Howth

Special Amenity Area Order

Enjoying and Protecting Howth's Unique Landscape

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

What is the Howth S.A.A.O.?

As a resident of the Howth Peninsula you know it is a beautiful place, with a varied landscape, wildlife habitats and many recreational opportunities.

Because of Howth's location in close proximity to a capital city, it became apparent to many in the 1990s that some of the much-valued assets of the area needed protection and enhancement alongside development.

In 1999 the Minister for the Environment signed the **Special Amenity Area Order (S.A.A.O.)** for Howth. This order sets out a framework for the **conservation** and **protection** of the area designated in accordance with the Planning Act and Planning Regulations.
The Howth Special Amenity Area covers a total of 547 hectares. It includes **Ireland's Eye** (28 hectares) as well as heathland, woods, cliffs and wooded residential areas of the south-eastern half of the peninsula (519 hectares).

Who manages the Howth S.A.A.O.?

The Howth S.A.A.O. Management Committee manages the area and includes community groups, landowners and local elected councillors as well as experts in wildlife and heathland management.
The Committee's work is ongoing with a lot of work undertaken by voluntary groups in conjunction with Fingal County Council.

These works include:

- *Maintenance and repair of paths and the provision of directional signage*
- *Grassland and Heathland management including the removal of Rhododendron from heathland areas as well as plant survey work*
- *Protection of wildlife including the Red Squirrel Conservation Project*
- *Input into the planning process to protect the landscape, views & prospects as set out in the S.A.A.O.*
- *Protection of historical sites*

Did you know that there are four Looped Walks in Howth which cover 41 km?

For more info visit: www.discoverIreland.ie

Background Legislation

European Legislation and Wildlife Protection

Parts of the Howth peninsula are designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) and as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) are set out under the European Habitats Directive, to protect wildlife and the places where they live.

Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are concerned with the long-term protection of wild bird species and their habitats, as set out in the European Birds Directive.

SACs and SPAs form a European wide network of sites known as Natura 2000 sites which Fingal County Council is obliged by law to ensure are protected and conserved.

The primary responsibility for the above legislation lies with the **National Parks and Wildlife Service (N.P.W.S.)** within the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

For further information: www.npws.ie

What does the S.A.A.O. mean for you?

Planning and development:

It is a requirement of the S.A.A.O. to enhance and protect the attractive and distinctive landscape character of the Howth.

Common issues considered when development proposals are assessed by Fingal County Council include siting and design of proposed development, site planting, site boundaries, design of boundary walls and design of entrances.

For further information on planning:
Howth S.A.A.O. Document, Schedules 1-3 and Chapter 4.

- ***Howth S.A.A.O. Maps A & B***
- ***Howth S.A.A.O. Design Guidelines***
- ***Fingal Development Plan & Zoning Maps***

These documents are available on Fingal County Council's website: **www.fingalcoco.ie/planning-and-buildings/development-plans-and-consultations/studies-and-reports/howth-special-amenity-area-order**

For planning guidance, it is recommended that the **Howth/ Malahide Area Planner** is consulted prior to a planning application being lodged in the area of the S.A.A.O.

Garden Waste:

The disposal of garden waste within the confines of an existing garden is appropriate. Where cut garden waste is disposed of within the protected landscape /pathways /cliffs, this can result in the unwanted introduction of **invasive garden plants and the loss of protected native plants and habitats within this special landscape.**

For more information on invasive species:
www.invasivespeciesireland.com

Did you know that in 2015 Howth was included in the Dublin Bay Biosphere?

A Biosphere is a special designation awarded by the **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)** and is managed in partnership by communities, NGOs and local and national government.

For further information: www.dublinbaybiosphere.ie

Useful contacts:

For general queries on the Howth S.A.A.O.
Howth S.A.A.O. Management Committee:
Email: niall.mccoitir@fingal.ie

For planning issues:
Howth / Malahide Area Planner, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department, Fingal County Council
Tel: 01 890 5000

To become a volunteer and get out and get active on the Howth looped walks:
Howth Pathways:
www.howthpathways.com and on Facebook

For built heritage issues:
Howth Peninsula Heritage Society:
www.howthheritage.com
Email: dermotquinn@eircom.net

To become involved in community matters:
Howth Sutton Community Council:
on Facebook or **Email:** howthsuttoncc@gmail.com
or Hillwatch: Tel: 01 839 2782

To report sightings of Red or Grey Squirrels:
Email: howthpeninsulasquirrels@gmail.com

Ordú Limistéar Taitneamhachta Speisialta **Bhinn Éadair**

Sult a bhaint as Tírdhreach Uathúil Bhinn Éadair agus é a Chosaint

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Céard é O.L.T.S. Bhinn Éadair?

