



Louth County Council Order:

Appropriate Assessment Determination under:

Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination pursuant to the Habitats Directive¹ and having regard to requirements of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

for:

Proposed Variation No. 1 to the Louth County Development Plan 2015-2021

An Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening determination² is being made by Louth County Council regarding Variation No. 1 to the Louth County Development Plan 2015-2021.

In carrying out this Appropriate Assessment Screening, the Council is taking into account the relevant matters specified under Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), including:


- The existing Louth County Development Plan 2015-2021 (and associated Stage 2 AA Natura Impact Report);
- Proposed Variation No. 1 to the Louth County Development Plan 2015-2021; and
- The AA Screening Report prepared for Proposed Variation No. 1 to the Louth County Development Plan 2015-2021.

The Proposed Variation does not relate to areas designated as European Sites. The AA screening process considered potential effects which may arise during the construction and operational phases as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Variation. It has been demonstrated that there are no likely significant adverse effects on the qualifying interests, special conservation interest or the conservation objectives of any designated European Site.

Any development considered under the Proposed Variation, if adopted as part of the Louth County Development Plan 2015-2021, must comply with the existing policies and objectives which are contained in the existing Plan. The Plan was subject to a Stage 2 AA (including preparation of a Natura Impact Report) that resulted in the integration of robust measures to ensure the protection of the ecological integrity of European Sites. The characteristics of the Proposed Variation do not introduce any additional sources for effects that were not already considered, therefore they are not foreseen to give rise to any significant effects on any designated European sites, alone, or in combination with other plans or projects.

It is concluded that Proposed Variation No. 1 to the Louth County Development Plan 2015-2021 will not give rise to any significant adverse effects on designated European sites³, 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 2 AA is not required for the Proposed Variation.

Amendments to the Variation have been considered by the AA screening process and are not considered to be material.

Signed: 
Joan Martin
Chief Executive
20th May 2019

¹ Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended)

² Pursuant to Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive as to whether or not a plan or project would adversely affect the integrity of a European site and having regard to requirements of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

³ Except as provided for in Section 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be:

- a) no alternative solution available,
- b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and
- c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.