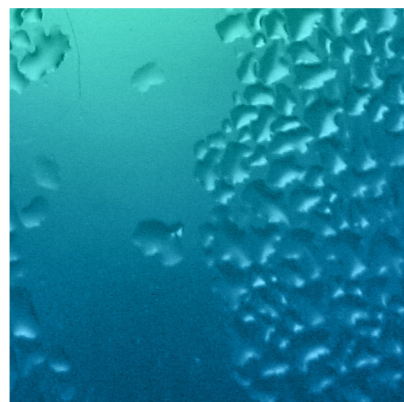
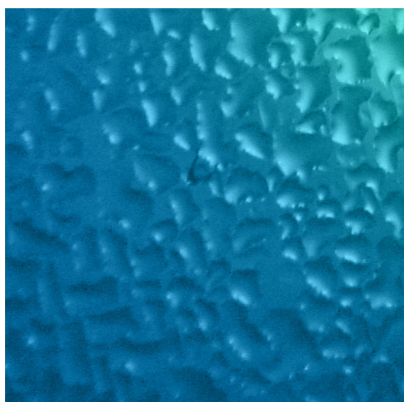
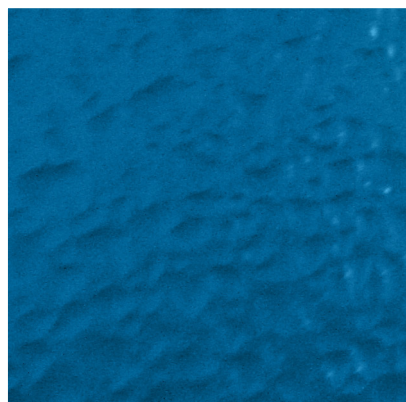
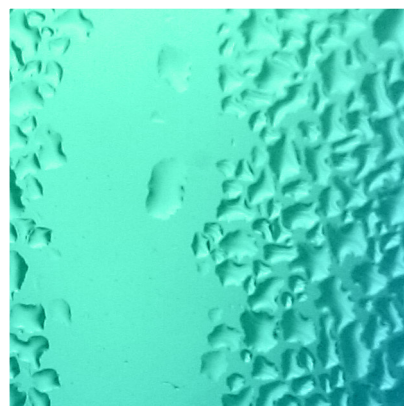
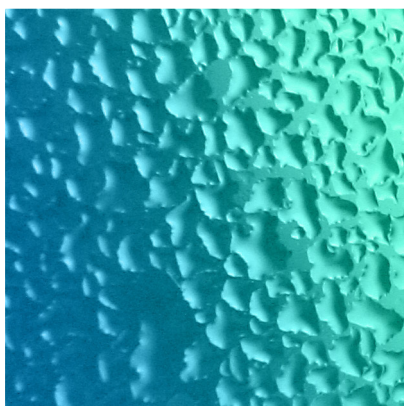
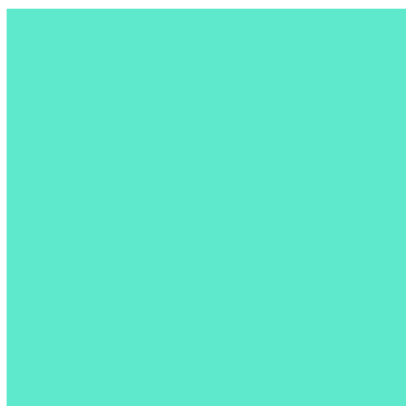
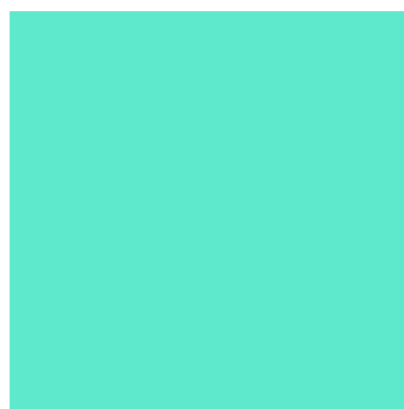
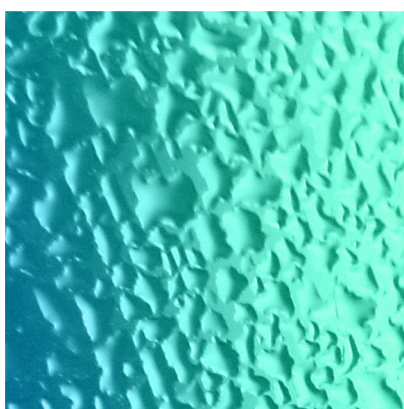
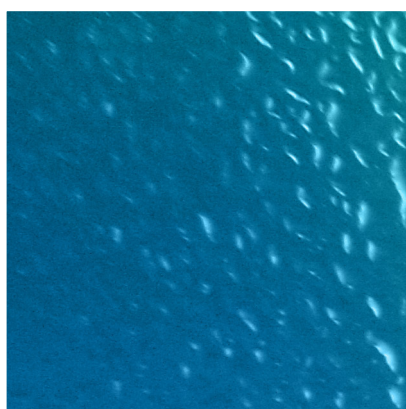


