

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACTS 1925 - 2014

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE BUSINESS CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ORDERS

Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) Determination for the Racecourse South Lands Area Based Transport Assessment 2025

This determination relates to whether the Draft Racecourse South Lands Area Based Transport Assessment 2025 ("the ABTA") 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 ABTA is situated alongside a hierarchy of statutory documents that is subject to environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment, as appropriate, and forms the decision-making and consent-granting framework. The Area Based Transport Assessment does not provide consent or establish a framework for granting consent and will not itself be binding on any decisions relating to the granting of consent. In order to be implemented, relevant elements of the Area Based Transport Assessment may be integrated future statutory land use plans, which will be subject to their own SEA/AA-related processes. In order to be realised, measures from the ABTA will have to comply with the various legislation, policies, plans and programmes that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework – including the provisions of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028.
- The ABTA aligns with the provisions of the National Climate Action Plan 2024, the Regional Spatial and Economic Plan 2019-2031, the Transport Plan for the Greater Dublin Area 2022-2042 (including associated cycle network), the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028 and the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Climate Action Plan 2024-2029, all of which have been subject to legislative requirements relating to public consultation and environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment. As such, the ABTA 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.
- Following the source-pathway-receptor model, the ABTA was assessed for all potential sources that have pathways for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests of the European sites considered, in view their Conservation Objectives, in the absence of any mitigation measures. It was found that the ABTA does not introduce any additional source for any likely significant effect on a European site.

No. 175T/074/2025

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- Therefore, it is concluded in this Screening for AA to inform the competent authority carrying out the AA Screening, that the ABTA is not foreseen to have any likelihood for significant effects on any European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects – and therefore any potential for any significant effect to any European site as a result of implementing the ABTA can be ruled out. This evaluation is made in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species for which these sites have been designated. Consequently, Stage Two AA (including the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement) is advised as not being required.

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 recommends that a determination is made that the Racecourse South Lands Area Based Transport Assessment 2025 is not likely to result in significant effects on European sites, alone or in combination with any other plans, programmes, and projects etc. Consequently, Stage Two AA (including the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement) is not required.

Signed: Kearney Date: 14 MAY 2025
Recommending Officer

ORDER:

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 Racecourse South Lands Area Based Transport Assessment 2025 is not likely to result in significant effects on European sites, alone or in combination with any other plans, programmes, and projects etc. Consequently, Stage Two AA (including the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement) is not required.

Signed: Paul Kelly Date: 19/05/25
Approved Officer

Thereunto empowered by order of Príomhfheidhmeannach, Comhairle Contae Dhún Laoghaire-Ráth An Dúin No. C.M.D. 2617, dated 10/03/25, delegating to me all his powers, functions and duties in relation to the County Council of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown in respect of this matter.

SUBMISSION		DATE
Prepared		
Checked		
Recommended		
Submitted		