



# APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

FOR

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

AT

LANDS AT GLENAMUCK ROAD  
NORTH, CARRICKMINES, DUBLIN 18  
(BOUNDED BY 'TULLYBEG' TO THE  
NORTH, 'CHIGWELL' TO THE  
NORTHEAST, 'STAFFORD LODGE'  
TO THE SOUTH AND 'CARRICÁIL' TO  
THE SOUTHEAST).

ON BEHALF OF

MORAN PARK HOMEBUILDERS  
LIMITED

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## DOCUMENT CONTROL SHEET

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<b>Project Title</b>	Proposed Residential Development at Lands at Glenamuck Road North, Carrickmines, Dublin 18 (bounded by 'Tullybeg' to the north, 'Chigwell' to the northeast, 'Stafford Lodge' to the south and 'Carricáil' to the southeast).
<b>Document Title</b>	Appropriate Assessment Screening Report

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>LIST OF TABLES .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>LIST OF FIGURES.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1 INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 BACKGROUND .....	1
1.2 RELEVANT LEGISLATION .....	1
1.2.1 <i>Legislative Background</i> .....	1
1.2.2 <i>Legislative Context</i> .....	1
1.2.3 <i>Stages of AA</i> .....	2
<b>2 METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1 SCREENING STEPS .....	4
2.2 DESK STUDY .....	5
2.3 FIELD SURVEYS .....	5
2.3.1 <i>Ecological surveys</i> .....	5
2.4 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS .....	5
<b>3 STAGE 1 SCREENING .....</b>	<b>7</b>
3.1 MANAGEMENT OF EUROPEAN SITES .....	7
3.2 DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT .....	7
3.2.1 <i>Brief Project Description</i> .....	7
3.2.2 <i>Construction Phase</i> .....	8
3.2.3 <i>Operational Phase</i> .....	9
3.3 EXISTING ENVIRONMENT .....	10
3.3.1 <i>Geology</i> .....	10
3.3.2 <i>Hydrogeology</i> .....	10
3.3.3 <i>Hydrology</i> .....	11
3.4 IDENTIFICATION OF RELEVANT EUROPEAN SITES .....	14
3.4.1 <i>Source-Pathway-Receptor Assessment</i> .....	19
3.4.2 <i>Results of Source-Pathway-Receptor Assessment</i> .....	21
3.5 ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS .....	22
3.5.1 <i>Habitat Loss and Alteration</i> .....	23
3.5.2 <i>Habitat / Species Fragmentation</i> .....	23
3.5.3 <i>Changes in Water Quality and Resource</i> .....	23
3.5.4 <i>Disturbance and / or Displacement of Species</i> .....	24
3.5.5 <i>Changes in Population Density</i> .....	24
3.6 POTENTIAL FOR IN-COMBINATION EFFECTS .....	26
3.6.1 <i>Existing Granted Developments</i> .....	26
3.6.2 <i>Relevant Policies and Plans</i> .....	27
<b>4 CONCLUDING STATEMENT .....</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>5 REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>30</b>

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## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Definition of Durations (EPA, 2017). .....	5
Table 2. Impact Significance Criteria (EPA, 2017). .....	6
Table 3. European Sites within a 15km radius of the Site of the Proposed Development. ....	14
Table 4. Assessment of nearby European Sites for potential impact pathways using the Source-Pathway-Receptor method.....	19
Table 5. Identification and assessment of likely significant effects on European Sites within the precautionary ZOI of the Proposed Development. ....	25
Table 6. Summary of the potential for likely significant effects on European Sites identified as maintaining a S-P-R linkage with the Proposed Development, using key indicators. ....	26

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. The four stages of the Appropriate Assessment Process (DEHLG, 2010). ....	2
Figure 2. Site Location. ....	12
Figure 3. Indicative Proposed Site Plan, adapted from McGrane & Partners Drawing (Drg. No. 2102 PD05B).....	13
Figure 4. European sites within 15km of the Proposed Development. ....	18

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

Enviroguide Consulting was commissioned Moran Park Homebuilders Limited to undertake a screening for Appropriate Assessment in relation to a proposed residential development on a site at Glenamuck Road North, Carrickmines, Dublin 18 (bounded by 'Tullybeg' to the north, 'Chigwell' to the northeast, 'Stafford Lodge' to the south and 'Carricáil' to the southeast). The purpose of this report is to provide information for the relevant competent authority to enable it to undertake Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening in respect of the Proposed Development.

## 1.2 Relevant Legislation

### 1.2.1 Legislative Background

Member States are required to designate Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protected Areas (SPAs) under the EU Habitats and Birds Directives, respectively. SACs and SPAs are collectively known as Natura 2000 or 'European Sites'. An 'Appropriate Assessment' (AA) is a required assessment to determine the likelihood of significant impacts, based on best scientific knowledge, of any plans or projects on European Sites. A screening for AA determines whether a plan or project, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects, is likely to have significant effects on a European Site, in view of its conservation objectives.

This AA Screening has been undertaken to determine the potential for significant effects on nearby Sites with European conservation designations (i.e., Natura 2000 Sites). The purpose of this assessment is to determine, the appropriateness, or otherwise, of the Proposed Development in the context of the conservation objectives of such sites.

### 1.2.2 Legislative Context

The Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) seeks to conserve natural habitats and wild fauna and flora by the designation of SACs and the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) seeks to protect birds of special importance by the designation of SPAs. The Habitats Directive has been transposed into Irish law through the EC (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (SI 477 of 2011). It is the responsibility of each member state to designate SPAs and SACs, both of which will form part of Natura 2000, a network of protected sites throughout the European Community.

An Appropriate Assessment is required under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive where a project or plan may give rise to significant effects upon a European Site, and paragraphs 3 and 4 state that:

*6(3) Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site **but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site**, in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having*

*ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.*

*6(4) If, in spite of a negative assessment of the implications for the site and in the absence of alternative solutions, a plan or project must nevertheless be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature, the Member State shall take all compensatory measures necessary to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. It shall inform the Commission of the compensatory measures adopted. Where the site concerned hosts a priority natural habitat type and/or a priority species, the only considerations which may be raised are those relating to human health or public safety, to beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment or, further to an opinion from the Commission, to other imperative reasons of overriding public interest.*

The current assessment was conducted within this legislative framework and the published DEHLG (2009) guidelines. As outlined in these, it is the responsibility of the proponent of the project to provide a comprehensive and objective Screening for Appropriate Assessment, which can then be used by the competent authority in order to conduct the Appropriate Assessment (DEHLG, 2009).

### 1.2.3 Stages of AA

An Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (the “**Screening Report**”) has been prepared which considers whether the Proposed Development is likely to have a significant effect on any European Site and whether a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required.

The AA process is a four-stage process, with issues and tests at each stage. An important aspect of the process is that the outcome at each successive stage determines whether a further stage in the process is required.

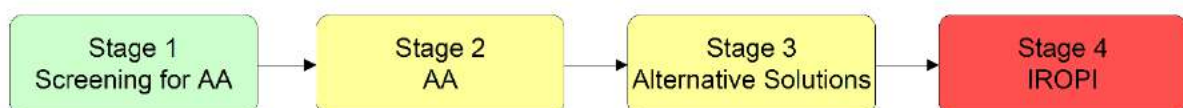


Figure 1. The four stages of the Appropriate Assessment Process (DEHLG, 2010).

The four stages of an AA can be summarised as follows:

- **Stage 1: Screening.** The first stage of the AA process is to determine whether a plan or project, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, is likely to have significant effects on a European Site in view of its conservation objectives.
- **Stage 2: Natura Impact Statement (NIS).** The second stage of the AA process assesses the impact of the proposal (either alone or in combination with other projects or plans) on the integrity of the European Site, with respect to the conservation objectives of the site and its ecological structure and function. A Natura Impact Statement containing a professional, scientific examination of the proposal is required and includes any mitigation measure to avoid, reduce or offset negative effects.
- **Stage 3: Assessment of alternative solutions.** If the outcome of Stage 2 is negative, i.e., adverse effects on the sites cannot be scientifically ruled out, despite mitigation,

the plan or project should proceed to Stage 3 or be abandoned. This stage examines alternative solutions to the proposal.

