

Ecological Impact Assessment

Large-Scale Residential Development

Former Dell EMC Premises

Innishmore

Ballincollig

Cork

Report prepared for Castle Peak Properties

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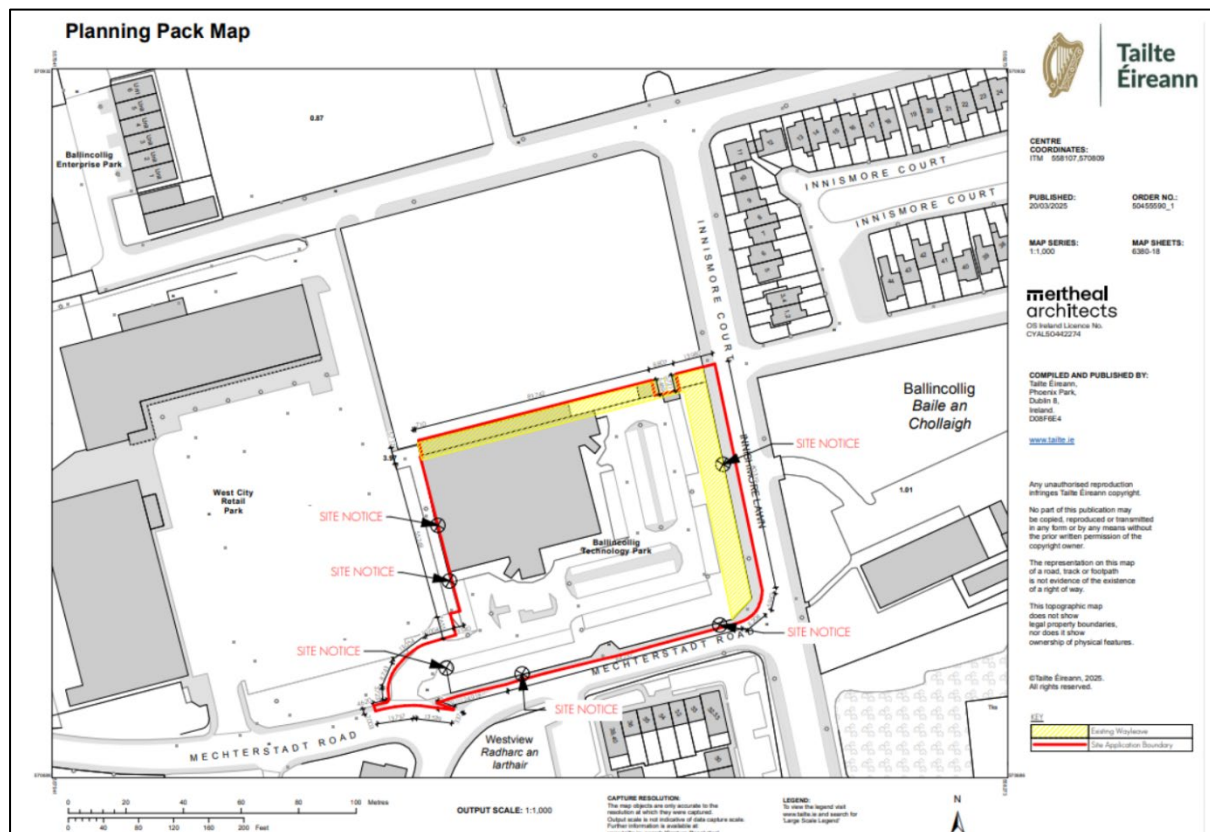
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1 Introduction

Greenleaf Ecology was commissioned by Castle Peak Properties Ltd to undertake an Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) of the proposed Large Scale Residential Development (LRD) located at the former Dell EMC premises, Innishmore, Ballincollig, Cork.

The site is located in the townland of Ballincollig, as illustrated in Figure 1-1.

Figure 1-1: Site Location Map



The aims of this ecological impact assessment are to:

- Establish baseline ecological data for the proposed development site;
- Determine the ecological value of the identified ecological features;
- Identify, describe and assess the likely significant effects of the proposed development on biodiversity;
- Propose effective mitigation measures to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset adverse effects on biodiversity; and
- Identify any residual effects predicted to arise after mitigation.

1.1 Statement of Competence

This ecological impact assessment was undertaken by Karen Banks, MCIEEM. Karen is an ecologist with Greenleaf Ecology and has 19 years' experience in the field of ecological assessment (terrestrial ecology). Karen holds a BSc (Hons) in Environment and Development from Durham University and is a full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM). Karen has extensive experience in the production of Ecological Impact Assessments (EclA) including those for solar farms, transport infrastructure, small to large scale housing and mixed-use developments, flood alleviation schemes and wind farms.

1.2 Description of Proposed Project

Castle Peak Properties Ltd intend to apply for planning permission for a Large-Scale Residential Development (LRD) at this c. 1.0 ha site of the former DELL EMC premises, Innishmore, Ballincollig, Cork.

The proposed development will consist of the demolition of the existing former 2 no. storey DELL EMC building (c. 3882 sq m) and ancillary plant area, with associated site clearance works. The proposed development will provide for the 130 no. residential units, arranged in 3 no. blocks in a development ranging in height from 3 to 6 no. storeys.

The development will comprise a mix of 108 no. apartments (total apartment blocks area - c. 10,657 sqm), arranged in 2 no. blocks, providing a unit mix of 52 no. 1-bed and 56 no. 2-bed apartment units. In addition, the proposed development will provide 22 no. duplex units (total duplex block area - c. 2,159 sqm), arranged in 1 no. block, providing a unit mix of 4 no. 1-bed, 9 no. 2-bed, and 9 no. 3 beds.

Vehicular, cyclist and pedestrian access to the proposed development will be via 2 no. entrances from Innishmore Lawn (to the north east) and Mechterstadt Road (to the south west) and the development will include for pedestrian and cyclist permeability. Additionally, pedestrian access points are provided to the west of the subject site and to the south, off Mechterstadt Road.

The development will also include the provision of private, communal and public open space (including all balconies); car parking at ground floor level and undercroft; bicycle parking; internal roads and pathways; bin stores; hard and soft landscaping; boundary treatments; the provision of new surface water and foul drainage pipes and any associated pipe diversion works; retaining walls; changes in level; services provision and related ducting, piping and cabling; electric vehicle charging points; attenuation tanks; SUDS; signage; 1 no. ESB substation; wayfinding structures; public realm works including public lighting; and all site development and excavation works above and below ground. The application contains a statement setting out how the proposal will be consistent with the objectives of the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028.

2 Methodology

2.1 Relevant Planning Policy and Legislation

This report has been prepared with regards to the following legislation, policy documents and guidelines as relevant:

- CIEEM (2017) Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester;
- CIEEM (2018) Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester;
- DoEHLG (2010) Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland Guidance for Planning Authorities. Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government;
- European Communities (2000) Managing Natura 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg. European Commission;
- EC (2021) European Commission Notice Brussels C(2021) 6913 final 'Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites - Methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC';
- EC (2007) Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC – Clarification of the concepts of: alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding public interest, compensatory measures, overall coherence, opinion of the commission. European Commission;
- EC (2013) Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats. Version EUR 28. European Commission;
- EPA (2022) Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports. Environmental Protection Agency;
- Fossitt, J., 2000. A Guide to Habitats in Ireland. The Heritage Council, Kilkenny;
- National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) (2025) The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht;
- NRA (2003) Guidelines for assessment of ecological impacts of National Road schemes. Revision 1 National Roads Authority, Dublin;
- NRA (2009) Guidelines for the Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Road Schemes Rev. 2. National Roads Authority;
- NRA (2009) NRA Guidelines on Ecological Surveying Techniques for Protected Flora and Fauna on National Road Schemes). National Roads Authority; and
- NRA Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines (both adopted and draft versions)

Studies were also carried out in accordance with the following legislation:-

- Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Habitats Directive) and Directive 2009/147/EC (codified version of Directive (79/409/EEC as amended (Birds Directive)) – transposed into Irish law as European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011;
- European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations, 1989 to 2006;
- European Communities (Environmental Liability) Regulations, 2008 (S.I. No. 547 of 2008);
- European Communities (Quality of Salmonid Waters) Regulations, 1988 (S.I. No. 84 of 1988);
- Flora Protection Order, 2022;
- Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended);
- Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC); and
- Wildlife Act 1976, as amended.