Mar chónaitheoir i Leithinis Bhinn Éadair, is eol duit gurb áit álainn í ina bhfuil éagsúlacht tírdhreacha, gnáthóga fiadhúlra agus cuid mhór deiseanna áineasa ar fáil.

De bharr shuíomh Bhinn Éadair, atá suite an-ghar do phríomhchathair, d'éirigh sé soiléir do chuid mhór daoine le linn bhlianta na 1990idí gur ghá sócmhainní an-luachmhar an limistéir a chosaint agus a fheabhsú le linn iad a bheith á bhforbairt.

Sa bhliain 1999, shínigh an tAire Comhshaoil **an tOrdú um Limistéar Taitneamhachta Speisialta (O.L.T.S.)** do Bhinn Éadair. San ordú sin, leagtar amach creat i gcomhair **chaomhnú** agus **chosaint** an limistéir atá ainmnithe de réir an Achta Pleanála agus na Rialachán Pleanála.
Tá achar iomlán 547 heicteár ann i Limistéar Taitneamhachta Speisialta Bhinn Éadair. Tá **Inis Mac Neasáin** ann (28 heicteár), chomh maith le fraochmhánna, coillte, aillte agus limistéir chónaitheacha faoi chrainn i ndeisceart na leithinse (519 heicteár).

Coiste Bainistíochta O.L.T.S. Bhinn Éadair

Is é Coiste Bainistíochta O.L.T.S. Bhinn Éadair a bhainistíonn an limistéar agus cuimsíonn an coiste sin grúpaí pobail, úinéirí talún agus comhairleoirí tofa áitiúla, chomh maith le saineolaithe sa réimse bainistíochta fiadhúlra agus fraochmhánna. Tá an Coiste ag obair ar bhonn leanúnach agus tá cuid mhór oibre déanta ag grúpaí deonacha i gcomhar le Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall.

Áiríonn an obair sin an méid seo a leanas:

- ➜ ***Cosáin a chothabháil agus a dheisiú agus treo-chomharthaí a sholáthar***
- ➜ ***Bainistiú Féaraigh agus Fraochmhá, lena n-áirítear Róslabhras a thabhairt chun bealaigh as limistéir fhraochmhá, chomh maith le hobair shuirbhéireachta maidir le plandaí***
- ➜ ***Cosaint fiadhúlra, lena n-áirítear Tionscadal Caomhnaithe an Iora Rua***
- ➜ ***Ionchur sa phróiseas pleanála chun an tírdhreach agus na radhairc atá leagtha amach san O.L.T.S. a chosaint***
- ➜ ***Láithreáin stairiúla a chosaint***

Arbh eol duit go bhfuil ceithre Lúbshiúlán ann i mBinn Éadair agus go gclúdaíonn siad achar 41km?

Tá tuilleadh faisnéise ar fáil ag:
www.discoverIreland.ie

An Bhunreachtaíocht

Reachtaíocht Eorpach agus Cosaint Fiadhúlra

Tá codanna de leithinis Bhinn Éadair ainmnithe mar Limistéar faoi Chosaint Speisialta (LfCS) agus mar Limistéar Caomhantais Speisialta (LCS).

Tá **Limistéir Chaomhantais Speisialta** (LCS-anna) leagtha amach faoi Threoir na hEorpa maidir le Gnáthóga chun an fiadhúlra agus na háiteanna ina bhfuil fiadhúlra a chosaint.

Baineann **Limistéir faoi Chosaint Speisialta** (LfCS-anna) le cosaint fhadtéarmach speiceas éan fiáin agus a gcuid gnáthóg de réir mar atá leagtha amach i dTreoir na hEorpa maidir le hÉin.

Is iad na LCS-anna agus na LfCS-anna na heilimintí atá ann i ngréasán uile-Eorpach ar a dtugtar láithreáin Natura 2000 agus, de réir oibleagáide dlíthiúla, ní mór do Chomhairle Contae Fhine Gall a chinntiú go ndéantar iad a chosaint agus a chaomhnú.

Tá an fhreagracht fhoriomlán as an reachtaíocht thuas ar an tSeirbhís **Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra (S.P.N.F.)** laistigh den Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta.

