



PROVISION OF INFORMATION FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING

FOR

**PROPOSED TOURISM HERITAGE PROJECT, CASINO, MALAHIDE ROAD,
MALAHIDE, CO. DUBLIN**

**PREPARED FOR ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE & TOURISM DEPARTMENT,
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

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1 Introduction

This report which contains information required for the competent authority (in this instance Fingal County Council) to undertake a screening exercise for Appropriate Assessment (AA), was prepared by Scott Cawley Ltd. on behalf of the applicant. It provides information on and assesses the potential for the application for proposed development to significantly affect European sites (hereafter “European sites”¹).

It is necessary that the proposal has regard to Article 6 of the *Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora* (as amended) (hereafter “the Habitats Directive”). This is transposed in Ireland primarily by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477/2011) (as amended) (hereafter the Birds and Habitats Regulations) and the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act, 2010 (as amended).

An AA is required if likely significant effects on European sites arising from a proposed development cannot be ruled out at the screening stage, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

It is the responsibility of the competent authority to make a decision as to whether or not the proposed development is likely to have significant effects on European sites, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects.

Following the preparation of this screening statement it was objectively concluded that there was no likelihood of any significant effects on any European sites arising from the proposed development, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Therefore, it is our view that an Appropriate Assessment is not required in this instance. The information in the tables below provides a summary of the information gathered for this screening exercise and the conclusions that were made.

2 Methodology

This Screening Statement for Appropriate Assessment was prepared with regard to the following guidance documents, where relevant:

- *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 Environment Directorate-General, 2001); hereafter referred to as the EC Article 6 Guidance Document. 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;
- *Guidance Document on Article 6(4) of the ‘Habitats Directive’ 92/43/EEC. Clarification of the Concepts of Alternative Solutions, Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest,*

¹ Natura 2000 sites are defined under the Habitats Directive (Article 3) as a European ecological network of special area of conservation composed of sites which host the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the protected species listed in Annex II as well as Annex I Birds Directive species and their habitats including in particular wetland habitats. The aim of the network is to aid the long-term survival of Europe’s most valuable and threatened species and habitats. In Ireland these sites are designated as *European sites* – defined under the Planning Acts and/or Birds and Habitats Regulations as (a) a candidate site of Community importance, (b) a site of Community importance, (c) a candidate special area of conservation, (d) a special area of conservation, (e) a candidate special protection area, or (f) a special protection area. They are commonly referred to in Ireland as candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

Compensatory Measures, Overall Coherence. Opinion of the European Commission (European Commission, January 2007);

- *Managing Natura 2000 Sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitat's Directive 92/43/EEC* (EC Environment Directorate-General, 2000); hereafter referred to as MN2000;
- *Guidelines for Good Practice Appropriate Assessment of Plans under Article 6(3) Habitats Directive*. Findings of an international workshop on Appropriate Assessment in Oxford, December 2009²; and
- *Communication from the Commission on the precautionary principle*. European Commission (2000b).

The above referenced guidance sets out a staged process for carrying out Appropriate Assessment. To determine if Appropriate Assessment is required, documented screening is required. Screening identifies the likely effects on European sites, if any, which would arise from a proposed plan or project, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. In addition, it further considers whether these effects are likely to adversely affect the integrity of any European sites.

If the conclusions at the end of screening are that there is no likelihood of significant effects occurring on any European sites, as a result of the proposed plan or project (either alone or in combination with other plans and projects) then there would be no requirement to undertake Appropriate Assessment.

Nonetheless, these findings must be clearly documented in order to provide transparency in the decision-making process, and to ensure the application of the 'precautionary principle'³.

Screening for Appropriate Assessment involves the following:

- Determining whether a project or plan is directly connected with or necessary to the conservation management of any European sites⁴ (See Appendix A Figure 1 for a plan of European sites which lie within 15km of the study site);
- Describing the details of the project/plan proposals and other plans or projects that may cumulatively affect any European sites (see Table 1);
- Describing the characteristics of relevant European sites (Table 2); and
- Assessing the likelihood and significance of effects on relevant European sites (see Table 2).