2.2 Study Area

The survey area comprises the proposed site, as illustrated in Figure 1-1. The desktop study area is described in Section 2.3.

2.3 Desk Study

The sources of published material that were consulted as part of the desk study for the purposes of the ecological appraisal are as follows:

- Review of the National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS) natural heritage database for designated areas of ecological interest and sites of nature conservation importance within the study area and its environs;
- Review of Ordnance Survey maps and ortho-photography;
- Review of the National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC) database for records of rare and protected species within a 0.5km radius of the study area, including:
 - Annex I habitats, Annex II species and their habitats, and Annex IV species and their breeding sites and resting places (wherever they occur) as identified in the EU Habitats Directive;
 - The presence of species of flora and fauna as identified and strictly protected under the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011;
 - Species of fauna and flora which are protected under the Wildlife Acts (Revised), ‘Protected species and natural habitats’ as defined in the Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) and European Communities (Environmental Liability) Regulations, 2008;
- Review of the NBDC database of records of bats within a 4km radius of the study area¹;
- 1:50,000 Ordnance Survey (OS) Map; Discovery Series; and
- Environmental Protection Agency mapping (<http://gis.epa.ie/Envision>).

2.4 Field Survey

A walkover survey of the proposed site was carried out by ecologist Ms Karen Banks on 14th June 2025 and 31st January 2026. Areas highlighted during the desktop assessment were investigated further, and a habitat survey was carried out. Habitats on site were classified in accordance with the Heritage Council publication ‘A Guide to Habitats in Ireland’ (Fossitt, 2000). The classification is a standard scheme for identifying, describing and classifying wildlife habitats in Ireland. The classification is hierarchical and operates at three levels, using codes to differentiate habitats based on the plant species present. Species recorded in this report are given both their Latin and common names, following the nomenclature as given in the ‘New flora of the British Isles’ (Stace, 2021).

Survey for invasive species was conducted during the habitat and botanical survey undertaken on 14th June 2025. This survey included the identification and mapping of Invasive Alien Species (IAS). This survey was conducted in accordance with the NRA publication “*Guidelines for the Management of Noxious Weeds and Non- Native Invasive Plant Species on National Roads*”.

The walkover survey conducted on 14th June 2025 and 31st January 2026 included an assessment of the presence, or likely presence, of protected species. The survey was conducted in accordance with the standard protected species survey guidelines contained in the National Roads Authority (now Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)) publication ‘Ecological Surveying Techniques for Protected Flora and Fauna during the Planning of National Road Schemes’ (2008). The survey was conducted for areas of habitat that might support protected mammals in addition to recording any field signs, such as well-

¹ A 4km radius search distance was selected to encompass records of bat roosts within Core Sustainance Zones (CSZ) of the site for Irish species of bat. A CSZ refers to the area surrounding a communal bat roost within which habitat availability and quality will have a significant influence on the conservation status of the colony using the roost (Collins, 2016).

used pathways, droppings, places of shelter and features or areas likely to be of particular value as foraging resources. Any badger setts present were recorded during the site walkover, along with potential pine marten den sites. In addition, the suitability of the habitat for pygmy shrew, hedgehog, hares, Irish stoat, pine marten, amphibians and invertebrates were recorded. Following the results of the site walkover targeted mammal surveys were undertaken as detailed in Sections 2.4.1 to 2.4.3 below.

2.4.1 Badger Survey

A badger survey was conducted within the proposed site on the on 14th June 2025 and 31st January 2026. The badger survey was conducted in accordance with Ecological Surveying Techniques for Protected Flora and Fauna during the Planning of National Road Schemes (NRA, 2009).

Field signs of badger activity are characteristic and sometimes quite obvious and can include tufts of hair caught on barbed wire fences and scrub, conspicuous badger paths, footprints, small excavated pits or latrines in which droppings are deposited, scratch marks on trees, and snuffle holes, which are small scrapes where badgers have searched for insects and plant tubers (NRA, 2009).

Notes were made on signs of other mammals in order to deduce the likelihood of faint tracks and/or feeding signs belonging to badgers. The objectives of the badger survey were to:

- Confirm whether or not badger setts occur within the area surveyed.
- Confirm where possible the status of any setts identified in survey.
- Describe field signs of badger activity.

2.4.2 Bat Survey

Bat survey of the proposed site was undertaken in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Bat Conservation Ireland, (2010). *Guidance notes for Planners, Engineers, Architects, and Developers*;
- BTHK. (2018). *Bat Roosts in Trees – A Guide to Identification and Assessment for Tree-Care and Ecology Professionals*. Pelagic Publishing, Exeter UK;
- Collins, J. (ed.) (2023). *Bat Surveys for Professional ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4th ed.)*. The Bat Conservation Trust, London; and
- Marnell, F., Kelleher, C. & Mullen, E. (2022) *Bat mitigation guidelines for Ireland v2*. Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 134. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Ireland.

2.4.2.1 Preliminary Roost Assessment

Trees

The vegetation within the proposed site was surveyed in conjunction with the site walkover for potential roost sites and signs of bats. A detailed inspection of the exterior of trees was undertaken to look for features that bats could use for roosting (Potential Roost Features, or PRFs) from ground level. The aim of the survey was to determine the actual or potential presence of bats and the need for further survey and/or mitigation.

A detailed inspection of each tree within the site was undertaken. The inspection was carried out in daylight hours from ground level, and information was compiled about the tree, PRFs and evidence of bats. All trees, or groups of trees, supporting PRFs were numbered and marked on a map and a description of each PRF observed was recorded. PRFs that may be used by bats include:

- Rot holes;

- Hazard beams;
- Other horizontal or vertical cracks or splits (e.g. frost cracks) in stems or branches;
- Lifting bark;
- Knotholes arising from naturally shed branches or branches previously pruned back to the branch collar;
- Man-made holes (e.g. flush cuts) or cavities created by branches tearing out from parent stems;
- Cankers in which cavities have developed;
- Other hollows or cavities;
- Double leaders forming compression forks with included bark and potential cavities;
- Gaps between overlapping stems or branches;
- Partially detached ivy with stem diameters in excess of 50mm; and
- Bat or bird boxes.

Signs of a bat roost (excluding the actual presence of bats), include:

- Bat droppings in, around or below a PRF;
- Odour emanating from a PRF;
- Audible squeaking at dusk or in warm weather; and
- Staining below the PRF.

It should be noted that bats or bat droppings are the only conclusive evidence of a roost and many roosts have no external signs. This survey was conducted by a bat specialist at ground level. Trees were categorised according to the highest suitability PRF present.

Buildings

On 31st January 2026 the existing buildings at the site were surveyed for potential roost sites and signs of bats. The survey utilised a high-powered torch, close focussing binoculars and an endoscope (Explorer Premium 8803 with 9mm camera) where required. The external inspection involved looking for bat droppings on the ground, stuck to walls, windowsills or in crevices in the stonework and recording suitable entry and exit points. The buildings were not accessed for an internal inspection.

The criteria for categorisation of suitability for bats is described further in Table 2-1.

