



Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination relating to the Proposed Variation no. 2 of Sligo CDP 2017-2023 **Extension of duration** **of the current Sligo County Development Plan 2017-2023, as varied**

This determination relates to whether the proposal to extend the duration of the current Sligo County Development Plan 2017-2023, as varied, would or would not necessitate the undertaking of Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, as amended).


The Planning Authority has initiated the process of extending the duration of the Sligo County Development Plan 2017-2023 under Section 11.D of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). The duration of the current Plan would be extended for a maximum period of one year. This additional period is needed for completing the review of the existing development plan and for the preparation of a new development plan.

As identified in the AA Screening Report:

- The proposed extension of duration does not introduce any process or content changes to the Plan itself – it merely extends the period during which the Plan is operational. This extension has been considered with respect to the known threats and pressures related to European sites. There are no additional sources for effects introduced by the proposed extension that were not already considered by the AA processes already undertaken for the current Plan.
- The risks to the safeguarding and integrity of the qualifying interests, special conservation interests and conservation objectives of the European sites have been addressed through existing, already in force policies and objectives contained within the Sligo CDP (which was subject to Stage 2 AA), with which the proposal and all lower-tier plans/projects must comply. In addition, any future projects, plans etc. that may arise will themselves be subject to AA, or screening for AA, when further details of design and location are known.
- The Habitats Directive requires the assessment to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the proposal, have the potential to adversely impact upon European sites. There are no provisions in the proposed extension that introduce any sources for effects. Therefore, there are no in-combination effects identified.
- It is concluded that the proposal to extend the duration of the current CDP will not give rise to any effects on the ecological integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with any other plans, programmes, and projects etc.

The Planning Authority has carefully considered the information referred to above, agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above and in the "Appropriate Assessment Screening Report".

It is hereby determined that the proposal to extend the duration of the current Development Plan will not give rise to any effects on the ecological integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with any other plans, programmes, and projects etc.; and Stage 2 AA (Natura Impact Statement/Report) is not required for the proposal to extend the duration of the current Sligo County Development Plan 2017-2023, as varied.

Signed: 

Date: 31st Feb 2023

Dorothy Clarke

Director of Services

Planning, Community and Economic Development, Arts & Culture