- Stage 4: *Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain.* The final stage is the main derogation process examining whether there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI) for allowing a plan or project to adversely affect a European Site, where no less damaging solution exists.

The purpose of Stage 1, the Screening Stage, is to determine the necessity or otherwise for a NIS. Screening for AA examines the likely effects of a project or plan alone and in combination with other projects or plans, upon a European Site, in light of the site's Conservation Objectives and considers whether it can be objectively concluded that these effects will not be significant.

If it is determined during the screening stage that the proposal may have a significant effect on a European Site, in light of its Qualifying Interests/Conservation Objectives, then a NIS will need to be prepared.



## 2 METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Screening Steps

This AA Screening Report has been undertaken in accordance with the following guidance:

- *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland - Guidance for Planning Authorities*. (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2010 revision);
- *Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive: Guidance for Planning Authorities*. Circular NPW 1/10 & PSSP 2/10;
- *Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological Guidance on the Provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC* (European Commission, 2001);
- *Communication from the Commission on the precautionary principle* (European Commission, 2000);
- *Managing Natura 2000 Sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitat's Directive 92/43/EEC* (European Commission, 2019).
- *Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites - Methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC* Brussels, 28.9.2021 C (European Commission, 2021); and,
- *Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management, OPR Practice Note PN01*, (Office of the Planning Regulator, March 2021)

This Screening for AA, or Stage 1 of AA, has been undertaken in accordance with the European Commission Methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (EC, 2021). Screening for AA involves the following:

- Establish whether the project or plan is necessary for the management of a European Site.
- Description of the project or plan.
- Identification of all European Sites potentially affected.
- Identification and description of individual and cumulative effects likely to result from the project or plan.
- Assessment of the significance of the effects identified on European Sites.
- Exclusion of European Sites where it can be objectively concluded that there will be no significant effects.

This Stage 1 Screening examines whether the Proposed Development, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, is likely to have significant effects on a European Site in view of its conservation objectives, and whether a Stage 2 Assessment is required.

## 2.2 Desk Study

A desk study was carried out to collate available information on the Site's natural environment. This study comprised a review of a wide range of available publications, datasets and resources, including the following sources:

- National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) datasets.
- Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) online datasets and mapping.
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) mapping and datasets.
- National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC) online mapping and species records.
- OSI aerial imagery and Discovery Series mapping.
- Satellite imagery from various sources and dates (Google, Digital Globe, Bing).
- The Status of EU Protected Habitats in Ireland (NPWS).

For a complete list of the specific documents consulted as part of this assessment, see *Section 5 References*.

## 2.3 Field Surveys

### 2.3.1 Ecological surveys

The Site was visited by Enviroguide Consulting, on the 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022. The Site was surveyed for any potentially important ecological receptors and/or potential impact pathways, to inform the completion of this AA Screening Report. The full suite of surveys conducted at the Site are listed below, the majority of which are relevant to and addressed in the Ecological Impact Assessment Report (EclA) that accompanies this application under separate cover.

- Habitat/flora & Invasive flora survey
- Mammal survey
- Bird survey
- Amphibian walkover survey
- Potential bat roost assessment survey.

## 2.4 Assessment of Impacts

Once the potential impacts that may arise from the proposal are identified, the significance of these is assessed using key indicators listed below. This assessment framework is taken from the best practice guidelines issued by the European Commission, "*Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites – Methodological guidance*" (EC, 2001):

- Habitat loss or alteration.
- Habitat/species fragmentation.
- Disturbance and/or displacement of species.
- Changes in population density.
- Changes in water quality and resource.

The following terms are defined when quantifying duration (EPA, 2017):

*Table 1. Definition of Durations (EPA, 2017).*

Description of Duration	Corresponding Time Frame
<b>Momentary Effects</b>	Effects lasting from seconds to minutes
<b>Brief Effects</b>	Effects lasting less than a day
<b>Temporary Effects</b>	Effects lasting less than a year
<b>Short-term Effects</b>	Effects lasting one to seven years.
<b>Medium-term Effects</b>	Effects lasting seven to fifteen years.
<b>Long-term Effects</b>	Effects lasting fifteen to sixty years
<b>Permanent Effects</b>	Effects lasting over sixty years
<b>Reversible Effects</b>	Effects that can be undone, for example through remediation or restoration
<b>Frequency of Effects</b>	Describe how often the effect will occur. (once, rarely, occasionally, frequently, constantly – or hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, annually)

The criteria for assessing the significance of the predicted likely effects are given below in Table 3.

*Table 2. Impact Significance Criteria (EPA, 2017).*

Significance of Effects	Definition
<b>Imperceptible</b>	An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences.
<b>Not significant</b>	An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.
<b>Slight Effects</b>	An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.
<b>Moderate Effects</b>	An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner that is consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.
<b>Significant Effects</b>	An effect which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment

### 3 STAGE 1 SCREENING

#### 3.1 Management of European Sites

The construction of the proposed residential development at at Glenamuck Road North, Carrickmines, Dublin 18 (bounded by 'Tullybeg' to the north, 'Chigwell' to the northeast, 'Stafford Lodge' to the south and 'Carricáil' to the southeast) (the Project) is not directly connected with, or necessary to the management of European Sites in Co. Dublin or elsewhere. There are no European Sites located either within or immediately adjacent to the Site of the Proposed Development.

#### 3.2 Description of Project

##### 3.2.1 Brief Project Description

Moran Park Homebuilders Limited intend to apply to An Bord Pleanála for planning permission for a strategic housing development on an overall site of c. 0.92 ha (c. 0.74 ha relates to the main development site and c. 0.18 ha relates to additional lands for drainage and access proposals) at Glenamuck Road North, Carrickmines, Dublin 18 (bounded by 'Tullybeg' to the north, 'Chigwell' to the northeast, 'Stafford Lodge' to the south and 'Carricáil' to the southeast).

The Proposed Development shall provide for the construction of (a) 118 no. residential apartment units in the form of 3 no. residential blocks of apartments ranging in height from 4 storey's and transitioning to 6-7 storeys overall.

The overall development proposal shall provide for the following:

- Block A (7 storeys) comprising 44 no. units (13 no. 1 bed units, 28 no. 2 bed. units and 3 no. 3 bed units);
- Block B (6-7 storeys overall) comprising 38 no. units (11 no. 1 bed units, 26 no. 2 bed units and 1 no. 3 bed units); and
- Block C (6 storeys overall) comprising 36 units (10 no. 1 bed units; 22 no. 2 bed units and 4 no. 3 bed units);

Each new residential unit has an associated area of private open space in the form of balcony / terrace area and set back upper floor levels.

Open space (approx. 2,071 sqm) is provided by one major centrally located public open space (1158.4 sqm) between blocks A and B which include a play area of 63.2 sqm, two further communal open space areas are provided adjoining Blocks B (471.8 sqm) & Block C (440.8 sqm).

Communal Area located at the ground floor of Block B (approx. 161.3 sqm) comprising of a shared working space (35.6 sqm), meeting rooms (42.2 sqm.), a gym (36.6 sqm) and changing/tea stations (46.7 sqm) is also proposed.

2 no. basement level areas (approx. 2,340.9 sqm) are also proposed at lower ground / ground floor level of Blocks A, B (1,470.0 sqm) and C (834.9 sqm) and include car parking, bicycle parking, refuse storage areas, plant areas and ESB Substation which is located between Block B and C.

A total of 103 no. car parking spaces (67 no. at basement level and 36 no. at surface level to include 17 no. electric power points and 5 no. accessible parking spaces) are proposed. In addition, 5 no. motorcycle parking spaces (3 no. at basement level A and B, and 2 no. at basement level C). A total of 280 no. bicycle parking spaces (254 no. at basement level and 26 no. at surface level) are also proposed.