This report was based on a desktop study conducted on the 20th May 2016. Information relied upon included the following information sources, which included maps, ecological and water quality data:

- Ordnance Survey of Ireland mapping and aerial photography available from www.osi.ie;
- Online data available on European sites as held by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) from www.npws.ie;
- Online data available from the National Biodiversity Data Centre mapping service (<http://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/#/Map>);
- Information on land-use zoning from the online mapping of the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government <http://www.myplan.ie/en/index.html>;
- Information on water quality in the area available from www.epa.ie;
- Information on the Shannon River Basin District from www.wfdireland.ie;

² Available online at <http://www.levett-therivel.co.uk/AAGuidelines.htm> Accessed April 2013

³ One of the primary foundations of the precautionary principle, and globally accepted definitions, results from the work of the Rio Declaration. Principle #15 declaration notes:

"In order to protect the environment, the precautionary approach shall be widely applied by States according to their capabilities. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation."

⁴ In this instance the proposed development is not directly connected with or necessary to the conservation management of any European sites.

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- Information on soils, geology and hydrogeology in the area available from www.gsi.ie;
 - Information on the location, nature and design of the proposed development supplied by the applicant's design team;
 - Information on the status of EU protected habitats in Ireland (National Parks & Wildlife Service, 2013a and b); and
 - Information on the conservation status of birds in Ireland (Colhoun & Cummins, 2014).

The following planning and policy documents were relevant to the subject lands, in particular with regard to the assessment of other plans and projects with potential for cumulative effects:

- *National Biodiversity Plan 2011 – 2016* (Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, 2011);
- *Fingal Heritage Plan 2011 – 2017* (Fingal County Council, 2012);
- *Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015* (Fingal County Council, 2010);
- *Fingal County Development Plan 2011 - 2017* (Fingal County Council, 2011); and,
- *Draft River Basin Management Plan 2004 – 2015* (Eastern River Basin District, 2008).