Tá tuilleadh faisnéise ar fáil ag: www.npws.ie

Cén bhaint atá ag an O.L.T.S. leatsa?

Pleanáil agus forbairt:

Ceanglas de chuid an O.L.T.S. is ea feabhsú agus cosaint shaintréith tharraingteach an tírdhreacha atá ann i mBinn Éadair.

I measc na nithe coitianta a bhreithnítear nuair atá tograí forbartha á meas ag Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall áirítear suíomh agus dearadh forbairtí atá beartaithe; plandáil ar láithreáin, teorainneacha láithreán, dearadh ballaí teorann agus dearadh bealaí isteach.

Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil faoi phleanáil, féach an méid seo a leanas:
Doiciméad O.L.T.S. Bhinn Éadair, Sceidil 1-3 agus Caibidil 4.

- ***Léarscáileanna A & B de O.L.T.S. Bhinn Éadair***
- ***Treoirlínte Dearthóireachta O.L.T.S. Bhinn Éadair***
- ***Plean Forbartha Fhine Gall & Léarscáileanna Criosúcháin***

Tá na doiciméid sin ar fáil ar láithreán gréasáin Chomhairle Contae Fhine Gall: **www.fingalcoco.ie/planning-and-buildings/development-plans-and-consultations/studies-and-reports/howth-special-amenity-area-order**

Chun treoir a fháil maidir le cúrsaí pleanála, moltar duit dul i gcomhairle le **Pleanálaí Limistéar Bhinn Éadair/Mhullach Íde** roimh iarratas pleanála a bhaineann le limistéar an O.L.T.S. a thaisceadh.

Dramhaíl ón nGairdín:

Is cuí dramhaíl ón ngairdín a dhiúscairt laistigh de theorainneacha an ghairdín lena mbaineann. I gcás ina ndéantar dramhaíl ghearrtha ó ghairdín a dhiúscairt laistigh den tírdhreach, de na conairí/de na haillte atá cosanta, d'fhéadfadh sé tarlú, mar thoradh air sin, go ndéanfaí **plandaí ionracha gairdín nach bhfuil ag teastáil a thabhairt isteach agus go gcaillfí plandaí agus gnáthóga, de chineál cosanta dúchasach, laistigh den tírdhreach speisialta seo.**

Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil faoi speicis ionracha, féach an méid seo a leanas:
www.invasivespeciesireland.com

Arbh eol duit gur cuireadh Binn Éadair san áireamh i mBithsféar Chuan Bhaile Átha Cliath sa bhliain 2015?

Is é atá i mBithsféar ná ainmniúchán speisialta a bhronnann Eagraíocht Oideachais, Eolaíochta agus Chultúir na Náisiún Aontaithe (UNESCO) agus déanann pobail, Eagraíochtaí Neamhrialtasacha agus rialtas áitiúil agus lárnach é a bhainistiú i gcomhpháirtíocht lena chéile.

Tuilleadh faisnéise ag: www.dublinbaybiosphere.ie

Teagmhálacha úsáideacha:

I gcás ceisteanna ginearálta faoi O.L.T.S. Bhinn Éadair:

Coiste Bainistíochta O.L.T.S. Bhinn Éadair:
Ríomhphost: niall.mccoitir@fingal.ie

I gcás nithe a bhaineann le pleanáil:

Pleanálaí Bhinn Éadair/Mhullach Íde, An Roinn Pleanála & Bonneagair Straitéisigh, Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Teil: 01 890 5000

Chun bheith i d'oibrí deonach agus chun faisnéis a fháil faoi lúbshiúláin Bhinn Éadair, féach an méid seo a leanas:

Conairí Bhinn Éadair: www.howthpathways.com
agus ar Facebook

I gcás nithe a bhaineann leis an oidhreacht fhoirgnithe:

Cumann Oidhreachta Leithinis Bhinn Éadair:
www.howthheritage.com
Ríomhphost: dermotquinn@eircom.net

Chun bheith rannpháirteach i gcúrsaí pobail:

Comhairle Phobail Bhinn Éadair/Chill Fhionntain:
ar Facebook nó **Ríomhphost:** howthsuttoncc@gmail.com
Nó Hillwatch: Teil: 01 839 2782

Chun tuairisc a thabhairt ar Ioraí Rua nó ar Ioraí Liatha atá feicthe:

Ríomhphost: howthpeninsulasquirrels@gmail.com