Proposals for vehicular and pedestrian access comprise via Glenamuck Road North and all associated upgrade works; The access point to the south (via Carricáil) is for pedestrians and cyclists only.

Associated site and infrastructural works including the provision for water services, foul and surface water drainage and connections; attenuation proposals; permeable paving; all landscaping works to include new tree and hedge planting; green roofs; boundary treatments; internal roads and footpaths; and electrical services.

### **3.2.2 Construction Phase**

A Preliminary Construction Management Plan (PCMP) has been prepared by Waterman Moylan Consulting Engineers (WM) which sets out the typical arrangements and measures which may be undertaken during the construction phase of the project in order to mitigate and minimise disruption / disturbance to the area around the site. The purpose of this report is to summarise the possible impacts and measures to be implemented and to guide the Contractor who will be required to develop and implement the Final Construction Management Plan on site. The Construction Phase is expected to be spread over a period of 24 months.

#### **3.2.2.1 Construction Surface Water Drainage**

The Site in its current condition is partially greenfield in nature, with areas of hardstanding and exposed earth also present. According to the Engineering Assessment Report (EAR) (WM, February 2022), The land naturally slopes significantly from the north (the highest point is c.79.60m) towards the south (the low point is c.74.0m).

The Proposed Development entails the construction of two basement areas; one under Block A and B, and one under Block C. The PCMP notes the following:

- The contractor will develop an appropriate dewatering scheme to keep the basement/excavations free from water and ensure the quality of water leaving site is high.
- During any discharge of surface water from the basement/excavations, the water will be managed through the provision of settlement tanks and will be regularly monitored visually for hydrocarbon sheen and suspended solids.
- Periodic laboratory testing of discharge water samples will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council before discharge to the surrounding drainage network.
- Appropriate discharge licenses will be acquired from Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council in respect of discharges from dewatering operations.

### **3.2.3 Operational Phase**

#### **3.2.3.1 Operational Foul Water**

The Site of the Proposed Development is located within the *F012 – Shanganagh Foul Catchment* according to the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (GDSDS, 2005), with foul waters in the vicinity of the Site draining to the Shanganagh Trunk Sewer prior to treatment at Shanganagh Wastewater Treatment Plant, and eventual outflow into Killiney Bay once treated.

Pre-Connection Enquiry form was submitted to Irish Water on 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2021 which outlined the foul water discharge proposal and it was assessed under Irish Water Reference No. CDS21001100.

Confirmation of feasibility has been received from Irish Water, and connection of water and wastewater can be facilitated with no upgrade works needed on the existing network.

As outlined in EAR the Proposed Development, it is proposed that the foul water from Blocks A, B and C discharge by gravity to the existing foul sewer in Brennanstown Vale to the south-east.

#### **3.2.3.2 Operational Surface Water Drainage**

The Site of the Proposed Development is located within the *S1108 – Carrickmines River Storm Level 1 Catchment* (GDSDS, 2005), with surface water in this catchment draining to the Carrickmines River and the Shanganagh River prior to eventual outflow into Killiney Bay 3.7km east of the Site.

As outlined in the EAR produced by WM, the development site will drain by gravity, with runoff restricted to the equivalent of the existing agricultural runoff. Excess storm water will be stored in an underground attenuation area which will be provided under parking area in front of Block B and under the road in front of Block C. Surface water runoff shall be restricted via a hydrobrake or similar approved device. A new surface water sewer will be laid from the subject site and will drain by gravity at a restricted rate to an existing 225mm diameter surface water sewer at Brennanstown Vale, south east of the subject site.

The design of the surface water drainage network for the Proposed Development has taken cognisance of the objectives and guidance contained in the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (GDSDS) and comprises interception and treatment by a suite of SUDS measures incorporated into the project design prior to discharge from the Site. According to the EAR these will include:

- Green roofing across much of the proposed structure roofing (>60% total roof area).
- Permeable paving across all surface level car parking spaces and some podium level locations.
- Tree pits will collect water run-off from roads wherever possible (via kerb inlets and connecting gullies to tree pits). Gullies will be positioned downstream of the tree pits to cater for overflow during high rainfall events. The surface water drains through the tree pit, which is filled with engineered filter material, to the underdrain system which discharges the treated surface water to the main surface water sewer in the roadway.



- Bioretention areas in the form of rain gardens and rainwater planters will be utilised where possible; to slow the flow/runoff from the roof areas before it enters the main drainage system.
- A flow control device (Hydro-brake or similar) is proposed before the outfall to the public network, with an online attenuation system provided to store excess rainwater during storm events. Flows will be limited to the greenfield equivalent runoff rate.

With regard SUDS, it is a policy of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council (DLR CoCo), as laid out in the County Development Plan 2016 – 2022 (Policy EI3), to *“require that a Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) is applied to any development and that site specific solutions to surface water drainage systems are developed, which meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and the associated River Basin Management Plans and ‘Water Quality in Ireland 2007-2009’ (EPA 2011) or any updated version of the document”*.

The Draft County Development Plan for 2022 – 2028 is currently being finalised and also includes policy with regard SUDS measures e.g., Policy EI6: *“It is a Policy Objective to ensure that all development proposals incorporate Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).”*

It is noted that these design features are a requirement in all new developments, as per the above policy; to contribute to both the improvement of water quality in receiving waterbodies and the easing of pressures on existing drainage networks. SUDS measures are not intended or included for the purposes of avoiding harmful effects of the Proposed Development on any European Site. In a scenario where these measures were not included in the project design, there would be no change in the conclusions of this Appropriate Assessment.

### 3.3 Existing Environment

The site is located in the administrative area of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. The total site is c. 1.06ha (c. 0.74ha being development area and c. 0.32ha relates to additional lands for drainage and access proposals) at Glenamuck Road North, Carrickmines, Dublin 18 (bounded by ‘Tullybeg’ to the north, ‘Chigwell’ to the northeast, ‘Stafford Lodge’ to the south and ‘Carricáil’ to the southeast).

#### 3.3.1 Geology

The Site is underlain by the *Type 2e equigranular (Northern and Upper Liffey Valley Plutons)* bedrock formation, comprising of *Pale grey fine to coarse-grained granite* (GSI, 2022). The groundwater rock units underlying the area are classified as *Granites & other Igneous Intrusive rocks* (GSI, 2022). The quaternary sediments are described by the GSI as *Till derived from limestones (TLs)*, and the sub-soil at the Site of the Proposed Development is classified as *Man made* (EPA, 2022).

#### 3.3.2 Hydrogeology

The Site and the surrounding area are located within the *Wicklow* groundwater body, which has an overall Water Framework (WFD) status of *Good* according to the EPA. The Site of the Proposed Development is located on a *Poor Aquifer - Bedrock which is Generally Unproductive except for Local Zones (PI)*, with groundwater vulnerability in the area listed as *High* (GSI, 2022).

### **3.3.3 Hydrology**

The Site of the Proposed Development is located within the Avoca-Vartry river catchment, the Dargle River sub catchment (*Dargle\_SC\_010*) and the Carrickmines stream sub basin (*CARRICKMINES STREAM\_010*) (EPA, 2022).

There are no waterbodies located within the Site of the Proposed Development. The nearest watercourse is the Carrickmines Stream (EPA Code: 10C04), which flows due east ca.330m to the east of the Site. The Carrickmines Stream flows approximately 4.km from its nearest point to the Site, before outflowing as the Shanganagh River into Killiney Bay. The Carrickmines Stream is cited as 'Moderate' and 'At Risk' under the Water Framework Directive (EPA, 2022). The nearest EPA monitoring station is located on the Carrickmines Stream as it crosses the N11 dual carriageway ca.200m south of the Site. This station (station code: RS10C040200) reports a Q-value of 3, *Poor*. Further downstream along the Carrickmines river water quality improves to Q-value 3-4, *Moderate* (station code:RS10C040300) and Q-value 4, *Good* (station code:RS10C040350) (EPA, 2022).