Table 1 Overview of the Proposed Development and its Receiving Environment

<p>Site Description</p>	<p>The proposed site is located off the Malahide-Dublin Road (R106) in Malahide village in north Co. Dublin (Irish Grid Ref: O 22415 46064). It lies in close proximity to Malahide Cricket Club and Malahide Castle and grounds. A review of Ordnance Survey aerial photography showed the site to be composed of grassland with scattered trees, hardstanding, buildings and treelines. According to MyPlan.ie the lands are zoned as 'G4-Active Open Space' and 'R2- Existing Residential' under the current Fingal Development Plan (2011-2017). The surrounding area is mainly comprised of residential areas and open space while the village centre is just 150m to the east. Malahide Estuary SAC and SPA lies 195m north of the proposed development.</p>
<p>Features of the surrounding environment</p>	<p>The desktop study found no records of any species for which European Sites (listed in Table 2) are designated, within or immediately adjacent to the proposed site.</p> <p>The following species for which European Sites (listed in Table 2) were recorded within 2km of the proposed development site's location:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) – c. 860m north of proposed development (Malahide Estuary). ▪ Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) – c. 860m north of proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (IWeBS 1994-2001). ▪ Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) – c. 1.6km north-west of proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (2001). ▪ Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) – c. 860m north of the proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (IWeBS 1994-2001). ▪ Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) – c. 1.6km north-west of proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (2001). ▪ Great-crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) - c. 860m north of the proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (IWeBS 1994-2001). ▪ Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) – c. 1.6km north-west of proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (2001). ▪ Goldeneye (<i>Bucepala clangula</i>) - c. 860m north of the proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (IWeBS 1994-2001). ▪ Red-breasted Merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) - c. 860m north of the proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (IWeBS 1994-2001). ▪ Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) – c.700m north-east of the proposed development (2012). ▪ Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) – c. 860m north of the proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (IWeBS 1994-2001). ▪ Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) – c. 1.6km north-west of proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (2001). ▪ Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) – c. 860m north of the proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (IWeBS 1994-2001). ▪ Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) – c. 1.6km north-west of proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (2001).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) – c. 1.6km north-west of proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (2001). ▪ Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) – c. 1.6km north-west of proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (2001). ▪ Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) – c. 860m north of the proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (IWeBS 1994-2001). ▪ Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) – c.1.3km east of the proposed development (2012). ▪ Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) – c. 860m north of the proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (IWeBS 1994-2001). ▪ Black-headed Gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) – c. 1.6km north-west of proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (2001). ▪ Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) – c. 860m north of the proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (IWeBS 1994-2001). ▪ Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) - c.700m west of the proposed development (2012). ▪ Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) – c. 860m north of the proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (IWeBS 1994-2001). ▪ Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) – c. 1.6km north-west of proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (2001). ▪ Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) – c.780m north-west of the proposed development (Malahide Estuary) (2012). <p>The proposed site is located within the Liffey and Dublin Bay catchment and in the Mayne subcatchment. According to the EPA map viewer, the River Gaybrook is located c.1.2km west of the propose development site, while the Hazelbrook Stream runs approximately 3km to the south. The River Gaybrook drains into Broadmeadow Water Estuary while the Hazelbrook Stream converges with the River Sluice near Portmarnock. The River Sluice then enters the Mayne Estuary at Portmarnock bridge. According to the EPA MapViewer the Mayne Estuary is regarded as ‘Eutrophic’ while the water quality of the Broadmeadow Water Estuary is currently unknown. There is currently no information available regarding the water quality of the River Gaybrook, Hazelbrook Stream or River Sluice.</p> <p>According to EPA Map Viewer, the groundwater body is classified as ‘Dublin’ and is described as ‘Poorly productive bedrock’ and ‘Expected to achieve good status’. In terms of the level of vulnerability to groundwater contamination from human activities, the site is deemed to be at the ‘Extreme’ level. It is also described as a ‘Locally Important Aquifer – bedrock which is moderately productive only in local zones’. The bedrock of the area is classified as ‘Dinantian Lower Impure Limestones’ while the Malahide formation is described as ‘Argillaceous bioclastic limestone, shale’.</p>
<p>Description of the Proposed Development</p>	<p>Full details of the proposed development are provided in the applicant’s planning documentation. In brief, the proposed development will involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The construction of a single-storey extension to the rear of the Casino; ▪ The conversion of the Casino to serve as a tourism heritage project to display the Fry model railway collection; ▪ The conversion of the outbuilding into a coffee and ice-cream retail building with public toilets and an outdoor terrace; ▪ Decommissioning of the existing septic tank on site and connection to mains drainage on the Malahide-Dublin Road; and; ▪ A small lean-to structure will be demolished to allow for the new extension. Minor internal demolitions and alterations will be carried out to accommodate the new layout. The loft area in the outbuilding will be removed and the outbuilding will become one single volume. <p>The existing building has security lighting standards in place around the building on the approach road. The light intensity is not expected to increase</p>

