

**Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) Determination
for the
Louth Noise Action Plan 2024-2028**

This determination whether the Draft Louth Noise Action Plan 2024-2028 would or would not necessitate the undertaking of Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment (AA) under Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended).

An accompanying Screening for AA Report has been prepared to inform this determination. As identified in that report:

- The Draft Louth Noise Action Plan 2024-2028 aims to manage environmental noise in order to avoid, prevent and reduce the harmful effects within the Draft Plan area resulting from long term exposure to environmental noise.
- The Draft Plan fully aligns with the provisions of the existing National Planning Framework, Ireland 2040, National Climate Action Plan 2024, Housing For All 2021, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and the Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027 (as varied), all of which have been subject to legislative requirements relating to public consultation and environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment. As such, the Draft Plan is wholly subject to the requirements of the provisions set out in these documents, including provisions relating to sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been integrated into these documents, including through SEA and AA processes, and does not introduce any alterations or additions to those provisions. In addition, the Draft Plan does not provide consent or establish a framework for granting consent and will not be binding on any decisions relating to the granting of consent.
- Therefore, following the source-pathway-receptor model, the Draft Plan does not introduce any additional sources for effects that were not already considered by the existing planning framework and associated AA processes.
- Therefore, it is concluded in this Screening for AA to inform the competent authority carrying out the AA Screening, that Draft Plan is not foreseen to have any likelihood for any significant effect on any European site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects – and therefore any potential for a significant effect to any European site as a result of implementing Draft Plan can be ruled out.

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above and in the “Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report”. The undersigned hereby determines that the Louth Noise Action Plan 2024-2028 is not foreseen to have any likelihood for any significant effect on any European site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects – and therefore any potential for a significant effect to any European site as a result of implementing Plan can be ruled out. Consequently, Stage Two AA (including the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement) is not required.

Signatory:



Date:

24/05/2024