Table 2-1: Suitability of Habitats for Bats

Suitability	Description	Potential flight paths and foraging habitats
	Roosting habitats in structures	
None	No habitat features on site likely to be used by any roosting bats at any time of the year (i.e. a complete absence of crevices/ suitable shelter at all ground/ underground levels).	No habitat features on site likely to be used by any commuting or foraging bats at any time of the year (i.e. no habitats that provide continuous lines of shade/ protection for flight-lines, or generate/ shelter insect populations available to foraging bats).
Negligible	No obvious habitat features on site likely to be used by roosting bats; however, a small element of uncertainty remains as bats can use small and apparently unsuitable features on occasion.	No obvious habitat features on site likely to be used as flight-paths or by foraging bats; however, a small element of uncertainty remains in order to account for non-standard bat behaviour.
Low	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically at any time of the year. However, these potential roost sites	Habitat that could be used by small numbers of bats as flight-paths such as a gappy hedgerow or un-vegetated stream, but

	do not provide enough space, shelter, protection, appropriate conditions and/or suitable surrounding habitat to be used on a regular basis or by larger numbers of bats (i.e. unlikely to be suitable for maternity and not a classic cool/stable hibernation site, but could be used by individual hibernating bats).	isolated, i.e. not very well connected to the surrounding landscape by other habitat. Suitable, but isolated habitat that could be used by small numbers of foraging bats such as a lone tree (not in a parkland situation) or a patch of scrub.
Moderate	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat but unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status (with respect to roost type only, such as maternity and hibernation- the categorisation described in this table are made irrespective of species conservation status, which is established after presence is confirmed).	Continuous habitat connected to the wider landscape that could be used by bats for flight paths such as lines of trees and scrub or linked back gardens. Habitat that is connected to the wider landscape that could be used by bats for foraging such as trees, scrub, grassland or water.
High	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat. These structures have the potential to support high conservation status roosts e.g. maternity or classic cool/stable hibernation site.	Continuous, high-quality habitat that is well connected to the wider landscape that is likely to be used regularly by bats for flight paths such as river valleys, streams, hedgerows, lines of trees and woodland edge. High quality habitat that is well connected to the wider landscape that is likely to be used regularly by foraging bats such as broadleaved woodland, tree-lined watercourses and grazed parkland. Site is close to and connected to known roosts.

2.4.3 Bird Survey

The exterior of the buildings were subject to a visual inspection on 31st January 2026 utilising close focussing binoculars for signs of nesting birds such as droppings and nests. A search was also made around the buildings and landscaping within the proposed site for signs of nesting birds such as pellets, feathers, droppings and nests.

2.5 Impact Assessment Criteria

The information gathered from desk study and survey has been used to make an ecological impact assessment (EcIA) of the proposed development upon the identified ecological features. The EcIA has been undertaken following the methodology set out in CIEEM (2018). EcIA is based upon a source-pathway-receptor model, where the source is defined as the individual elements of the proposed development that have the potential to affect identified ecological features. The pathway is defined as the means or route by which a source can affect the ecological features. An ecological feature is defined as the species, habitat or ecologically functioning unit of natural heritage importance. Each element can exist independently however an effect is created where there is a linkage between the source, pathway and feature.

A significant effect is defined in CIEEM (2016) as:

“an effect that either supports or undermines biodiversity conservation objectives for ‘important ecological features’.... or for biodiversity in general”.

Further, BS 42020:2013 states that if an effect is sufficiently important to be given weight in the planning balance or to warrant the imposition of a planning condition, e.g. to provide or guarantee necessary mitigation measures, it is likely to be “significant” in that context at the level under consideration. The converse is also true: insignificant effects would not warrant a refusal of permission or the imposition of conditions.

The geographical reference used for ecological valuation follows NRA (2009) *Guidelines for the Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Road Schemes* Rev. 2., as detailed in Appendix B. Ecological features might also be important because they play a key functional role in the landscape as ‘stepping stones’ for migratory species to move during their annual migration cycle, as well as for species to move between sites, to disperse populations to new locations, to forage, or move in response to climate change.² Features of lower ecological value are not assessed.

² Ref Article 10 of the Habitats Directive: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31992L0043:EN:HTML>

3 Receiving Environment

3.1 Designated Sites

A review of European designated sites within a 15km radius of the proposed site was undertaken (www.npws.ie). Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) are sites of international importance due to the presence of Annex I habitats and/or Annex II species listed under the EU Habitats Directive. Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are designated for birds based on the presence of internationally significant populations of listed bird species.

A review of nationally designated sites within a 10km radius of the application site was also undertaken. Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) are sites deemed to be of national ecological importance and are afforded protection under the Wildlife Acts. Proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHA) have not been statutorily proposed or designated; however, they do have some protection under agri-environmental farm planning schemes such as Rural Environment Protection Scheme (REPS 3 and 4) and Agri Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS), Forest Service requirement for NPWS approval for afforestation grants in pNHA lands and recognition of the value of pNHAs by Planning and Licensing Authorities.

There is one European site within 15km of the proposed site. The proposed site is approximately 12km west of Cork Harbour SPA at nearest. A review of nationally designated sites indicates that there are no Natural Heritage Areas within 10km of the proposed development. There are eight pNHAs within 10km of the proposed development. A list of European sites within 15km of the proposed site and nationally designated sites within 10km of the proposed site is presented in Table 3-1. European Sites are illustrated in Figure 3-1 and nationally designated site are illustrated in Figure 3-2.

An Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (AASR) (Greenleaf Ecology, 2026) addressing likely significant effects on European designated sites (SACs and SPAs) within a 15km radius of the proposed development is provided as a separate report with the current planning application.

Table 3-1: European sites within 15km and nationally designated sites within 10km of the proposed development

Site Name and Code	Qualifying Interests	Distance from Proposed Development (km) ³	Connectivity
Cork Harbour SPA (004030)	Bird Species: Little grebe (<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>) [wintering] Great crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [wintering] Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [wintering] Grey heron (<i>Ardea cinerea</i>) [wintering] Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [wintering] Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [wintering] Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [wintering] Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [wintering] Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [wintering]	11.8km	There is no connectivity via surface water, groundwater or any other pathway.

³ Distance measured “as the crow flies”

	Red-breasted Merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [wintering] Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [wintering] Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [wintering] Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [wintering] Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [wintering] Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [wintering] Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [wintering] Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [wintering] Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [wintering] Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [wintering] Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [wintering] Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [wintering] Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [wintering] Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [breeding] Wetlands		
Lee Valley pNHA (Site Code: 000094)	This site occupies five separate sections of the valley of the River Lee, immediately to the west of Cork City. A diverse range of semi-natural habitats occurs here, including wet broadleaved woodland, wet grassland, dry broadleaved woodland, unimproved dry grassland, freshwater marsh and wetland bird species.	0.25km	There is no connectivity via surface water or groundwater. The proposed site and this pNHA are in relatively close proximity.
Shournagh Valley pNHA (000103)	This site includes two lower sections of the lower Shournagh River c. 8km west of Cork City. The woods along the Shournagh Valley included in this site are recommended for conservation and are noted to be of regional importance.	2.8km	There is no connectivity via surface water, groundwater or any other pathway.
Blarney Castle Woods pNHA (Site Code: 001039)	This site is situated approximately 1km south west of Blarney, in the grounds of Blarney Castle. The base rich woodland is an example of a habitat not widely found in Cork where acid uplands predominate.	4.7km	There is no connectivity via surface water, ground water or any other pathway.
Cork Lough pNHA (Site Code: 001081)	This small lake is situated in the north-west of Cork City, 1km. north of the River Lee. The site is a N.H.A. of local importance for its bird community.	8.2km	The proposed site and this pNHA are situated in the same Groundwater Body⁴. However, review of local

