered to be stable rather than improving. This change is due to improved knowledge and the habitat is considered to have been stable since	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
		before the last assessment.	
Spartina swards (Spartinion maritimae)	[1320]	None identified by the NPWS in the 2019 publication of the Status of EU protected habitats and species in Ireland.	Changes in hydrological characteristics, invasive species, grazing, interspecific floral competition and abiotic natural processes
Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	[6230]	Bracken encroachment, succession, inappropriate grazing, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	[1230]	A number of significant pressures were identified, including trampling by walkers, invasive non-native species, gravel extraction, and sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change. There have been no significant losses in sea cliff habitat since the Directive came into force.	Land use activities such as tourism and/or agricultural practices. Direct alteration to the habitat or effects such as burning or drainage.
Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail (Vertigo angustior)	[1014]	Loss of riverside and canalside habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (Vertigo moulinsiana)	[1016]	Loss of riverside and canalside habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.

APPENDIX C

Appendix C - Special Conservation Interests of SPAs that have undergone assessment including vulnerabilities of the SCIs

Special Conservation Interest Species identified for the SPAs within connected to the proposed project:

Arctic tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A194]
Atlantic puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204]
Bar-tailed godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]
Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus) [A179]
Black-legged kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188]
Common goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067]
Common greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164]
Common guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199]
Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182]
Common pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059]
Common redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]
Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065]
Common shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]
Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193]
Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]
Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]
Eurasian oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130]
Eurasian teal (Anas crecca) [A052]
Eurasian wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]
European golden plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]
Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]
Great Black-backed Gull (Larus marinus) [A187]
Great cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]
Great crested grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005]
Great Northern Diver (Gavia immer) [A003]
Grey plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]
Guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199]
Herring Gull (Larus argentatus) [A184]
Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188]
Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus) [A183]
Little Gull (Larus minutus) [A177]
Little Tern (Sterna albifrons) [A195]
Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053]
Manx Shearwater (Puffinus puffinus) [A013]
Mediterranean gull (Larus melanocephalus) [A176]
Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098]
Mew gull (Larus canus) [A182]
Northern fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]
Northern gannet (Morus bassanus) [A016]
Northern lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]
Northern pintail (Anas acuta) [A054]
Northern shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056]

Peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus) [A103]
Puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204]
Razorbill (Alca torda) [A200]
Red knot (Calidris canutus) [A143]
Red-breasted merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069]
Red-throated Diver (Gavia stellata) [A001]
Ringed plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137]
Roseate tern (Sterna dougallii) [A192]
Ruddy turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169]
Ruff (Philomachus pugnax) [A151]
Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144]
Shag (Phalacrocorax aristotelis) [A018]
Short-eared owl (Asio flammeus) [A222]
Wood warbler (Phylloscopus sibilatrix) [A314]

Special Conservation Interest *(SCI)* Species
Great crested grebe *(Podiceps cristatus)* [A005]
Northern fulmar *(Fulmarus glacialis)* [A009]
Northern gannet *(Morus bassanus)* [A016]
Great cormorant *(Phalacrocorax carbo)* [A017]
Common shelduck *(Tadorna tadorna)* [A048]
Eurasian wigeon *(Anas penelope)* [A050]
Eurasian teal *(Anas crecca)* [A052]
Mallard *(Anas platyrhynchos)* [A053]
Northern pintail *(Anas acuta)* [A054]
Northern shoveler *(Anas clypeata)* [A056]
Common pochard *(Aythya ferina)* [A059]
Common goldeneye *(Bucephala clangula)* [A067]
Red-breasted merganser *(Mergus serrator)* [A069]
Merlin *(Falco columbarius)* [A098]
Peregrine falcon *(Falco peregrinus)* [A103]
Eurasian oystercatcher *(Haematopus ostralegus)* [A130]
Ringed plover *(Charadrius hiaticula)* [A137]
European golden plover *(Pluvialis apricaria)* [A140]
Grey plover *(Pluvialis squatarola)* [A141]

Northern lapwing *(Vanellus vanellus)* [A142]
Red knot *(Calidris canutus)* [A143]
Sanderling *(Calidris alba)* [A144]
Ruff *(Philomachus pugnax)* [A151]
Bar-tailed godwit *(Limosa lapponica)* [A157]
Eurasian curlew *(Numenius arquata)* [A160]
Common redshank *(Tringa totanus)* [A162]
Common greenshank *(Tringa nebularia)* [A164]
Ruddy turnstone *(Arenaria interpres)* [A169]
Mediterranean gull *(Larus melanocephalus)* [A176]
Black-headed gull *(Larus ridibundus)* [A179]
Mew gull *(Larus canus)* [A182]
Black-legged kittiwake *(Rissa tridactyla)* [A188]
Roseate tern *(Sterna dougallii)* [A192]
Common tern *(Sterna hirundo)* [A193]
Arctic tern *(Sterna paradisaea)* [A194]
Common guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199]
Razorbill (Alca torda) [A200]
Atlantic puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204]
Short-eared owl (Asio flammeus) [A222]
Wood warbler (Phylloscopus sibilatrix) [A314]

Vulnerabilities of Special Conservation Interests

- Bird species are particularly vulnerable to direct disturbance due to noise and/or vibration. These effects are localised, and disturbance effects are foreseen to be low at distances beyond 2km[1].
- Direct habitat loss is a serious concern for bird species, as well as the reduction in habitat quality. Habitat degradation could occur through effects such as local enrichment due to agricultural practices or damage to habitat through activities such as trampling.
- Prey species diversity and availability is a key element of species conservation. Community dynamics and ecosystem functionality are

[1] SNH (2007) A Review of Disturbance Distances in Selected Bird Species: Scottish Natural Heritage; M. Ruddock & D.P. Whitfield

complex concepts and require site specific information. The site synopsis and conservation objectives for the SPAs identified within the ZOI were used to identify any specific prey sensitivities.
- Availability of nesting/roosting habitat. Particularly for the Hen Harrier.
- Vegetation composition, structure and functionality.

Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] Direct land take is a common vulnerability to all sites; as well as significant water quality effects. The conservation objective of all SPAs designated for Wetland and Waterbirds is to maintain the favourable conservation condition of the wetland habitat as a resource for the regularly occurring migratory waterbirds using it.

APPENDIX D

Plate 1 Looking north. Existing Pitch and Terraces.

Plate 2 Jodi Stand, looking south.

Plate 3 Looking to the southwest of site, Des Kelly Stand to the right of plate.

Plate 4 Jodi Stand, looking west.

Plate 5 Jodi Stand at night with St Peter's Church in the background.