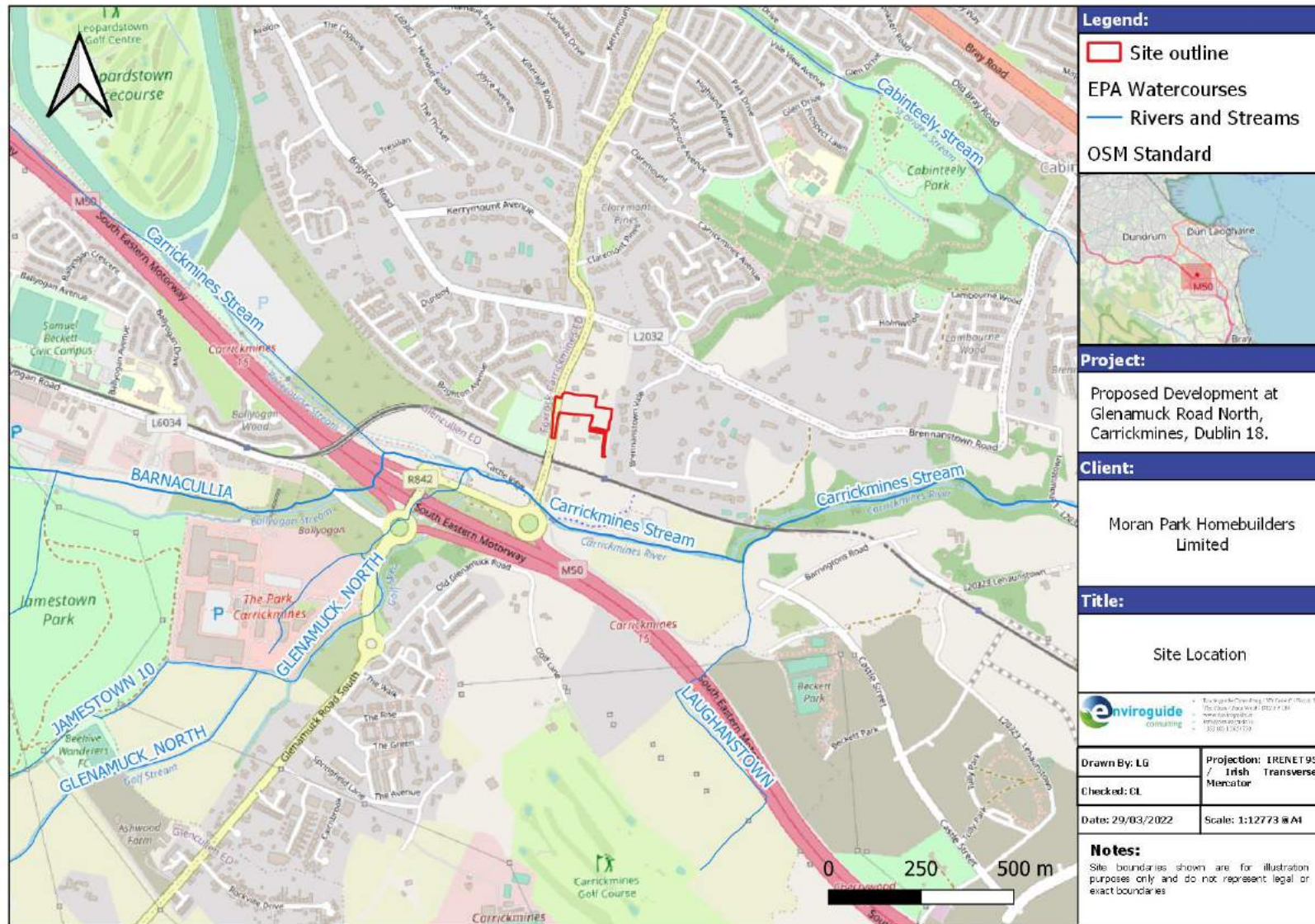


Figure 2. Site Location.

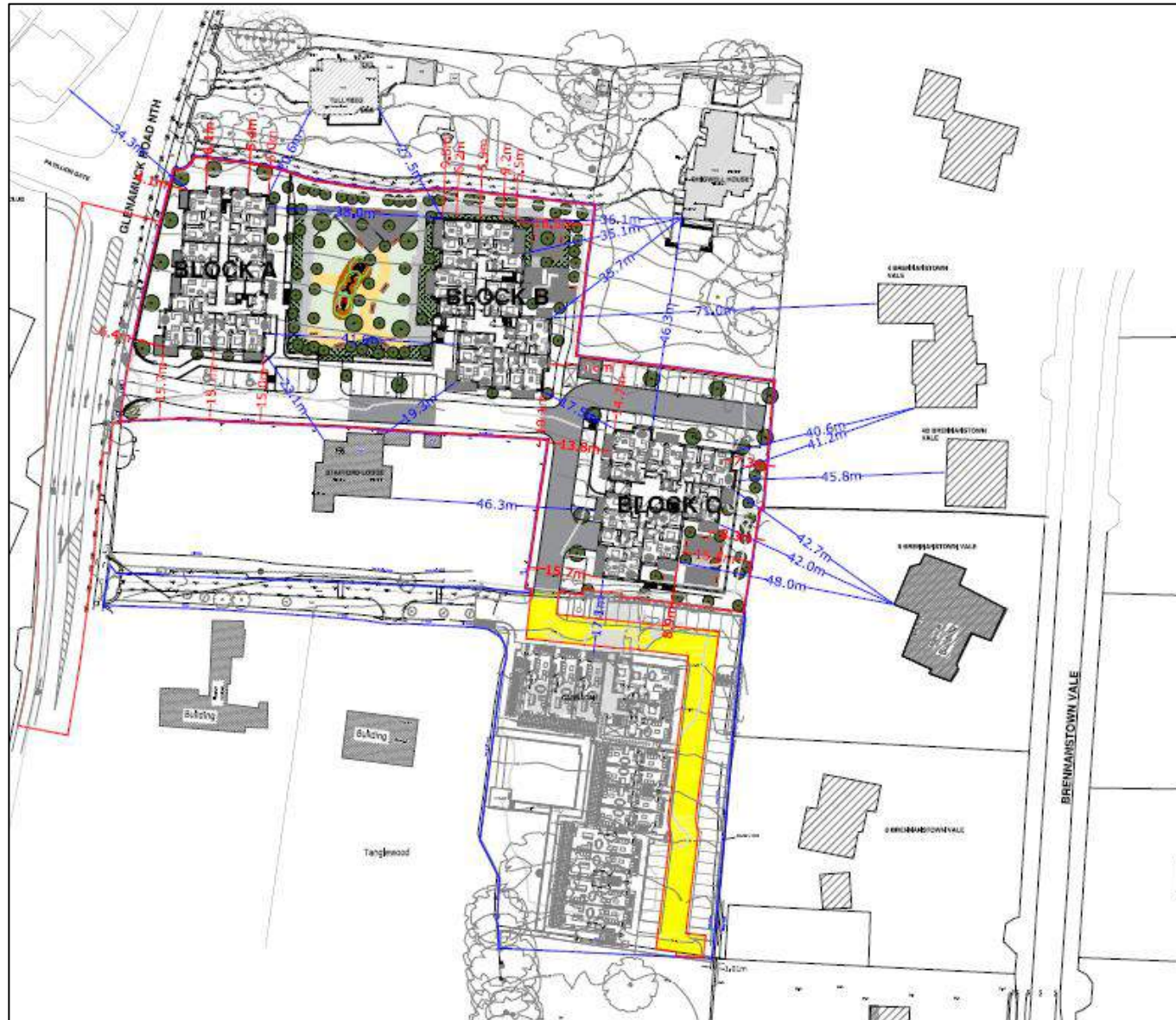


Figure 3. Indicative Proposed Site Plan, adapted from McGrane & Partners Drawing (Drg. No. 2102 PD05B).