⁴ <https://gsi.ie/Mapping.htm>

			topography and WFD sub-catchment boundaries indicates that groundwater would not flow from the site towards this pNHA. There is no connectivity via surface water, groundwater or any other pathway.
Ballincollig Cave pNHA (001249)	Ballincollig is a satellite town of Cork City and lies about 5km to the west in the same linear depression, based on limestone. South-west of the town the soils are shallow and the rock breaks through in places. Some of these outcrops are quarried but the highest one is untouched and bears Ballincollig Castle with the cave below. The site is relatively species-rich, even for limestone, with some uncommon native and introduced plants. It is also an example of natural habitat in an area of intensive agriculture and also rapid urbanisation. The cave deposits are interesting from a geological viewpoint.	1.0km	The proposed site and this pNHA are situated in the same Groundwater Body. However, review of local topography and WFD sub-catchment boundaries indicates that groundwater would not flow from the site towards this pNHA. There is no connectivity via surface water, ground water or any other pathway.
Blarney Lake pNHA (001798)	This site is situated approximately 1km south west of Blarney, close to Blarney Castle. This site contains an interesting wetland community which is one of three closely situated rich and varied sites.	4.2km	There is no connectivity via surface water, ground water or any other pathway.
Ardamade Wood pNHA (Site Code: 001799)	Ardamadane Wood is situated north of Blarney along the banks of the River Martin. This site comprises mainly dry deciduous woodland of Sessile Oak (<i>Quercus petraea</i>) and Downy Birch (<i>Betula pubescens</i>).	6.0km	There is no connectivity via surface water, ground water or any other pathway.
Blarney Bog pNHA (Site Code: 001857)	Blarney Bog is an area of fen situated in the flat valley floor of the River Blarney. The main habitats of the area are lowland wet grassland and freshwater marsh/ fen. The area as a whole is used by a variety of bird species.	5.9km	There is no connectivity via surface water, ground water or any other pathway.

Figure 3-1: European sites within 15km of the proposed site

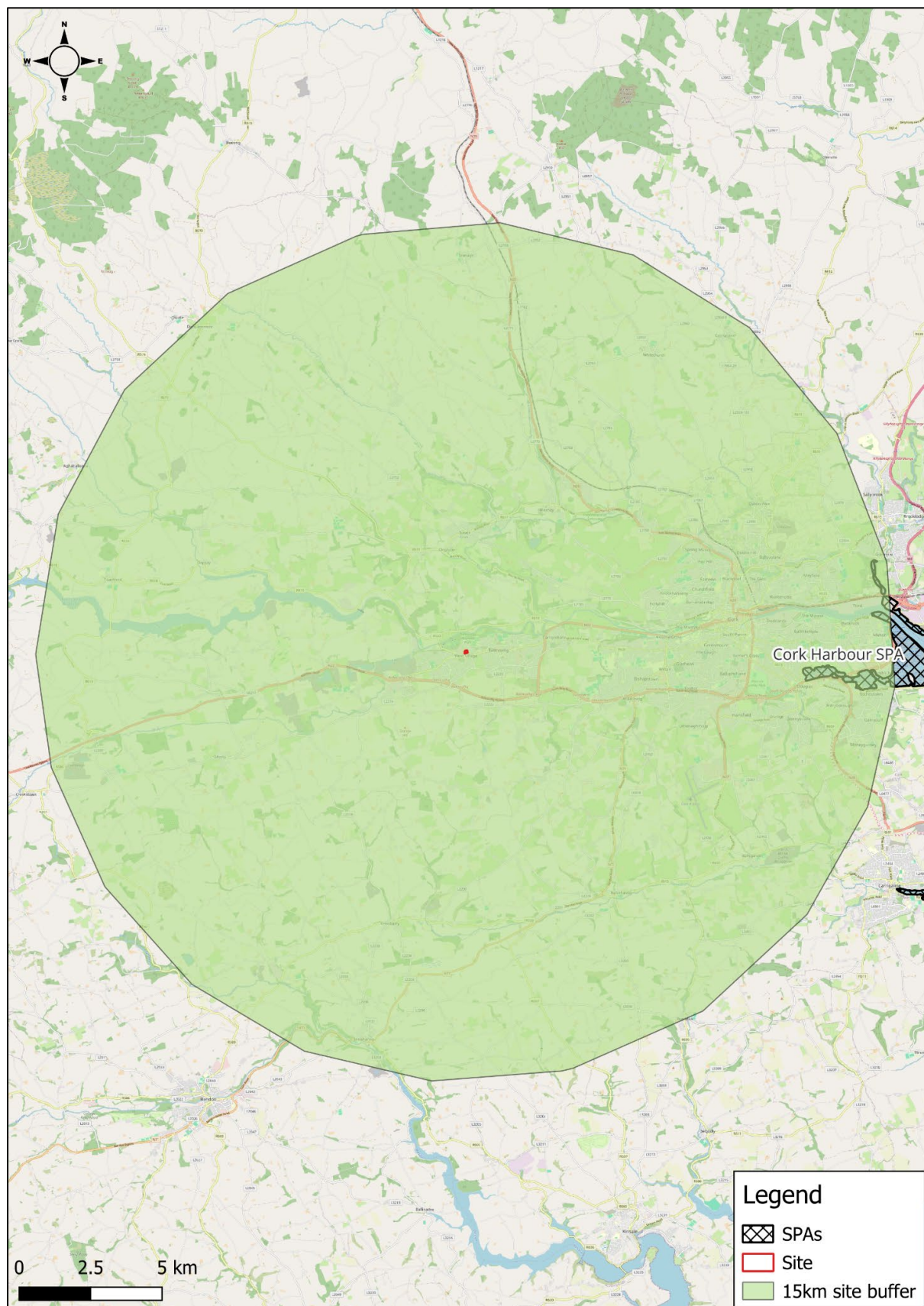
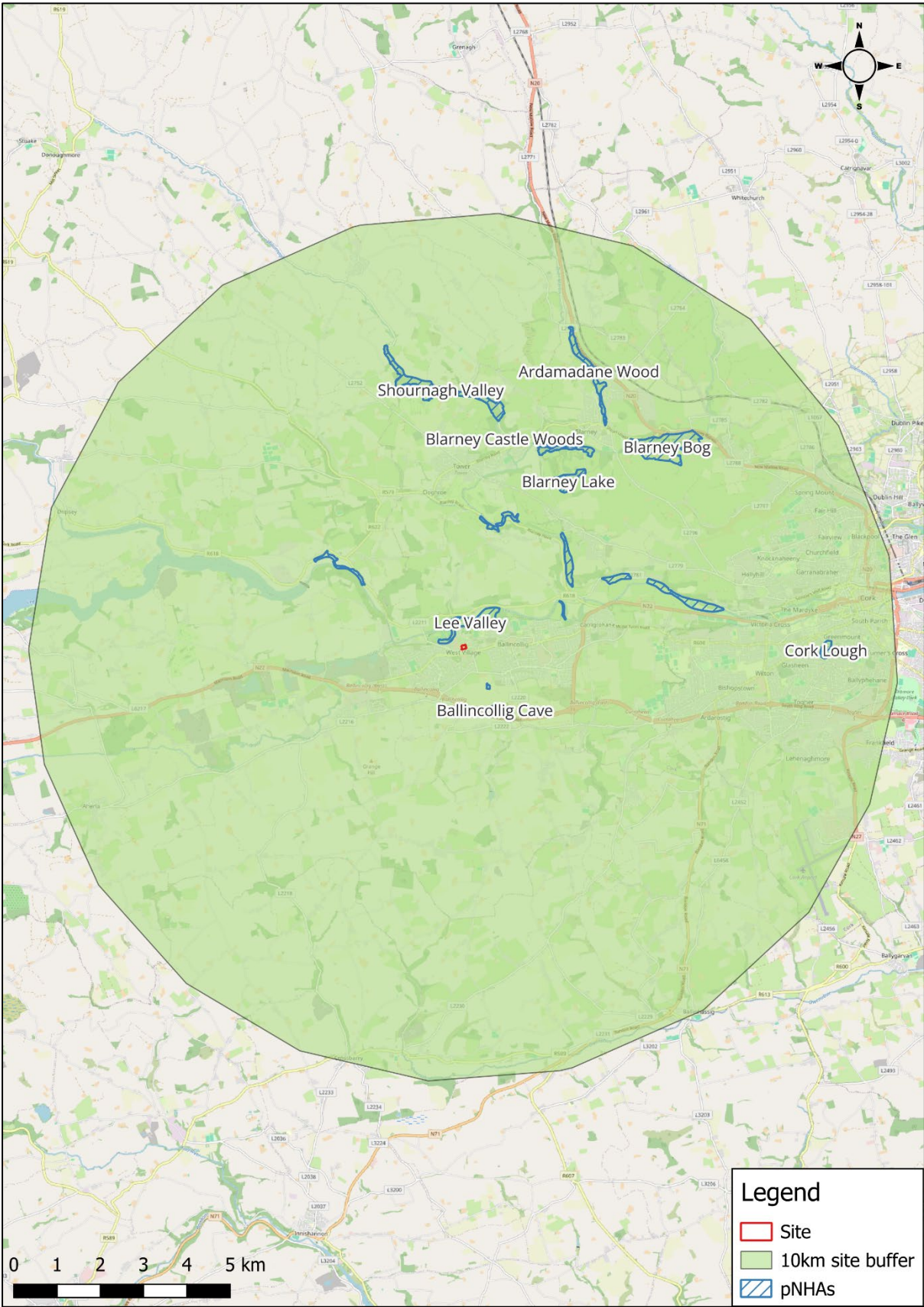