	<p>significantly as a result of the development other than additional lighting in the area of the outbuilding. Ground-set wall-washer low intensity lights for general lighting of the buildings by night will be provided at the front of both buildings. A number of small ground-set ‘guidelines’ will be placed in the ground in the forecourt. Driveway lighting will consist of ground washer lights set flush into 700m high columns.</p> <p>In terms of landscaping, it is proposed to incorporate a herbaceous border comprising Hydrangea and Lavender in front of the main entrance the Casino thatched cottage. It is also proposed to remove a small number of trees (<10), with the vast majority of existing trees on site being retained. The large grassed area which lies to the south of the proposed site will be retained while the remainder of the land within the immediate vicinity of the existing buildings will be overlaid with self-binding gravel with stone/concrete bands.</p> <p>A previous planning permission (Reg. Ref. F02A/1311) for the site, which was then part of a larger site including Casino Apartment development to the west and north, included provision for drainage connections. Provision for these connections was included in the building of the apartment building and connecting manholes have been provided for both foul and surface water. The foul drainage will connect to the public mains through a wayleave manhole agreement in place.</p> <p>The surface water discharges to the sea, and the provision of SUDs on site is not required due to the site’s proximity to the seawater outfall.</p> <p>It is proposed that foul water generated from the proposed development will discharge to the public mains via connecting manholes that are provided in the neighboring apartment complex. From there it will flow onto the Malahide Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) for treatment prior to discharge into the coastal waterbody of Malahide Bay.</p> <p>Previous permitted planning applications on site include the construction of a large restaurant development (Reg. Ref. F02A/1311). As this proposed tourism heritage development is likely to have a foul water loading which is considerably less than the previous restaurant development application, it can be concluded that foul water discharge from the site will not be significant.</p> <p>The estimated duration of construction is approximately 9 months, commencing late January 2017 and completing late October 2017.</p>
<p>Potential Cumulative Impacts</p>	<p>Existing Habitat Loss Pressures</p> <p>The proposed development site does not overlap with any European Sites. Following a walkover survey of the site, no habitats listed under Annex I of the Habitats Directive were identified within the proposed site. The site is not immediately connected with any habitats within European sites and there are no known indirect connections to European Sites (e.g. by groundwater). Therefore, it has been determined that there will be no potential for cumulative effects upon European sites as a result of habitat loss during the construction of this development.</p> <p>Existing pressures on water quality within European Sites in proximity to the site</p> <p><i>Pressures on European Sites within the Irish Sea (north of Dublin Bay) from foul water</i></p> <p>The European Sites at the coast are the only designated areas for nature conservation with a potential source-pathway-receptor link between the proposed development site and the ecologically designated sites. This pathway is by virtue of the fact that foul water will ultimately be discharged to the Irish Sea via Malahide Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP), and that it is likely that any surface water runoff from the site will also end up discharging to the coast via the existing surface water drainage network.</p> <p><i>Pressures on European sites in the Irish Sea (north of Dublin Bay) from surface waters</i></p> <p>The section entitled “Features of the Surrounding Environment” on p.6 of this report describes the baseline environment of receiving coastal waters</p>

for the proposed development. There is potential for “in-combination” effects of proposed plans and projects within the *Fingal County Development Plan 2011 – 2017*, which can influence conditions in the Irish Sea (north of Dublin Bay) via rivers and other surface water features. According to myplan.ie, the area in which the proposed site is located is currently zoned as ‘R2- Existing Residential. The surrounding area is zoned as ‘M2 - City/Town/village Centre, central area’, ‘S5 - Mixed/general community services/facilities uses’ and ‘G4 – Active Open Space’. There are a number of existing and proposed development projects within the Malahide area which may have the potential to produce “in combination” effects on water quality in Irish Sea north of Dublin Bay during their operation; however, the likelihood of impacts arising a result of the proposed development is deemed to be low.

There may be a risk that construction-related contamination (e.g. through surface run off) could flow overland into the local drainage network. However, such overflows are deemed unlikely to result in significant effects on water quality in the Irish Sea (north of Dublin Bay). This is due to the following: any pollution events will only occur during a short period of time (i.e. <2 years during construction); are likely to be infrequent (i.e. limited to storm flows) where best practice guidelines for construction sites have been adhered to; and, due to the distance of the proposed site from the Irish Sea (north of Dublin Bay), any pollution events that occur are likely to result in small concentrations of contaminants reaching European Sites in the Irish Sea (north of Dublin Bay) following, dilution, adsorption and mixing in the local drainage network and the Irish Sea. As such the risk of significant adverse impacts upon any of the European Sites within 15km of this development is considered to be negligible.

Pressures on European sites in the Irish Sea (north of Dublin Bay) from effluent

At present, the Malahide WWTP on Strand Road treats wastewater from Malahide town, as well as outlying area around Baskin and Kinsealy, prior to discharge into the Irish Sea. According to the Annual Environmental Report (Fingal County Council, 2013), Malahide WWTP currently has a design capacity of 20,000 P.E., following upgrading in 2004 (Fingal County Council, 2013). In this report the current loading was given as 14,007 P.E with a remaining capacity of 5,993 P.E. The remaining capacity was not expected to be exceeded between 2013 and 2016. Foul water discharge from the proposed development site will not be significant and the figures given above indicate that the Malahide WWTP has sufficient capacity to support the proposed development.