### 3.4 Identification of Relevant European Sites

In order to identify the European Sites that potentially lie within the Zone of Influence (ZOI) of the Proposed Development, a Source-Path-Receptor method (S-P-R) was adopted, as described in 'OPR Practice Note PN01 - Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management' (OPR, 2021), a practice note produced by the Office of the Planning Regulator, Dublin. This note was published to provide guidance on screening for appropriate assessment (AA) during the planning process, and although it focuses on the approach a planning authority should take in screening for AA, the methodology is also readily applied in the preparation of Appropriate Assessment Screening Reports such as this.

The guidance document published by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (then DEHLG) 'Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland - Guidance for Planning Authorities' (2009) recommends an arbitrary distance of 15km as the precautionary ZOI for a plan or project being assessed for likely significant effects on European Sites, stating however that this should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

As such, the 15km ZOI is used in this report as an initial starting point for collating European Sites for AA screening. In some cases, Sites located beyond this distance will also be included if deemed to fall within the potential ZOI of the Proposed Development. In the case of this Proposed Development no European Sites located outside of this initial 15km buffer were deemed to fall within its ZOI.

The Source-Path-Receptor method was then applied to the European Sites located within 15km of the Proposed Development (and those outside of this distance where applicable), to screen out those sites where no impact pathway exists linking them to the Site of Proposed Development (See Table 4). Where a potential impact pathway exists, European Sites will be assessed further and a recommendation on the need for Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment will be made if required.

Ten SACs and five SPAs were identified within a 15km radius of the Site. The site name, corresponding code and qualifying interests are detailed in Table 3 below. The distances to each site listed below are taken from the nearest possible point of the Proposed Development Site boundary to the nearest possible point of each European Site.

Table 3. European Sites within a 15km radius of the Site of the Proposed Development.

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Distance to Site
<b>Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)</b>			
000725	Knocksink Woods SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [7220] Petrifying Springs*</li> <li>- [91A0] Old Oak Woodlands</li> <li>- [91E0] Alluvial Forests*</li> </ul>	5.2 km South
000713	Ballyman Glen SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [7220] Petrifying Springs*</li> <li>- [7230] Alkaline Fens</li> </ul>	5.2 km South

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Distance to Site
000210	South Dublin Bay SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [1140] Tidal Mudflats and Sandflats</li> <li>- [1210] Annual vegetation of drift lines</li> <li>- [1310] Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand.</li> <li>- [2110] Embryonic shifting dunes</li> </ul>	4.5 km North
003000	Rockbill to Dalkey Island SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [1170] Reefs</li> <li>- [1351] Harbour Porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)</li> </ul>	5.1km East
002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [3110] Oligotrophic Waters containing very few minerals.</li> <li>- [3130] Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or <i>Isoetes-Nanojuncetea</i></li> <li>- [3160] Dystrophic Lakes</li> <li>- [4010] Wet Heath</li> <li>- [4030] Dry Heath</li> <li>- [4060] Alpine and Subalpine Heaths</li> <li>- [6130] Calaminarian Grassland</li> <li>- [6230] Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> Grassland*</li> <li>- [7130] Blanket Bogs (Active)*</li> <li>- [8110] Siliceous Scree</li> <li>- [8210] Calcareous Rocky Slopes</li> <li>- [8220] Siliceous Rocky Slopes</li> <li>- [91A0] Old Oak Woodlands</li> <li>- [1355] Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)</li> </ul>	7km South-west
000714	Bray Head SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [1230] Vegetated Sea Cliffs</li> <li>- [4030] Dry Heath</li> </ul>	8.2 km South-east
000206	North Dublin Bay SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [1140] Tidal Mudflats and Sandflats</li> <li>- [1210] Annual Vegetation of Drift Lines</li> <li>- [1310] Salicornia Mud</li> <li>- [1330] Atlantic Salt Meadows</li> <li>- [1410] Mediterranean Salt Meadows</li> <li>- [2110] Embryonic Shifting Dunes</li> <li>- [2120] Marram Dunes (White Dunes)</li> <li>- [2130] Fixed Dunes (Grey Dunes) *</li> <li>- [2190] Humid Dune Slacks</li> <li>- [1395] Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>)</li> </ul>	10km North
001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [6210] Orchid-rich Calcareous Grassland*</li> <li>- [6410] <i>Molinia</i> Meadows</li> <li>- [7220] Petrifying Springs*</li> </ul>	12.3 km West
000719	Glen of the Downs SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [91A0] Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</li> </ul>	12.7 km South
000202	Howth Head SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [1230] Vegetated Sea Cliffs</li> <li>- [4030] Dry Heath</li> </ul>	13.1km North-east

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Distance to Site
<b>Special Protection Areas (SPA)</b>			
004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [A046] Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A130] Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A137] Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A141] Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A143] Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A144] Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A149] Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A157] Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A162] Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A179] Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A192] Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [passage]</li> <li>- [A193] Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [breeding] [passage]</li> <li>- [A194] Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [breeding] [passage]</li> <li>- [A999] Wetland and Waterbirds</li> </ul>	4.5 km North
004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [A098] Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) [breeding]</li> <li>- [A103] Peregrine (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) [breeding]</li> </ul>	6.9 km South-west
004172	Dalkey Islands SPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [A192] Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [breeding] [passage]</li> <li>- [A193] Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [breeding] [passage]</li> <li>- [A194] Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [breeding] [passage]</li> </ul>	5.5 km North-east
004006	North Bull Island SPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [A046] Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A048] Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A052] Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A054] Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A056] Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A130] Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A140] Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A141] Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A143] Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A144] Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A149] Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A156] Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A157] Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A160] Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [wintering]</li> </ul>	10km North

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Interests	Distance to Site
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [A162] Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A169] Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A179] Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [wintering]</li> <li>- [A999] Wetland and Waterbirds</li> </ul>	
004113	Howth Head Coast SPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [A188] Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [breeding]</li> </ul>	14km North-east