Proposed Interim Works at Dún Laoghaire Baths

Appropriate Assessment Screening



Appropriate Assessment Screening of the Proposed Interim Works at Dún Laoghaire Baths

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

This report comprises information in support of screening for an Appropriate Assessment in line with the requirements of Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora; the Planning and Development Act 2010; and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477/2011) for the proposed interim works at Dún Laoghaire Baths, Dún Laoghaire, Do. Dublin.

1.2 EXISTING SITUATION

The original Baths east of the East Pier in Dún Laoghaire were constructed in 1843 by John Crosthwaite and named the Royal Victoria baths. In 1896 Kingston Urban District Council purchased the baths site. The firm Alexander Fraser was engaged to build the new baths at its current location. In June 1908 it was reported that the works were nearly completed and these are largely what is in existence today. The baths were improved and extended in the 1930s, but presently the site is not in use and has run derelict.

1.3 LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

The Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, better known as “The Habitats Directive”, provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. Articles 3 to 9 provide the legislative means to protect habitats and species of Community interest through the establishment and conservation of an EU-wide network of sites known as Natura 2000. These are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (79/409/ECC).

Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans and projects likely to affect Natura 2000 sites (Annex 1.1). Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for Appropriate Assessment (AA):

Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the [Natura 2000] site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subjected to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.

Article 6(4) states:

If, in spite of a negative assessment of the implications for the [Natura 2000] site and in the absence of alternative solutions, a plan or project must nevertheless be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature, Member States shall take all compensatory measures necessary to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. It shall inform the Commission of the compensatory measures adopted.

1.4 STAGES OF THE APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

Both EU and national guidance exists in relation to Member States fulfilling their requirements under the EU Habitats Directive, with particular reference to Article 6(3) and 6(4) of that Directive. The methodology followed in relation to this AA screening has had regard to the following guidance:

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities. Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government. <http://www.npws.ie>
- Managing Natura 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, referred to as MN2000, European Commission 2000; <http://ec.europa.eu>
- Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, referred to as the "EC Article 6 Guidance Document (EC2000); <http://ec.europa.eu>
- 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. <http://ec.europa.eu>

In complying with the obligations under Article 6(3) and following the EC2000 and MN2000 Guidelines, this AA has been structured as a stage by stage approach as follows:

1) Screening stage

- Description of the project;
- Identification of Natura 2000 sites potentially affected;
- Identification and description of individual and cumulative impacts likely to result;
- Assessment of the significance of the impacts identified above on site integrity;
- Exclusion of sites where it can be objectively concluded that there will be no significant effects;
- Screening conclusion.

2 SCREENING

2.1 STUDY AREA

The Baths site is located between Newtownsmith and the East Pier on high ground that can feel exposed when the weather is windy and the seas are rough. Newtownsmith which lies to the south was transformed in the 1930s into a promenade and public park, and is used extensively for walking. This promenade fronts onto the original rock foreshore of Scotmans's Bay, which continues towards Sandycove and the Forty Foot bathing place.