Conclusion for potential in-combination effects from surface and/or foul waters

There will be no likelihood of significant effects on any European sites, and there will be no adverse effects on European site integrity during the construction or operation of the proposed development, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. This judgement was reached on the basis that:

- The coastal waters in the Irish Sea are classed as “Unpolluted” by the EPA;
- It is extremely unlikely that during construction a pollution event would occur of a magnitude that would have an adverse effect on water quality in the Irish Sea;
- The Malahide WwTP has a capacity of 20,000 P.E. (Fingal County Council, 2013). In consideration of the predicted loading that will be contributed by the proposed development, the ‘Unpolluted’ water quality status of coastal waters is likely to be maintained, despite potential pressures from other future development; and,
- It is an aim of Fingal County Council (as outlined in the *Fingal County Development Plan 2011 - 2017*) to ensure the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage Networks (SUDS) and compliance with the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (GSDSDS) for all new

	development.
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European sites within 15km of the proposed development site are shown in Figure 1 in Appendix A.

Table 2 Analysis of European Sites within 15km			
Site name and code	Distance from Proposed Development	Reasons for designation⁵ (*= Priority Habitat) (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives Generic Version 3.0 for cSACs and 4.0 for SPAs, unless otherwise stated)	Relevant source-pathway-receptor links between proposed development and European site?
<p>No sites are “relevant” to the Proposed Development.</p> <p>(European sites would only be “relevant” where a relevant source-pathway-receptor link⁶ exists and poses a likely significant impact or risk).</p>			
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)			
Malahide Estuary SAC (000205)	Located c. 195m to the north of proposed site	<p><u>Annex I Habitats:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] ▪ <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] ▪ Spartina swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>) [1320] ▪ Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330] ▪ Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410] ▪ Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila</i> 	<p>Whilst there is a potential linkage between the proposed development and the European site, no significant effects are predicted.</p> <p>There are potential links between the proposed development and the European Site, as treated foul water and surface water arising from the proposed development will be discharged from Malahide WWTP into the Irish Sea. In this way there is potential for contaminating substances to be discharged to this European site. The WWTP has sufficient capacity to support this development project and it can therefore, be concluded that any foul water will be adequately treated before ultimately discharging to the Irish Sea.</p>

⁵ “Qualifying Interests” for SACs and “Special Conservation Interests” for SPAs based on relevant Statutory Instruments for each SPA, and NPWS Conservation Objectives for SACs downloaded from www.npws.ie in April 2014.

⁶ For significant effects to arise, there must be a risk enabled by having a 'source' (e.g. construction works at a proposed development site), a 'receptor' (e.g. a cSAC), and a pathway between the source and the receptor (e.g. a watercourse connecting a proposed development site to a cSAC). The identification of a pathway does not automatically mean significant effects will arise. The likelihood for significant effects will depend upon the characteristics of the source (e.g. duration of construction works), the characteristics of the pathway (e.g. water quality status of watercourse receiving run-off from construction) and the characteristics of the receptor (e.g. the ecology including conservation status of the cSAC reason for designation). When expert judgment determines, that significant effects are likely to arise, both the pathway, and the European site are considered “Relevant”, and an Appropriate Assessment is triggered.

Table 2 Analysis of European Sites within 15km

Site name and code	Distance from Proposed Development	Reasons for designation ⁵ (*= Priority Habitat) (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives Generic Version 3.0 for cSACs and 4.0 for SPAs, unless otherwise stated)	Relevant source-pathway-receptor links between proposed development and European site? No sites are “relevant” to the Proposed Development. (European sites would only be “relevant” where a relevant source-pathway-receptor link ⁶ exists and poses a likely significant impact or risk).
		<p><i>arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)* [2130] 	<p>Surface water runoff arising from the site will also end up discharging to the coast via the existing surface water drainage network. In this way, surface waters generated during construction and operation could carry silt, oils, or other chemicals into the Malahide estuary SAC. However, there will be no significant effects on the reasons for designation of the European site in view of the relevant conservation objectives, due to the temporary and likely infrequent nature of any discharges related to construction of the site.</p>
Baldoyle Bay SAC (000199)	Located c. 3.7km to south-east of proposed site	<p><u>Annex I Habitats:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] ▪ <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] ▪ Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330] ▪ Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410] 	<p>No, due to the distance between the site and the European site and the substantial marine buffer that exists between the two.</p>