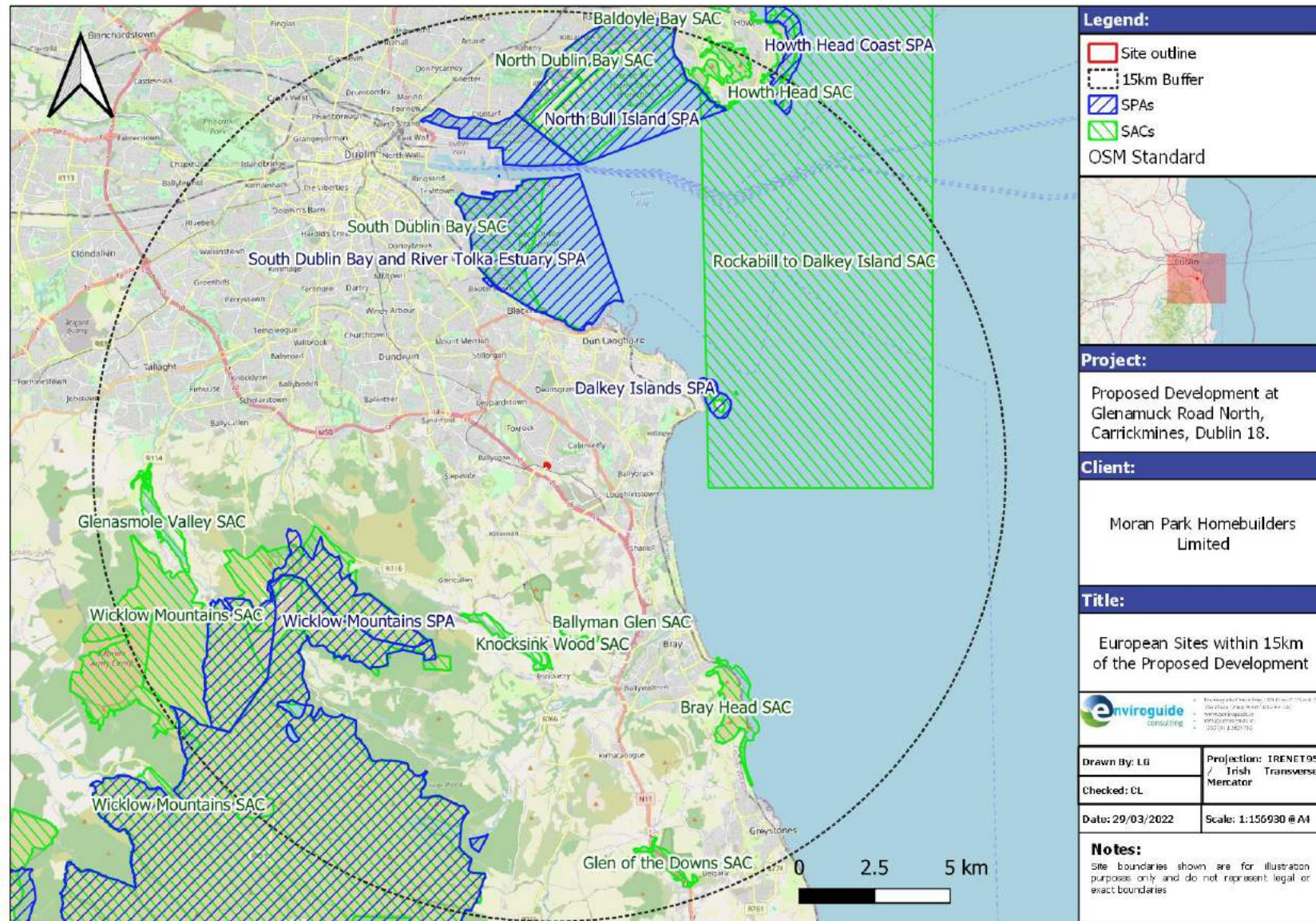


Figure 4. European sites within 15km of the Proposed Development.

### 3.4.1 Source-Pathway-Receptor Assessment

Table 5 below details the screening out of European Sites within the 15km precautionary ZOI that do not maintain an impact pathway with the Proposed Development. Those European Sites where potential impact pathways have been identified are assessed in further detail in this report.

Table 4. Assessment of nearby European Sites for potential impact pathways using the Source-Pathway-Receptor method.

European Site	Distance from Proposed Development	Presence of Impact Pathway	Assessed further in Screening
<b>Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)</b>			
003000 Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	5.1km East	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>A weak indirect hydrological connection exists between the Site and the SAC via the receiving surface water network, which drains to the Carrickmines Stream and outflows at Killiney Bay ca.3.7 km east of the Site and ca.1.5km west of the SAC itself (EPA, 2022).</p> <p>Although unlikely to be significant, there is the potential for construction related contaminants to enter the receiving drainage network during the Construction Phase, and potentially reach the SAC via the Carrickmines Stream.</p>	Yes
000210 South Dublin Bay SAC	4.5km North	<p><b>No</b></p> <p>There are no impact pathways present between the Proposed Development and the habitats listed for this SAC.</p> <p>(i) Surface water infrastructure at the Site flows away from the SAC towards the Carrickmines Stream, which eventually outflows at Killiney Bay, a significant distance south of this SAC.</p> <p>(ii) The Site is located within the Shanganagh Foul Catchment and is thus serviced by the Shanganagh Trunk Sewer (GDSDS, 2005). Waste water from the Site will be treated at the Shanganagh WWTP to the south-east of the Site prior to discharge into Killiney Bay.</p>	No
000206 North Dublin Bay SAC	10km North	<b>No</b>	No



European Site	Distance from Proposed Development	Presence of Impact Pathway	Assessed further in Screening
000714 Bray Head SAC	8.2km South-east	There are no impact pathways present between the Proposed Development and the habitats and species listed for these SACs.	No
000202 Howth Head SAC	13.1km North-east	The SACs are located at considerable distances from the Proposed Development and are separated by a significant marine buffer. No hydrological connectivity exists.	No
002122 Wicklow Mountains SAC	7 km South-west	<b>No</b>  There are no impact pathways present linking the Proposed Development and the habitats and populations of species listed for these SACs.  These SACs are located in the Dublin and Wicklow mountains, at considerable distances to the south and west of the Proposed Development.	No
000713 Ballyman Glen SAC	5.2km South		No
000725 Knocksink Wood SAC	5.2km South		No
000719 Glen of the Downs SAC	12.7 km South		No
001209 Glenasmole Valley SAC	12.3 km West		No
<b>Special Protection Areas (SPA)</b>			
004024 South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	4.5km North	<b>No</b>  There are no impact pathways present linking the Proposed Development and the bird species and their wetland habitats listed for these SPAs.  (i) Surface water infrastructure at the Site flows south and away from the SPA towards the Carrickmines Stream, which eventually outflows at Killiney Bay, a significant distance south of this SPA.  (ii) The Site is located within the Shanganagh Foul Catchment and is thus serviced by the Shanganagh Trunk Sewer (GDSDS, 2005). Waste water from the Site will be treated at the Shanganagh WWTP to the south-east of the Site prior to discharge into Killiney Bay.	No

European Site	Distance from Proposed Development	Presence of Impact Pathway	Assessed further in Screening
		(iii) The Site provides no <i>ex-situ</i> habitat for any of the waterbird/seabird species listed as SCIs for this SPA. The Site is largely comprised of rank meadow grassland, scrub and bare earth/hard-standing.	
004172 Dalkey Islands SPA	5.5 km North-east	<b>No</b> There are no impact pathways present linking the Proposed Development and the bird species and their wetland habitats listed for these SPAs.	No
004006 North Bull Island SPA	10km North	(i) The SPAs are located at considerable distances from the Proposed Development and are separated by a marine buffer. No significant hydrological connectivity exists.	No
004113 Howth Head Coast SPA	14km North-east	(ii) The Site provides no <i>ex-situ</i> habitat for any of the waterbird/seabird species listed as SCIs for these SPAs. The Site is largely comprised of rank meadow grassland, scrub and bare earth/hard-standing.	No
004040 Wicklow Mountains SPA	6.9 km South-west	<b>No</b> There are no impact pathways present linking the Proposed Development and populations of bird species listed for this SPA. (i) This SPA is located in the mountains situated a considerable distance to the south-west of the Proposed Development. (ii) The Site provides no <i>ex-situ</i> habitat for Peregrine or Merlin.	No

### 3.4.2 Results of Source-Pathway-Receptor Assessment

One European Site: Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC, has been identified as having a tentative source-pathway-receptor connection with the Proposed Development, via the receiving surface water drainage network and Carrickmines Stream, which outflows at Killiney Bay. Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC is therefore considered to fall within the ZOI of the Proposed Development and is assessed further in this screening report. It is noted that the Dalkey Islands SPA (004172) itself is not deemed to fall within the ZOI of the Proposed Development; due to the extent of the marine buffer separating the Site from the outfall of the Shanganagh River into Killiney Bay.

All other European Sites screened out in table 5 above, due to a lack of any source-pathway-receptor connection with the Proposed Development, do not have the potential to be significantly affected by said development, and thus, do not require further consideration in this report. The Site of the Proposed Development supports no suitable *ex-situ* habitat for SCI bird species listed for any of the SPAs located within the precautionary ZOI of the Site. Furthermore, it is not deemed to be located in proximity to any important *ex-situ* feeding sites; being located within a built-up residential area. The Proposed Development consists of structures of max 7 storeys in height and will not pose any risk of collisions to any bird species, as detailed in the EclA which accompanies this application under separate cover.

### 3.5 Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

A European Site will only be at risk from likely significant effects where the Source-Pathway-Receptor link exists between the Proposed Development and the European Site. As such, the remainder of this AA Screening report will focus on the European Sites for which a S-P-R link was identified, namely:

- Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC.

Information sources (e.g., NPWS Conservation Objectives and associated supporting documents) available on the above European Site identified to lie within the precautionary zone of influence (ZOI) of the Proposed Development were reviewed and assessed, to establish whether the construction and operational phases of the Proposed Development have the potential to have likely significant effects on any of the qualifying interests and/or conservation objectives of said site. The following elements of the Proposed Development were assessed for their potential to cause likely significant effects:

#### **Construction Phase** (estimated duration: 24 months)

- Surface water run-off containing silt, sediments and/or other pollutants into the receiving drainage network.
- Waste Generation during the construction phase comprising soils, construction and demolition wastes.
- Increased noise, dust and/or vibrations as a result of construction activity.
- Increased dust and air emissions from construction traffic.
- Increased lighting in the vicinity as a result of construction activity.