North of the Baths site, lies the Maritime Gardens Walkway that connects with the East Pier and is situated parallel to Queen's Road. The Maritime Gardens Walkway is presently used as a coastal route of access to the East Pier, but in recent years it has become run down and the walkways and steps are in need of repair. The railway line passes in front of the Baths site through a tunnel that is covered over at the junction of Queen's Road, Windsor Terrace and Park Road, which also lies directly in front of one of the two entrances to the People's Park.

2.2 DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

The interim works at the Baths site will provide for the retention and securing of the existing building for use as artist workspaces, a gallery café with outdoor seating and public toilet facilities, as shown in **Figure 1**. The proposed removal of dilapidated structures, as outlined in **Figure 2** will permit the creation of a new route that will connect Newtownsmith with the East Pier and the Peoples Park. There are a number of buildings within the Bath's site, with the main building referred to as the Baths Pavilion, being retained, while the newer outbuildings to the rear of the original main building will be demolished to provide space for the connecting walkway.

In order to ensure the long-term survival of the Baths building as a local amenity and to provide connectivity with other amenities in the area, the following works are proposed to be carried out:

- Secure the existing Dún Laoghaire Baths site;
- Demolition and removal of specific dilapidated structures;
- Renovation and re-opening of pavilion building to provide public café/gallery, toilets, terrace area and artists studios;
- Creation of a new route with associated landscaping to connect the walkway at Newtownsmith to both the East Pier and the Peoples Park;
- Enhanced facilities for swimming and improved access to the waters edge e.g. ramps, steps and renovation of the existing bandstand;
- Creation of a small jetty in line with the existing structure and the provision of a changing area;
- Upgrading of lower walkway in maritime gardens linking the new jetty with the East Pier; and
- Extension and burying of existing stormwater outlet pipe, 50m in order for it to be located beyond the low water mark. A new wall and viewing area will be built over the outfall pipe.

It is proposed that the existing Baths Pavilion together with a smaller outbuilding will be retained, weathered and secured while the remaining dilapidated outbuildings to the rear and side of the Pavilion will be removed. The original baths entrance along Windsor Terrace will be restored to provide access to the studio space and café facilities. It is also proposed to create new public toilets, which will be accessed at street level. The footpath along Windsor Terrace will be upgraded and new street trees will be planted.

The removal of the dilapidated structures to the rear of the Baths Pavilion will create a new pedestrian and cycle route that will connect the Newtownsmith walkway with the East Pier. The alignment of the walkway will reflect the original rocky shoreline and sitting and viewing points will be incorporated along it. The land adjoining the walkway will be re-graded to create grassy areas that will provide continuation of the park at Newtownsmith with the Maritime Gardens leading on to the East Pier.

The new promenade will be linked by new steps to the café terrace that will be located in the Baths Pavilion. The access point to the new steps will be linked to the pedestrian crossing point on Windsor Terrace, which will provide a through route for pedestrians to the Peoples Park, the entrance for which lies in close proximity to the pedestrian crossing point.

The proposed landscaping for the interim works will have materials chosen from a palette primarily of stone, concrete and steel. Lighting will be installed along the newly constructed walkway to the rear of the Baths Pavilion and the design for the lighting will be a combination of modern and reproduction styles. In addition, the planting along the walkway will compliment the materials used for its construction.

2.2.1 Design & Construction Methodology

As part of the proposed interim works two aspects will be extended out into the water:

- Creation of a small promenade in line with the existing structure; and
- Extension and burying of existing stormwater outlet pipe, 50m in order for it to be located beyond the low water mark. A new wall and viewing area will be built over the outfall pipe.

The following measures shall be incorporated into the design and construction methodology to ensure that the shore is protected from polluting substances (e.g. construction related sediments, fuels, concrete, etc.). All materials shall be properly stored in designated areas and away from the shore. All fuels or chemicals kept on the site shall be stored in bunded containers. All machinery shall be well-maintained and refuelling carried out within bunded enclosures or away from the beach. Where machinery is working within the immediate vicinity of the beach, oil interceptors shall be installed. Spoil and fluids need to be contained and handled according to their contaminants. All other waste material, including rubbish shall be contained in appropriate receptacles and disposed of properly. Emergency response procedures shall be in place to deal with accidental spillages should such occur. This shall include appropriate training of the crew members and a contact list of relevant statutory organisations (to include EPA and NPWS). All accidental spillages shall be contained and cleaned up immediately. Relevant organisations (EPA and NPWS) shall be consulted regarding remediation measures and these shall be carried out without delay in the event of pollution risk to the adjacent waterbody.