Figure 3-2: Nationally designated sites within 10km of the proposed site



3.2 Terrestrial Ecology

3.2.1 Habitats

Buildings and artificial surfaces (BL3)

The proposed site comprises the former Dell EMC premises and is predominantly composed of buildings and artificial surfaces (BL3) (i.e. the Dell building and associated car park).

Ornamental Shrubs (WS3)

The car park in the grounds of the former Dell premises is landscaped with ornamental shrubs, including Laurel hedging, coniferous trees and shrubs such as Cotoneaster, Ligustrum and Fuchsia.

A habitat map of the proposed site is illustrated in Figure 3-3.

Figure 3-3: Habitats recorded within the proposed site



3.2.2 Species

This section describes the species that have been recorded historically within 0.5km of the site, results from the ecology survey and the potential for the site to support protected species. Species records extracted from the NBDC database are included in Appendix B.

3.2.2.1 *Amphibians and Reptiles*

The NBDC hold historical records of common frog from the vicinity of the site, last recorded in the 10km grid square in which the site is located (W57) in 1979. However, there is no suitable breeding habitat or overwintering habitat for amphibians present within the site. No amphibians or common lizards (*Lacerta vivipara*) were observed during the survey.

3.2.2.2 Avifauna

The NBDC database holds records of seven species included in Annex I of the EU Bird's Directive from within a 0.5km radius of the site, namely Corncrake, Hen Harrier, Kingfisher, Little Egret, Peregrine, Sandwich Tern and Whooper Swan. Eighteen BoCCI Red List species (Gilbert, G. *et al* (2021)) have been recorded from within a 0.5km radius of the site: Barn Owl, Corncrake, Curlew, Goldeneye, Grey Wagtail, Kestrel, Lapwing, Meadow Pipit, Oystercatcher, Peregrine, Pochard, Redwing, Shoveler, Snipe, Stock Dove, Swift, Woodcock and Yellowhammer.

Avifaunal species recorded at the proposed site during the survey undertaken on 31st January 2026 were limited to Rook, Hooded Crow and Jackdaw, which were perched on top of the Dell building and Feral Pigeon, which were present on a lean-to on the northern side of the Dell building. Robin and Pied Wagtail were present in the car park and surrounding landscaping. No evidence of nesting birds was recorded within the proposed site. The Dell building is constructed of glass and smooth metal sheeting and is of negligible suitability for nesting birds. The landscaping at the site predominantly comprises garden shrubs of low suitability for nesting birds.

3.2.2.3 Flora

The NBDC does not hold any records of protected flora from the proposed site and its environs. No rare or protected species of vascular plants or bryophytes were recorded within the proposed site.

3.2.2.4 Invasive Species

The following invasive plant species have been recorded in the environs of the proposed site:

- Common Broomrape (*Orobanche minor*) (Medium Risk)
- Himalayan Honeysuckle (*Leycesteria formosa*) (Medium Risk)
- Himalayan Knotweed (*Persicaria wallichii*) (EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation No. 1143/2014, S.I. 477/2011 (Ireland), S.I. 374/2024 (Ireland), Medium Risk Invasive Species)
- Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) (EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation No. 1143/2014, S.I. 477/2011 (Ireland), S.I. 374/2024 (Ireland), Medium Risk Invasive Species)
- Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) (Medium Risk)
- Three-cornered Garlic (*Allium triquetrum*) (Regulation S.I. 477/2011 (Ireland), Regulation S.I. 374/2024 (Ireland), Medium Risk Invasive Species)
- Traveller's-joy (*Clematis vitalba*) (Medium Risk)

No invasive plant species included within the Third Schedule of Regulations 49 & 50 in the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 or the First Schedule of The European Union (Invasive Alien Species) Regulations 2024 (S.I. No. 374 of 2024) were recorded at the proposed site and its immediate environs.

3.2.2.5 Invertebrates

The NBDC do not hold any records of protected species of invertebrates from the proposed site and its environs, and no invertebrates were recorded during the site surveys.

3.2.2.6 Bats

A review of existing bat records within 4km of the site (sourced from Bat Conservation Ireland's National Bat Records Database and the National Lesser Horseshoe Bat Database) reveals that, currently, seven of the ten known Irish bat species have been observed within a 4km radius. These include common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*), soprano pipistrelle (*P. pygmaeus*), Leisler's bat (*Nyctalus leisleri*), brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*), Natterer's bat (*Myotis nattereri*), Daubenton's (*Myotis daubentonii*) and Lesser horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*) as detailed in

Table 3-3 below. Of these species, lesser horseshoe bat has been recorded roosting in the environs of the site, last recorded c.3km to the south-west of the site in 2015.

Table 3-2 below outlines records of each bat species recorded within a 4km radius of the proposed site.

Table 3-2: NBDC and NPWS records of bats from within a 4km radius of the proposed site

Common Name	Scientific Name	Present (Y/N)	Known Roost (Y/N)	Date of Last Record
Pipistrelle sp.	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus sensu lato</i>	N	N/A	N/A
Common Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Y	None	21/08/2019
Soprano Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Y	None	20/07/2020
Nathusius's Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>	N	N/A	N/A
Leisler's Bat	<i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>	Y	None	20/07/2020
Brown Long-eared Bat	<i>Plecotus auratus</i>	Y	None	01/08/2009
Daubenton's Bat	<i>Myotis daubentonii</i>	Y	None	24/08/2016
Whiskered Bat	<i>Myotis mystacinus</i>	N	N/A	N/A
Natterer's Bat	<i>Myotis nattereri</i>	Y	None	01/08/2006
Lesser Horseshoe Bat	<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>	Y	None	23/01/2015
Brandt's Bat	<i>Myotis brandtii</i>	N	N/A	N/A

The bat landscape association model (Lundy *et al*, 2011) suggests that the study area is part of a landscape that is of moderate to high suitability for bats including common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*), soprano pipistrelle (*P. pygmaeus*), brown long-eared (*Plecotus auratus*), Leisler's (*Nyctalus leisleri*), Daubenton's (*Myotis daubentonii*), natterer's (*M. nattereri*) and whiskered bat (*M. mystacinus*). The study area and its environs are of low suitability for Nathusius' pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus nathusii*) and is outside of the distribution range for lesser horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*) (Roche *et al*, 2014).