#### **Operational Phase** (estimated duration: indefinite)

- Proposed treated surface water discharge from the Proposed Development to the receiving drainage network.
- Foul water from the Proposed Development leading to increased loading on Shanganagh wastewater treatment plant.
- Flooding events at the Site of the Proposed Development.
- Increased lighting in the vicinity emitted from the Proposed Development.
- Increased human presence in the vicinity as a result of the Proposed Development.

The potential for likely significant effects resulting from the Proposed Development was determined based on a range of key indicators (as per EC, 2001), including:

- Habitat loss or alteration.
- Habitat/species fragmentation.
- Disturbance and/or displacement of species.
- Changes in population density.
- Changes in water quality and resource.

### **3.5.1 Habitat Loss and Alteration**

The project is not located within any European Site and therefore there will be no loss or alteration of habitat as a result of the Proposed Development.

### **3.5.2 Habitat / Species Fragmentation**

As there will be no direct habitat loss within any European Sites, no habitat fragmentation will arise as a result of the Proposed Development.

### **3.5.3 Changes in Water Quality and Resource**

All surface waters at the Site will be directed to the existing surface water sewer to the south-east of the Site, along Brennanstown Vale. This discharges to the Carrickmines Stream east of the Site; eventually outflowing into Killiney Bay as the Shanganagh River; ca.4 river km from the surface water outflow point to the stream. Therefore, there is an indirect hydrological connection between the Site of the Proposed Development and Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC during the Construction and Operational Phases.

The potential for surface waters generated at the Site of the Proposed Development to reach Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (Or any other European Site) and cause significant effects during the Construction and/or Operational Phases is deemed negligible due to the following:

- The potential for dilution and mixing within the receiving drainage network, Carrickmines Stream, Shanganagh River and Killiney Bay itself.
- The Proposed Development will have no additional stormwater run-off compared to the current surface water discharge from the Site during a stormwater event.
- The distance between the Proposed Development and the existing surface water drainage network along Brennanstown Vale.

Foul waters from the Proposed Development will discharge off site to existing foul water systems, eventually being treated at Shanganagh WWTP prior to outflow to Killiney Bay. Therefore, there is an indirect hydrological link between the Site and Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC via discharges from the above WWTP during the Operational Phase.

The potential for foul waters generated at the Site of the Proposed Development to reach and Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC and cause significant effects during the Operational Phase is deemed negligible due to the following:

- The Shanganagh-Bray WWTP was identified by the EPA as being fully compliant with the Emission Limit Values (ELVs) as set out in the Wastewater Discharge Licence, according to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) carried out for the Draft DLR County Development Plan 2022-2028 by CAAS Ltd. (2021).
- Treated waters from the WWTP will be mixed and diluted within Killiney Bay, part of the *Southwestern Irish Sea - Killiney Bay (HA10)* coastal waterbody, which has a

coastal water quality status of *Unpolluted* as of the 2018-2020 reporting period (EPA, 2022).

#### **3.5.4 Disturbance and / or Displacement of Species**

As outlined in section 3.5.3 above, the hydrological link between the Site and Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC will not result in significant effects on the key indicator: 'water quality and resource' during either the Construction or Operational Phases. As such, SCI species within Killiney Bay will not be affected by water quality impacts. In addition, the Site is not deemed to provide any suitable *ex-situ* habitat for SCI species of any SPA, nor is it deemed to be located in proximity to any important *ex-situ* sites for SCI species of any SPA; the Site of the Proposed Development is located within a built-up residential area, surrounded by private dwellings and gardens on all sides, and the M50 motorway to the south.

#### **3.5.5 Changes in Population Density**

For the same reasons outlined in section 3.5.4 above, the Proposed Development does not have the capacity to cause any significant changes in the population density of any species within any European Site

An assessment of the features of the Proposed Development that have the potential to directly or indirectly cause likely significant effects to the European Sites deemed to lie within its precautionary ZOI are detailed in Table 6 below.

Table 5. Identification and assessment of likely significant effects on European Sites within the precautionary ZOI of the Proposed Development.

European Site	Potential for Likely Significant Effects
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)	
003000 Rockbill to Dalkey Island SAC	<p><b>No possibility of likely significant effects on this SACs are envisaged due to:</b></p> <p><b>The insignificant nature of the indirect hydrological connection with the Site of the Proposed Development.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Proposed Development is linked tenuously to the Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC area, which lies off the east coast of County Dublin, via an indirect hydrological connection.</li> <li>- The surface water from the Site will be discharged to the existing surface water network, which in turn outfalls to the Carrickmines Stream, before flowing approximately 4 river km to Killiney Bay; ca.1.5km from the SAC as mapped by the EPA (EPA, 2022).</li> <li>- Due to the potential for dilution and mixing in the receiving drainage network, Carrickmines Stream, Shanganagh River and Killiney Bay itself, it is not deemed that any inadvertent construction related surface water run-off would have the potential to lead to significant adverse effects at the SAC relating to the Key indicator '<b>Changes in Water Quality and/or Resource</b>'.</li> <li>- It is noted that a suite of SUDS measures are incorporated into the proposed design as per the requirements of the Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works and the DLR County Development Plan 2016-2022 (see section 3.2.3.2 for detail). These measures have been included to contribute to both the improvement of water quality in receiving waterbodies and the easing of pressures on existing drainage networks and will further reduce any risk of surface water related pollution of the SAC will occur as a result of the operation of the Proposed Development. <u>These measures are <b>not relied upon in any way</b> in this determination of 'no significant impact' relating to this or any other European Site.</u></li> </ul>
Is mitigation/ further assessment required to rule out any significant likely effects on the above European Sites based on the impact pathway identified above?	
No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No further assessment or mitigation is required to ensure that no likely significant effects arise at the European Site in question.</li> </ul>

Table 6. Summary of the potential for likely significant effects on European Sites identified as maintaining a S-P-R linkage with the Proposed Development, using key indicators.

Site	Habitat Loss / Alteration	Habitat or Species Fragmentation	Disturbance and/or Displacement of Species	Changes in Population Density	Changes in Water Quality and/or Resource	Stage 2 AA Required
(003000) Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	No	No	No	No	No	No

### 3.6 Potential for In-combination Effects

#### 3.6.1 Existing Granted Developments

A search of planning applications located within the vicinity of the Site of the Proposed Development was conducted using online planning resources such as the National Planning Application Database (NPAD) (MyPlan.ie) and DLR CoCo's Planning Application Map. Any planning applications listed as granted or decision pending from within the last five years were assessed for their potential to act in-combination with the Proposed Development and cause likely significant effects on the relevant European Sites. Long-term developments granted outside of this time period were also considered where applicable.

The below granted development is of note due to its location adjacent to the Site of the Proposed Development to the south, and the overlap in terms of proposed surface and foul water infrastructure. An Appropriate Assessment Screening was prepared to support the below application and concluded that the development would not give rise to direct or indirect impacts to any European Sites.

**Planning Ref:** D18A/1187. **ABP Ref:** ABP-304995-19 **Applicant:** Carricail Development Company Ltd. **Application Date:** 10 Jun 2019 **Location:** Carricáil, Glenamuck Road North, Dublin 18, D18 V8K5 **Decision:** GRANT PERMISSION **Decision Date:** 08 Nov 2019.