Table 2 Analysis of European Sites within 15km

Site name and code	Distance from Proposed Development	Reasons for designation ⁵ (*= Priority Habitat) (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives Generic Version 3.0 for cSACs and 4.0 for SPAs, unless otherwise stated)	Relevant source-pathway-receptor links between proposed development and European site? No sites are “relevant” to the Proposed Development. (European sites would only be “relevant” where a relevant source-pathway-receptor link ⁶ exists and poses a likely significant impact or risk).
Rogerstown Estuary SAC (000208)	Located c. 5.3km north of proposed site	<u>Annex I Habitat:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Estuaries [1130] ▪ Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] ▪ <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] ▪ Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>) [1330] ▪ Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410] ▪ Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120] ▪ Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)* [2130] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.
Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (003000)	Located c. 5.7km east of proposed site	<u>Annex I Habitats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reefs [1170] <u>Annex II Species:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Phocoena phocoena</i> (Harbour Porpoise) [1351] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.
North Dublin Bay SAC (000206)	Located c. 7.5km south-east of	<u>Annex I Habitat:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.

Table 2 Analysis of European Sites within 15km

Site name and code	Distance from Proposed Development	Reasons for designation ⁵ (*= Priority Habitat) (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives Generic Version 3.0 for cSACs and 4.0 for SPAs, unless otherwise stated)	Relevant source-pathway-receptor links between proposed development and European site? No sites are “relevant” to the Proposed Development. (European sites would only be “relevant” where a relevant source-pathway-receptor link ⁶ exists and poses a likely significant impact or risk).
	proposed site	tide [1140] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210] ▪ <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] ▪ Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330] ▪ Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410] ▪ Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] ▪ Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120] ▪ Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130] ▪ Humid dune slacks [2190] Annex II Species: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i> (Petalwort) [1395] 	
Ireland’s Eye SAC (002193)	Located c. 7.9km south-east of proposed site	Annex I Habitats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220] ▪ Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.

Table 2 Analysis of European Sites within 15km

Site name and code	Distance from Proposed Development	Reasons for designation⁵ (*= Priority Habitat) (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives Generic Version 3.0 for cSACs and 4.0 for SPAs, unless otherwise stated)	Relevant source-pathway-receptor links between proposed development and European site?
Lambay Island SAC (000204)	Located c. 9.5km north-east of proposed site	<u>Annex I Habitats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reefs [1170] ▪ Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230] <u>Annex II Species:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Halichoerus grypus</i> (Grey Seal) [1364] ▪ <i>Phoca vitulina</i> (Common Seal) [1365] 	No sites are “relevant” to the Proposed Development. (European sites would only be “relevant” where a relevant source-pathway-receptor link ⁶ exists and poses a likely significant impact or risk). See above for Baldoyle SAC.
Howth Head SAC (000202)	Located c. 9.6km south-east of proposed site	<u>Annex I Habitats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230] ▪ European dry heaths [4030] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.
South Dublin Bay SAC (000210)	Located c. 13km south of proposed site	<u>Annex I Habitats:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.
Special Protection Area (SPA)			
Malahide Estuary SPA (004025)	Located c. 195m north of proposed site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005] ▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] ▪ Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] 	No, there is limited risk of noise or other disturbance impacts to Special Conservation Interest bird species given the relatively small scale and temporary nature of construction works associated with the proposed development.

Table 2 Analysis of European Sites within 15km

Site name and code	Distance from Proposed Development	Reasons for designation⁵ (*= Priority Habitat) (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives Generic Version 3.0 for cSACs and 4.0 for SPAs, unless otherwise stated)	Relevant source-pathway-receptor links between proposed development and European site?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054] ▪ Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067] ▪ Red-breasted Merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069] ▪ Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] ▪ Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] ▪ Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] ▪ Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] ▪ Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] ▪ Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] ▪ Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] ▪ Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] 	<p>No sites are “relevant” to the Proposed Development.</p> <p>(European sites would only be “relevant” where a relevant source-pathway-receptor link⁶ exists and poses a likely significant impact or risk).</p>
Baldoyle Bay SPA (004016)	Located c. 4km south-east of proposed site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] ▪ Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] ▪ Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] ▪ Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] ▪ Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] ▪ Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.