While, as mapped by the bat landscape association model, the proposed site is located in a wider landscape of moderate to high suitability for bats, the site itself is within an area of existing housing and retail development and associated street lighting. It is further noted that the proposed site is poorly connected to suitable foraging and commuting habitat in the surrounding landscape. In view of these factors the proposed site is of low suitability for foraging and commuting bats.

The Dell building is constructed from glass and metal sheeting (Plate 3-1) and would not provide suitable habitat for roosting bats. A building at the north-east of the site has rendered walls and a flat roof with PVC soffits. No potential entry/exit points for roosting bats were recorded within this building, and the building is of negligible suitability for roosting bats (Plate 3-2). No potential roosting features (PRFs) were recorded within any vegetation at the proposed site.



Plate 3-1: Former Dell building constructed of sheeting with no suitable habitat for nesting birds or roosting bats



Plate 3-2: Flat roof building at the north-east of the site

Overall, the proposed site is not suitable for roosting bats and is of low suitability for foraging and commuting bats.

3.2.2.7 Ground Mammals

Otter

There are a number of records of otter from the River Lee to the north of the site, and it is likely that this species forages and commutes along the River Lee regularly. No evidence of otter was recorded during the survey and the habitats present at the site are not suitable to support this species.

Sika and Red Deer

Records of sika and fallow deer are general records from the 10k OS grid square W57, last recorded in 2008. No evidence of these species was recorded during the survey, and the habitats present at the site are not suitable to support these species.

Badger

The NBDC holds historical records of badger from OS grid square W57, last recorded in 1968. No evidence of badger was recorded at the site and there is limited potential for the landscaping at the site boundary to provide shelter for badger.

Hedgehog

The NBDC holds records of hedgehog from Ballincollig, last recorded c.400m to the west of the site in 2022. No evidence of hedgehog was recorded at the site however there is potential for this species to shelter within the landscaping at the site boundary.

3.3 Hydrology

3.3.1 Water Bodies

The proposed site is located within the Lee (Cork)_090 WFD River Sub Basin. There are no EPA mapped watercourses within the site and its immediate environs. The nearest watercourse is the River Lee, a 6th order watercourse located c.0.64km to the north of the site. The River Lee flows into the Lee (Cork) Estuary Upper c.8.2km downstream of its location in the vicinity of the proposed site before, in turn, flowing into the open waters of Cork Harbour and Cork Harbour SPA a further c.7km downstream.

The proposed project overlies the Ballincollig Ground Waterbody (GWB).

EPA codes for these water bodies are shown below in Table 3-3.

Table 3-3: EPA water body codes

EPA water body name	Water body type	EPA Code	EPA water body code
Lee (Cork)_090	River	19L03	IE_SW_19L030800
Lee (Cork) Estuary Lower	Transitional	n/a	IE_SW_060_0900
Ballincollig	Groundwater	n/a	IE_SW_G_002

3.3.1.1 Surface Water Quality and Risk Characterisation

Macroinvertebrate sampling for Q-value determination was conducted within the River Lee as part of EPA's Water Framework Directive monitoring. The nearest sampling point is located within the River Lee c.0.9km to the north-west of the proposed site (straight line distance). In 2023, the Q-value was 4 'Good'. The watercourses within the Lee (Cork) Sub-basin are classified as 'Not at risk' under the WFD and have been assigned a status of 'moderate' under the WFD 2019-2024 round. The transitional water quality of the Lee (Cork) Estuary Lower (IE_SW_060_0900) is classified as 'moderate' and has been assigned as 'at risk' under the WFD.

A summary of the WFD and Risk status⁵ is shown below in Table 3-4.

Table 3-4: Summary of WFD status for water bodies in the environs of the site

EPA Waterbody Name	Code	Risk	WFD Status 2019-2024
Lee (Cork)	IE_SW_19L030800	Not at Risk	Moderate
Lee (Cork) Estuary Lower	IE_SW_060_0900	At Risk	Moderate

⁵ <https://www.catchments.ie/maps/>

3.4 Summary of Ecological Evaluation

Table 3-5 summarises all identified ecological features. Ecological features have been identified as being at risk of potentially significant impacts via a source-pathway-receptor link. Important ecological features are valued as being of local ecological importance (higher value) or above as per the criteria set out in Appendix A.

Table 3-5: Ecological Features within the proposed site and its receiving environment

Site/ Habitat/ Species	Ecological Value ⁶	Important Ecological Feature
European Site	International. The site does not support connectivity to any European site.	No
Natural Heritage Area	National. The site is in relatively close proximity to Lee Valley pNHA.	Yes
Buildings and artificial surfaces (BL3)	Negligible. The built land within the site is not of conservation importance.	No
Ornamental shrub (WS3)	The landscaping adjacent to the car park predominantly comprises ornamental and exotic shrubs of low conservation importance.	No
Amphibians & Reptiles	No evidence of amphibians and reptiles was recorded within the site, there is no suitable breeding habitat or wintering habitat.	No
Avifauna	The existing buildings within the site are not suitable for nesting birds, however the landscaping does provide limited habitat for foraging and shelter. Avifauna as they occur within the site are considered to be of local importance (higher value)	Yes
Bats	The proposed site is of none-negligible suitability for roosting bats and is of low suitability for foraging and commuting bats. Local Importance (lower value)	No
Badger	No evidence of badger was observed within the site and the site not suitable to support badger.	No
Hedgehog	There is potential for hedgehog to utilise the landscaping at the periphery of the site.	Yes
Other mammals	The proposed site does not provide suitable habitat to support other protected species of mammal.	No

⁶ In accordance with NRA (2009) Guidelines for the Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Road Schemes Rev. 2. National Roads Authority

4 Potential Impacts of the Proposed Development

This section identifies in detail the potential impact of the proposed development on habitats and species of conservation value (i.e. important ecological features as identified in Table 3-5) that have been identified as present, or that have the potential to be present, at its receiving environment.

4.1 Construction Phase

The important ecological features that, in the absence of mitigation, may potentially be impacted by the construction phase of the proposed development and the significance of these impacts are set out in the following sections.

4.1.1 Designated Sites

As indicated in Table 3-1, there is one European site within the likely zone of impact of the proposed development. There is no connectivity between the proposed site and European sites. The Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (AASR) accompanying the planning application concluded that:

“The proposed Large-Scale Residential Development, Innishmore, Ballincollig, Cork, either alone or in combination with other plans and/or projects, does not have the potential to significantly affect any European site, in light of their conservation objectives. Therefore, a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is deemed not to be required.”

Please refer to the AASR accompanying the planning application for further details.

A review of nationally designated sites indicates that there are no Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) within 10km of the proposed development. There are eight proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) within 10km of the proposed development. The proposed development is in relatively close proximity to Lee Valley pNHA, which is located c.250m to the north-west at nearest. The habitat present in the proximal area of Lee Valley pNHA consists of broadleaved woodland. The proposed works will be contained within the footprint of the proposed site during the construction phase by boundary fencing and the pNHA will be buffered from the works by a site currently under construction immediately to the north and a further area of built land and amenity grassland. In view of these factors, there is no meaningful pathway between the proposed development and Lee Valley pNHA. The proposed development will not impact on Lee Valley pNHA during the construction phase.

