

**Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination under: Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), transposed into Irish law through the European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) for the Draft Fingal County Outdoor Recreation Plan**

In order to comply with the requirements of Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), transposed into Irish law through the European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), this determination has been made by Fingal County Council in relation to the potential for the Draft Fingal County Outdoor Recreation Plan to give rise to likely significant effects on the environment.

This determination has been made by Fingal County Council following consideration of information contained in the AA Screening Report prepared by Brady Shipman Martin (accompanying this determination). Following analysis and evaluation of the information, Fingal County Council, as the competent authority responsible for developing the Draft Fingal County Outdoor Recreation Plan has reached the conclusion that a AA is not required for the Draft Fingal County Outdoor Recreation Plan Fingal, based on the following considerations:

- There will be no loss of any habitat or species listed as a QI or SCI of any designated site as a consequence of the implementation of the Outdoor Recreation Plan. There is, therefore, no potential for the effects of habitat loss or fragmentation to occur. There will also be no significant effects on any European sites as a result of:
  - Habitat loss and/or fragmentation;
  - Land-take;
  - Resource requirements such as water abstraction;
  - Impacts to habitat structure;
  - Mortality to species (such as roadkill);
  - Noise pollution / vibration impacts;
  - Light pollution;
  - Emissions to air (including dust);
  - Emissions to water.
  - Additionally, for the reasons outlined in the report for the European sites, no impacts on any other designated sites including proposed Natural Heritage Areas, will occur.
- In consultation with Brady Shipman Martin, the Plan wording was carefully refined to ensure that it does not give rise to commitments to specific sites or projects. Instead, the Plan is framed to support and be consistent with existing plans and permitted projects, thereby avoiding the pre-determination of outcomes and ensuring appropriate planning flexibility.
- Following review of the Fingal County Outdoor Recreation Plan 2025-2030 against the Conservation Objectives of the relevant European sites, it is concluded that there is no possibility that the implementation of this Plan could result in any likely significant

effects on European sites on its own or in combination with other plans and programmes.

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above and in the "Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment for the Draft County Outdoor Recreation Plan."

Pursuant to Regulation 42 of S.I. No. 477 of 2011, as amended, and for the purposes of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive, it is hereby determined that the Draft Fingal County Outdoor Recreation Plan is not likely to have significant effects on any European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

Accordingly, Appropriate Assessment, including the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement (NIS), is not required.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Storey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line under the name.

David Storey

Director of Services