Table 2 Analysis of European Sites within 15km

Site name and code	Distance from Proposed Development	Reasons for designation ⁵ (*= Priority Habitat) (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives Generic Version 3.0 for cSACs and 4.0 for SPAs, unless otherwise stated)	Relevant source-pathway-receptor links between proposed development and European site? No sites are “relevant” to the Proposed Development. (European sites would only be “relevant” where a relevant source-pathway-receptor link ⁶ exists and poses a likely significant impact or risk).
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] 	
Rogerstown Estuary SPA (004015)	Located c. 5.4km north of proposed site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043] ▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] ▪ Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] ▪ Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056] ▪ Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] ▪ Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] ▪ Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] ▪ Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] ▪ Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] ▪ Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] ▪ Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.

Table 2 Analysis of European Sites within 15km

Site name and code	Distance from Proposed Development	Reasons for designation ⁵ (*= Priority Habitat) (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives Generic Version 3.0 for cSACs and 4.0 for SPAs, unless otherwise stated)	Relevant source-pathway-receptor links between proposed development and European site? No sites are “relevant” to the Proposed Development. (European sites would only be “relevant” where a relevant source-pathway-receptor link ⁶ exists and poses a likely significant impact or risk).
Ireland’s Eye SPA (004117)	Located c. 7.5km east of proposed site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017] ▪ Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184] ▪ Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188] ▪ Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) [A199] ▪ Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>) [A200] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.
North Bull Island SPA (004006)	Located c. 8km south-east of proposed site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] ▪ Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] ▪ Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] ▪ Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054] ▪ Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056] ▪ Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] ▪ Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] ▪ Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] ▪ Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] ▪ Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] ▪ Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] ▪ Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.

Table 2 Analysis of European Sites within 15km

Site name and code	Distance from Proposed Development	Reasons for designation ⁵ (*= Priority Habitat) (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives Generic Version 3.0 for cSACs and 4.0 for SPAs, unless otherwise stated)	Relevant source-pathway-receptor links between proposed development and European site? No sites are “relevant” to the Proposed Development. (European sites would only be “relevant” where a relevant source-pathway-receptor link ⁶ exists and poses a likely significant impact or risk).
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] ▪ Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160] ▪ Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] ▪ Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169] ▪ Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] 	
Lambay Island SPA (004069)	Located c. 9.4km north-east of proposed site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>) [A009] ▪ Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017] ▪ Shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>) [A018] ▪ Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043] ▪ Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183] ▪ Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184] ▪ Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188] ▪ Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) [A199] ▪ Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>) [A200] ▪ Puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>) [A204] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.
Howth Head Coast SPA (004113)	Located c. 10km south-east of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.

Table 2 Analysis of European Sites within 15km

Site name and code	Distance from Proposed Development	Reasons for designation ⁵ (*= Priority Habitat) (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives Generic Version 3.0 for cSACs and 4.0 for SPAs, unless otherwise stated)	Relevant source-pathway-receptor links between proposed development and European site? No sites are “relevant” to the Proposed Development. (European sites would only be “relevant” where a relevant source-pathway-receptor link ⁶ exists and poses a likely significant impact or risk).
	proposed site		
South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (004024)	Located c. 10km south of proposed site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] ▪ Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] ▪ Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] ▪ Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A140] ▪ Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] ▪ Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] ▪ Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] ▪ Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] ▪ Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] ▪ Black-headed Gull (<i>Croicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] ▪ Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192] ▪ Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] ▪ Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194] ▪ Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.
Skerries Islands SPA	Located c. 14.1km north-east of proposed site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017] ▪ Shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>) [A018] ▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.