There are no potential source-pathway-receptor links between the proposed site and the remaining seven pNHAs (see Table 3-1).

4.1.2 Habitats

There are no habitats of high conservation importance at the proposed site. However, it is noted that semi-mature *Betula pendula* present adjacent to Innishmore lawn at the eastern site boundary will be retained.

4.1.3 Species

4.1.3.1 Avifauna

There is no potential for nesting birds within the existing buildings at the proposed site, therefore there will be no adverse effects on nesting birds as a result of demolition of the buildings. The existing shrubs at the proposed site are of low suitability for nesting birds. However, the potential for small birds to nest within the existing landscaping cannot be discounted, therefore the loss of existing shrubs may result in a short term minor reduction of potential nesting habitat for birds of local conservation concern. If the vegetation removal is not timed appropriately, nests containing eggs or

young chicks could be destroyed. This would be a short-term adverse effect, however it would not have an adverse effect at the population level (i.e. it would not be significant).

4.1.3.2 Hedgehog

There is potential for disturbance to hedgehog as a result of vegetation clearance during the construction phase. This would result in a short-term adverse effect at the local level.

4.2 Operational Phase

This section details the principle potential impacts of the proposed development on ecological features during the operational phase, in the absence of mitigation.

4.2.1 Designated Sites

No potential for likely significant effects on European or nationally designated sites during the operational phase has been identified.

Please refer to the AASR accompanying the planning application for further details.

4.2.2 Habitats

No potential for adverse effects on habitats during the operational phase has been identified. It is noted that the proposed landscaping plan includes the following:

- Small pollinator trees
- Native hedge planting and pollinator hedge planting
- Native tree planting
- Pollinator friendly shrub and ground cover planting
- Native wildflower seed mix
- Sedum roof

4.2.3 Species

4.2.3.1 Avifauna

There will be no loss of foraging or potential nesting habitat during the operational phase. In addition to the proposed landscaping features as listed in Section 4.2.2, it is proposed to install bird boxes within the proposed site. See Section 5 for further details.

No potential for significant effects on avifauna during the operational phase has been identified.

4.2.3.2 Hedgehog

In addition to the landscaping features as listed in Section 4.2.2, it is proposed to install openings in garden fences to allow small mammals to pass through back gardens (e.g. hedgehog highway). See Section 5 for further details.

In view of the proposed landscaping, no potential for significant effects on hedgehog during the operational phase has been identified.

5 Mitigation

5.1 Construction Phase

5.1.1 Habitats

Where any construction is required within close proximity of retained trees, construction work will be undertaken in accordance with relevant guidelines in BS 5837:2012 “Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction” to ensure that is undertaken without significant impact.

Retained trees will be adequately protected from damage throughout the demolition and construction works, tree protection measures will include the following:

- Assessment of location of roots;
- The Root Protection Areas (RPA) will be designated as a construction exclusion zone (CEZ) within which trees will be protected from activities that have a potential to cause damage. CEZ's will be appropriately protected, e.g. fencing;
- Where root conditions are such that it is not possible to confidently accept the RPA as providing a more or less accurate illustration of the location of roots then it will be necessary to carry out soil investigation to ascertain location of roots;
- Prepare detailed Arboricultural Method Statements for specific operations near trees;
- Facilitation of pruning;
- Supervision of sensitive operations and regular monitoring by an Arboricultural Consultant;
- Appropriate tree protection fencing and barriers;
- Appropriate ground protection

5.1.2 Species

5.1.2.1 Avifauna

No hedgerow clearance or tree felling will occur during the bird breeding season from 1st March to 31st August.

Retained trees will be protected as detailed in Section 5.1.1.

5.1.2.2 Hedgehog

The preferred period for vegetation clearance is within the months of September and October. Vegetation will be removed in sections working in a consistent direction to prevent entrapment of protected fauna potentially present (e.g., Hedgehog). Where this seasonal restriction cannot be observed, a check for hedgehog will be carried out immediately prior to any site clearance by an appropriately qualified ecologist.

5.2 Operational Phase

5.2.1 Habitats

No significant adverse effects on habitats have been identified during the operational phase, therefore no specific mitigation measures are required.

5.2.2 Species

5.2.2.1 Avifauna

Bird boxes shall be installed in open space areas. These shall comprise of a mixture of box types to attract different species as follows:

- C. 7 no. bird boxes suitable for species such as tits.
- C. 7 no. open nest boxes suitable for wren, robin, blackbird and song thrush.

5.2.2.2 *Hedgehog*

The proposed development includes for the provision of openings in garden fences to allow small mammals to pass through back gardens (e.g. hedgehog highway).

5.3 Residual Impacts

The proposed development will replace the existing built land and associated landscaping of low conservation importance. The proposed development includes for the provision of measures including the retention of boundary trees, specimen tree planting, pollinator friendly planting throughout the site and the provision of wildflower meadows with differential mowing regimes (see the landscaping design proposals accompanying the planning application). It is further proposed to install bird boxes and provide 'hedgehog highways'.

No adverse residual impacts on flora and fauna will occur as a result of the proposed development; with the successful implementation of the proposed landscaping plan there is potential for a positive effect on flora and fauna within the proposed site as the planting matures.

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Appendix A: Geographic Reference for Ecological Assessment

Ecological Valuation
International Importance: ‘European Site’ including Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Site of Community Importance (SCI), Special Protection Area (SPA) or proposed Special Area of Conservation. Proposed Special Protection Area (pSPA). Site that fulfils the criteria for designation as a ‘European Site’ (see Annex III of the Habitats Directive, as amended). Features essential to maintaining the coherence of the Natura 2000 Network. Site containing ‘best examples’ of the habitat types listed in Annex I of the Habitats Directive. Resident or regularly occurring populations (assessed to be important at the national level) of the following: Species of bird, listed in Annex I and/or referred to in Article 4(2) of the Birds Directive; and/or Species of animal and plants listed in Annex II and/or IV of the Habitats Directive. Ramsar Site (Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially Waterfowl Habitat 1971). World Heritage Site (Convention for the Protection of World Cultural & Natural Heritage, 1972). Biosphere Reserve (UNESCO Man & the Biosphere Programme). Site hosting significant species populations under the Bonn Convention (Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, 1979). Site hosting significant populations under the Berne Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, 1979). Biogenetic Reserve under the Council of Europe. European Diploma Site under the Council of Europe. Salmonid water designated pursuant to the European Communities (Quality of Salmonid Waters) Regulations, 1988, (S.I. No. 293 of 1988).
National Importance: Site designated or proposed as a Natural Heritage Area (NHA). Statutory Nature Reserve. Refuge for Fauna and Flora protected under the Wildlife Acts. National Park. Undesignated site fulfilling the criteria for designation as a Natural Heritage Area (NHA); Statutory Nature Reserve; Refuge for Fauna and Flora protected under the Wildlife Act; and/or a National Park. Resident or regularly occurring populations (assessed to be important at the national level) of the following: Species protected under the Wildlife Acts; and/or Species listed on the relevant Red Data list. Site containing ‘viable areas’ of the habitat types listed in Annex I of the Habitats Directive.
County Importance: Area of Special Amenity. Area subject to a Tree Preservation Order. Area of High Amenity, or equivalent, designated under the County Development Plan. Resident or regularly occurring populations (assessed to be important at the County level) of the following: Species of bird, listed in Annex I and/or referred to in Article 4(2) of the Birds Directive; Species of animal and plants listed in Annex II and/or IV of the Habitats Directive; Species protected under the Wildlife Acts; and/or Species listed on the relevant Red Data list. Site containing area or areas of the habitat types listed in Annex I of the Habitats Directive that do not fulfil the criteria for valuation as of International or National importance. County important populations of species or viable areas of semi-natural habitats or natural heritage features identified in the National or Local BAP, if this has been prepared. Sites containing semi-natural habitat types with high biodiversity in a county context and a high degree of naturalness, or populations of species that are uncommon within the county. Sites containing habitats and species that are rare or are undergoing a decline in quality or extent at a national level.