**Distance from Proposed Development:** Adjacent to south.

- **Description:** Permission for a residential development on an overall site of c. 1.06 ha (c. 0.40 ha being development area and c. 0.66 ha being drainage / access area). The development shall provide for the demolition of a two-storey dwelling on site (c. 326 sqm GFA) and the construction of 30 no. residential units (8 no. apartments and 22 no. duplex units) in the form of 1 no. 4 storey residential block. The development shall provide for 4 no. 1 bed units, 10 no. 2 bed units, and 16 no. 3 bed units, ranging in size from c. 63 - 143.8 sqm and all with private balcony / terrace areas. Vehicular access is proposed from Glenamuck Road North via the alignment permitted in the development to the north (Reg. Ref.: D16A/0260 and An Bord Pleanála PL06D.247822 refers). A pedestrian access point is also proposed via the existing vehicular access serving Carraicáil. The proposed development shall also provide for 44 no. car parking space, bicycle storage and bin



storage at surface level; a central public open space area; all boundary treatment and landscaping works; the routing of new services through lands at no. 10 Brennanstown Vale, Dublin 18 (D18 K8N6) and via the proposed vehicular and pedestrian access points serving the development to connect to existing services; and all associated site development works.

No developments with the potential to result in likely significant in-combination effects to any European Site were identified. The majority of applications in the vicinity of the Site are for domestic extensions and revisions to existing private dwellings. The Proposed Development will have no significant impacts on its own and will not contribute to any cumulative impacts involving other developments in the area. Any combined impacts relating to construction phase overlap of the adjacent development to the south, should it occur, (e.g., noise, dust etc.) would be short-term and localised in nature and would not have the potential to affect any European Sites due to the intervening distances involved.

### **3.6.2 Relevant Policies and Plans**

In addition, the following Policies and Plans were reviewed and considered for possible in-combination effects with the Proposed Development.

- Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Development Plan 2016-2022
- Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Biodiversity Plan 2009-2013 (New plan in progress)

It is noted that there is potential for proposed plans and projects within the DLR County Development Plan 2016 - 2022 land area, to have cumulative, negative impacts on conditions in South Dublin Bay and other coastal areas, via rivers, other surface water features, and foul waters treated at wastewater treatment facilities. However, the core strategy, policies and objectives of the DLR County Development Plan have been developed to anticipate and avoid the need for developments that would be likely to significantly affect the integrity of any European Site. Furthermore, such developments are required to conform to the relevant regulatory provisions for the prevention of pollution, nuisance or other environmental effects likely to significantly affect the integrity of European Sites.

#### *3.6.2.1 Increased Loading on Shanganagh-Bray WWTP*

The Shanganagh-Bray WWTP and its associated transfer pipeline infrastructure were completed in 2012, with a capacity design of 43,700 m<sup>3</sup>/day, equivalent to a population of 186,000 people (PE) (Dragados.co.uk). This WWTP operates under EPA licence D0038-02 and treats flows from the catchment areas of Deansgrange, Killiney, Carrickmines, Shankill and Bray.

The Shanganagh-Bray WWTP was identified by the EPA as being fully compliant with the Emission Limit Values (ELVs) as set out in the Wastewater Discharge Licence, according to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) carried out for the Draft DLR County Development Plan 2022-2028 by CAAS Ltd. (2021). The 2020 Irish Water Annual Environmental Report (AER) for this facility, indicates surplus treatment capacity of 56,665 PE in 2020 (Irish Water, 2020). As such, it is not envisaged that the Proposed Development has the potential to act in combination with other developments and lead to overloading at the WWTP based on its current treatment capacity.

Therefore, upon examination of the above listed plans and projects within the general vicinity of the Proposed Development, and the above information regarding current Greater Dublin



drainage policy and requirements; it is concluded that there is **no possibility for any significant cumulative effects** on European Sites involving the Proposed Development.

## 4 CONCLUDING STATEMENT

The Proposed residential development at at Glenamuck Road North, Carrickmines, Dublin 18 (bounded by 'Tullybeg' to the north, 'Chigwell' to the northeast, 'Stafford Lodge' to the south and 'Carricáil' to the southeast) has been assessed for its potential to result in likely significant effects on European Sites, with the following factors considered:

- the nature, size and location of the Proposed Development and possible impacts arising from the associated construction works and its operational lifetime.
- the potential for in-combination effects alongside other plans and projects leading to effects on European Sites.
- the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of all relevant European Sites.

In conclusion, upon the examination, analysis, and evaluation of the relevant information, and in applying the precautionary principle; it is concluded by the authors of this report that, on the basis of objective information, **the possibility may be excluded** that the Proposed Development will have any significant effect on the following European Site noted to be linked by a Source-Pathway-Receptor impact pathway, due to the nature of the indirect hydrological connection with the Site of the Proposed Development:

- Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC [003000]

These complete, precise, and definitive findings, based on the best available scientific evidence, remove all reasonable scientific doubt that the Proposed Development will have any significant impacts on the European Sites detailed above. It is also noted that, pursuant to the judgement in C-323/17 People Over Wind and Peter Sweetman v Coillte, no measures intended to avoid or reduce the potential harmful effects of the project on any European Site have been taken into account in this Appropriate Assessment Screening Report and its conclusions.

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## **Appendix I – NPWS European Site Synopses**

**Site Name: Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC**

**Site Code: 003000**

This site includes a range of dynamic inshore and coastal waters in the western Irish Sea. These include sandy and muddy seabed, reefs, sandbanks and islands. This site extends southwards, in a strip approximately 7 km wide and 40 km in length, from Rockabill, running adjacent to Howth Head, and crosses Dublin Bay to Frazer Bank in south Co. Dublin. The site encompasses Dalkey, Muglins and Rockabill islands.

The site is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) selected for the following habitats and/or species listed on Annex I / II of the E.U. Habitats Directive (\* = priority; numbers in brackets are Natura 2000 codes):

[1170] Reefs [1351] Harbour Porpoise ( <i>Phocoena phocoena</i> )
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Reef habitat is uncommon along the eastern seaboard of Ireland due to prevailing geology and hydrographical conditions. Expansive surveys of the Irish coast have indicated that the greatest resource of this habitat within the Irish Sea is found fringing offshore islands which are concentrated along the Dublin coast. A detailed survey of selected suitable islands has shown areas with typical biodiversity for this habitat both intertidally and subtidally. Species recorded in the intertidal included *Fucus spiralis*, *Fucus serratus*, *Pelvetia canaliculata*, *Ascophyllum nodosum*, *Semibalanus balanoides* and *Necora puber*. Subtidally, a wide range of species include *Laminaria hyperborea*, *Flustra foliacea*, *Alaria esculenta*, *Halidrys siliquosa*, *Pomatocereos triqueter*, *Alcyonium digitatum*, *Metridium senile*, *Caryophyllia smithii*, *Tubularia indivisa*, *Mytilus edulis*, *Gibbula umbilicalis*, *Asterias rubens*, and *Echinus esculentus*. These reefs are subject to strong tidal currents with an abundant supply of suspended matter resulting in good representation of filter feeding fauna such as sponges, anemones and echinoderms.

The area selected for designation represents a key habitat for the Annex II species Harbour Porpoise within the Irish Sea. Population survey data show that porpoise occurrence within the site boundary meets suitable reference values for other designated sites in Ireland. The species occurs year-round within the site and comparatively high group sizes have been recorded. Porpoises with young (i.e. calves) are observed at favourable, typical reference values for the species. Casual and effort-related sighting rates from coastal observation stations are significant for the east coast of Ireland and the latter appear to be relatively stable across all seasons. The selected site contains a wide array of habitats believed to be important for Harbour Porpoise including inshore shallow sand and mudbanks and rocky reefs scoured by strong current flow. The site also supports Common Seal and Grey Seal,

for which terrestrial haul-out sites occur in immediate proximity to the site. Bottle-nosed Dolphins has also occasionally been recorded in the area. A number of other marine mammals have been recorded in this area including Minke, Fin and Killer Whales and Risso's and Common Dolphins.

The coastal environment of Co. Dublin is a very significant resource to birds with some nationally and internationally important populations. Of particular note in this site are the large number of terns (Arctic, Common and Roseate) known to use Dalkey Island as a staging area (approx. 2,000) after breeding. Other seabirds commonly seen include Kittiwake, Razorbill, Guillemot, Puffin, Fulmar, Shag, Cormorant, Manx Shearwater, Gannet and gulls.

This site is of conservation importance for reefs, listed on Annex I, and Harbour Porpoise, listed on Annex II, of the E.U. Habitats Directive.