Table 2 Analysis of European Sites within 15km

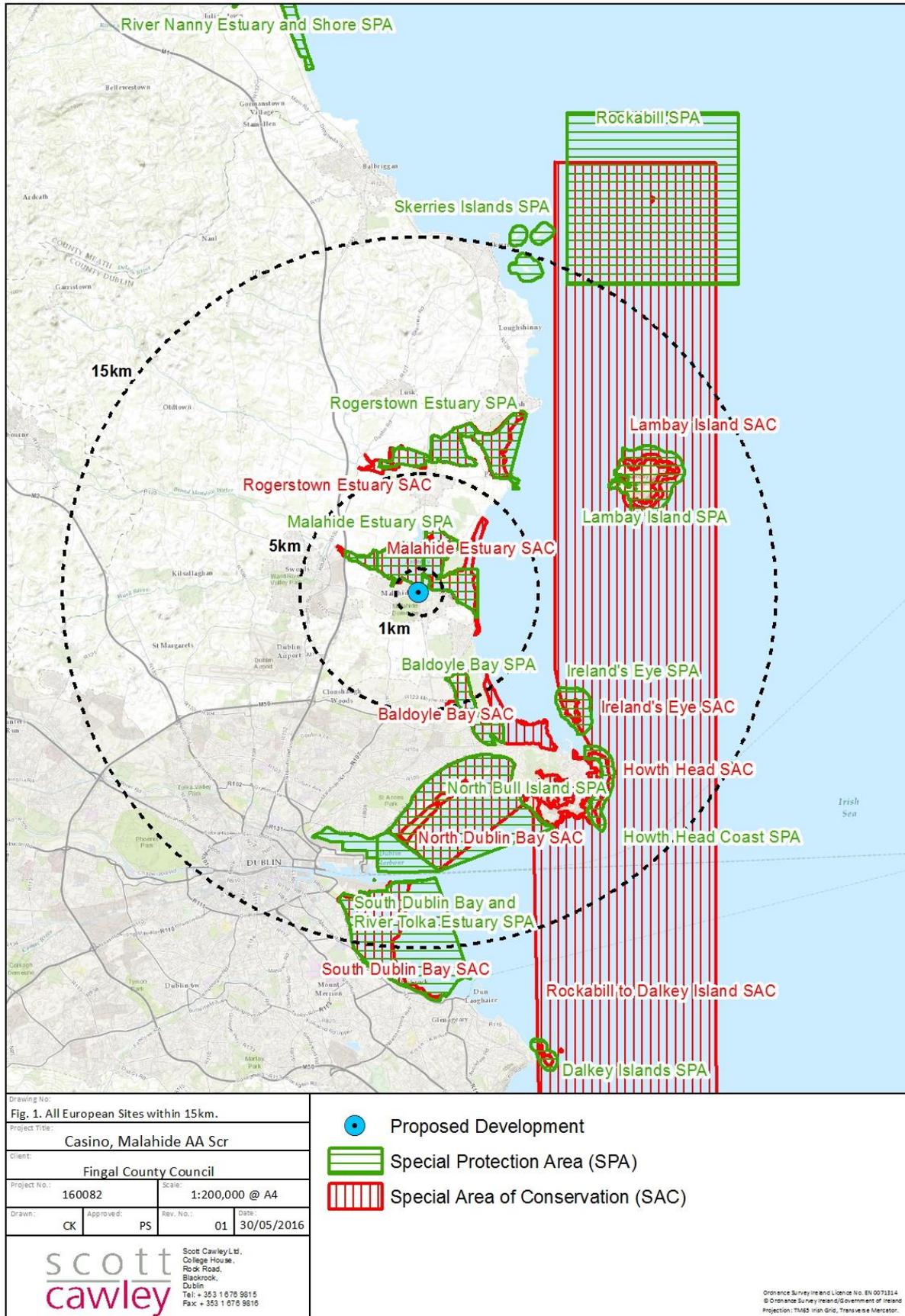
Site name and code	Distance from Proposed Development	Reasons for designation ⁵ (*= Priority Habitat) (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives Generic Version 3.0 for cSACs and 4.0 for SPAs, unless otherwise stated)	Relevant source-pathway-receptor links between proposed development and European site? No sites are “relevant” to the Proposed Development. (European sites would only be “relevant” where a relevant source-pathway-receptor link ⁶ exists and poses a likely significant impact or risk).
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Purple Sandpiper (<i>Calidris maritima</i>) [A148] ▪ Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169] ▪ Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184] 	
Rockabill SPA	Located c. 14.7km north-east of proposed site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169] ▪ Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192] ▪ Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] ▪ Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194] 	See above for Baldoyle SAC.

3 Conclusions of the Screening Assessment

Following an analysis of the proposed development and potential relationships with European sites, it has been concluded that there would be no likelihood of significant effects on any European sites and no impacts to European site integrity, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Therefore, it is our view that an Appropriate Assessment is not required.

Appendix A

Figure 1. All European sites within 15km of the site



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