Local Importance (higher value):

Locally important populations of Priority species or habitats or natural heritage features identified in the Local BAP, if this has been prepared;

Resident or regularly occurring populations (assessed to be important at the Local level) of the following:

Species of bird, listed in Annex I and/or referred to in Article 4(2) of the Birds Directive;

Species of animal and plants listed in Annex II and/or IV of the Habitats Directive;

Species protected under the Wildlife Acts; and/or

Species listed on the relevant Red Data list.

Sites containing semi-natural habitat types with high biodiversity in a local context and a high degree of naturalness, or populations of species that are uncommon in the locality;

Sites or features containing common or lower value habitats, including naturalised species that are nevertheless essential in maintaining links and ecological corridors between features of higher ecological value.

Local Importance (lower value):

Sites containing small areas of semi-natural habitat that are of some local importance for wildlife;

Sites or features containing non-native species that are of some importance in maintaining habitat links.

Appendix B: NBDC Records

NBDC Species Records from within 500m of the Proposed Development

Species name	Date of last record	Designation
Common Frog (Rana temporaria)	31/12/1979	Annex V, Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Barn Owl (Tyto alba)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus)	06/07/2022	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Brambling (Fringilla montifringilla)	05/11/2023	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Gull (Larus canus)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Sandpiper (Actitis hypoleucos)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Coot (Fulica atra)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo)	27/05/2024	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Corncrake (Crex crex)	31/07/1972	Wildlife Acts, Annex I Bird Species, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Curlew (Numenius arquata)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Gadwall (Mareca strepera)	29/02/1984	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Goldcrest (Regulus regulus)	18/08/2024	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula)	29/02/1984	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Great Spotted Woodpecker (Dendrocopos major)	11/02/2024	Wildlife Acts
Greenfinch (Chloris chloris)	09/04/2024	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Grey Wagtail (Motacilla cinerea)	18/08/2024	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Greylag Goose (Anser anser)	31/12/2011	Invasive Species Regulation S.I. 477/2011 (Ireland), Regulation S.I. 374/2024 (Ireland), Protected Species: Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Hen Harrier (Circus cyaneus)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Annex I Bird Species, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Herring Gull (Larus argentatus)	06/07/2022	Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
House Martin (Delichon urbicum)	27/05/2024	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus)	23/04/2024	Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Jack Snipe (Lymnocyptes minimus)	29/02/1984	Wildlife Acts

Kestrel (Falco tinnunculus)	09/04/2024	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Kingfisher (Alcedo atthis)	18/08/2024	Wildlife Acts, Annex I Bird Species, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus)	06/07/2022	Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Linnet (Linaria cannabina)	06/05/2024	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Little Egret (Egretta garzetta)	12/07/2025	Wildlife Acts, Annex I Bird Species
Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts
Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos)	27/05/2024	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Meadow Pipit (Anthus pratensis)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Mistle Thrush (Turdus viscivorus)	09/04/2024	Wildlife Acts
Mute Swan (Cygnus olor)	01/06/2023	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus)	29/02/1984	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Peregrine (Falco peregrinus)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Annex I Bird Species
Pheasant (Phasianus colchicus)	06/05/2024	Wildlife Acts
Pochard (Aythya ferina)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Redwing (Turdus iliacus)	10/03/2023	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Robin (Erithacus rubecula)	18/08/2024	Wildlife Acts
Rock Dove (Columba livia)	03/07/2023	Wildlife Acts
Sand Martin (Riparia riparia)	27/05/2024	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Sandwich Tern (Thalasseus sandvicensis)	04/07/2022	Wildlife Acts, Annex I Bird Species, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Shag (Gulosus aristotelis)	11/04/2021	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Shoveler (Spatula clypeata)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Skylark (Alauda arvensis)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Snipe (Gallinago gallinago)	01/03/2018	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Sparrowhawk (Accipiter nisus)	18/08/2024	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts

Spotted Flycatcher (<i>Muscicapa striata</i>)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Starling (<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>)	27/05/2024	Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Stock Dove (<i>Columba oenas</i>)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Stonechat (<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>)	06/05/2024	Wildlife Acts
Swallow (<i>Hirundo rustica</i>)	12/07/2025	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Swift (<i>Apus apus</i>)	27/05/2024	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>)	11/04/2021	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>)	29/02/1984	Wildlife Acts, Annex I Bird Species, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Wigeon (<i>Mareca penelope</i>)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Willow Warbler (<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>)	18/08/2024	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Woodcock (<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Yellowhammer (<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>)	31/12/2011	Wildlife Acts, Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Common Broomrape (<i>Orobancha minor</i>)	28/06/2020	Medium Risk Invasive Species (2013 Report)
Himalayan Honeysuckle (<i>Leycesteria formosa</i>)	08/10/2021	Medium Risk Invasive Species (2013 Report)
Himalayan Knotweed (<i>Persicaria wallichii</i>)	08/07/2014	EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation No. 1143/2014, S.I. 477/2011 (Ireland), S.I. 374/2024 (Ireland), Medium Risk Invasive Species
Japanese Knotweed (<i>Fallopia japonica</i>)	14/11/2024	Invasive Species: EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation No. 1143/2014 Invasive Species: Regulation S.I. 477/2011 (Ireland), High Risk Invasive Species (2013 Report), Regulation S.I. 374/2024 (Ireland)
Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	16/05/2007	Medium Risk Invasive Species (2013 Report)
Three-cornered Garlic (<i>Allium triquetrum</i>)	24/04/2017	Regulation S.I. 477/2011 (Ireland), Regulation S.I. 374/2024 (Ireland), Medium Risk Invasive Species
Traveller's-joy (<i>Clematis vitalba</i>)	08/10/2021	Medium Risk Invasive Species (2013 Report)
Harlequin Ladybird (<i>Harmonia axyridis</i>)	17/10/2020	Invasive Species: Regulation S.I. 477/2011 (Ireland), High Risk Invasive Species (2013 Report), Regulation S.I. 374/2024 (Ireland)
Badger (<i>Meles meles</i>)	13/12/1968	Wildlife Acts
Brown Long-eared Bat (<i>Plecotus auritus</i>)	01/08/2009	Annex IV, Wildlife Acts

Brown Rat (Rattus norvegicus)	16/08/2012	High Risk Invasive Species (2013 Report)
Common Pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pipistrellus sensu stricto)	21/08/2013	Annex IV, Wildlife Acts
Daubenton's Bat (Myotis daubentonii)	13/08/2012	Annex IV, Wildlife Acts
Hedgehog (Erinaceus europaeus)	28/08/2022	Wildlife Acts
Leisler's Bat (Nyctalus leisleri)	20/07/2015	Annex IV, Wildlife Acts
Otter (Lutra lutra)	13/12/1968	Annex II, Annex IV, Wildlife Acts
Pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pipistrellus sensu lato)	20/07/2015	Annex IV, Wildlife Acts
Rabbit (Oryctolagus cuniculus)	13/12/1968	Medium Risk Invasive Species (2013 Report)
Red Deer (Cervus elaphus)	31/12/2008	Wildlife Acts
Sika Deer (Cervus nippon)	31/12/2008	Invasive Species: EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation No. 1143/2014, Regulation S.I. 477/2011 (Ireland), High Risk Invasive Species (2013 Report), S.I. 374/2024 (Ireland), Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Soprano Pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pygmaeus)	20/07/2015	Annex IV, Wildlife Acts