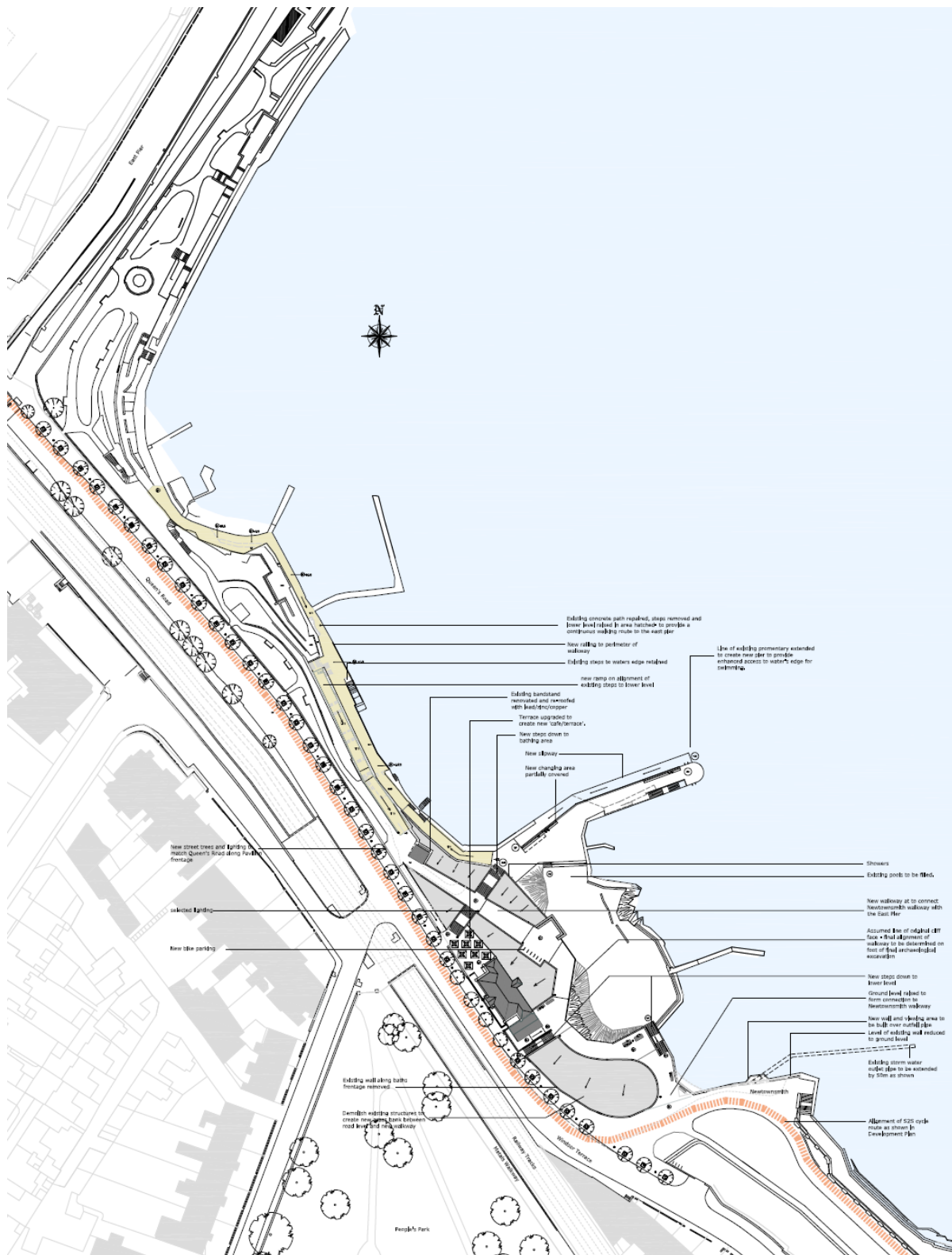
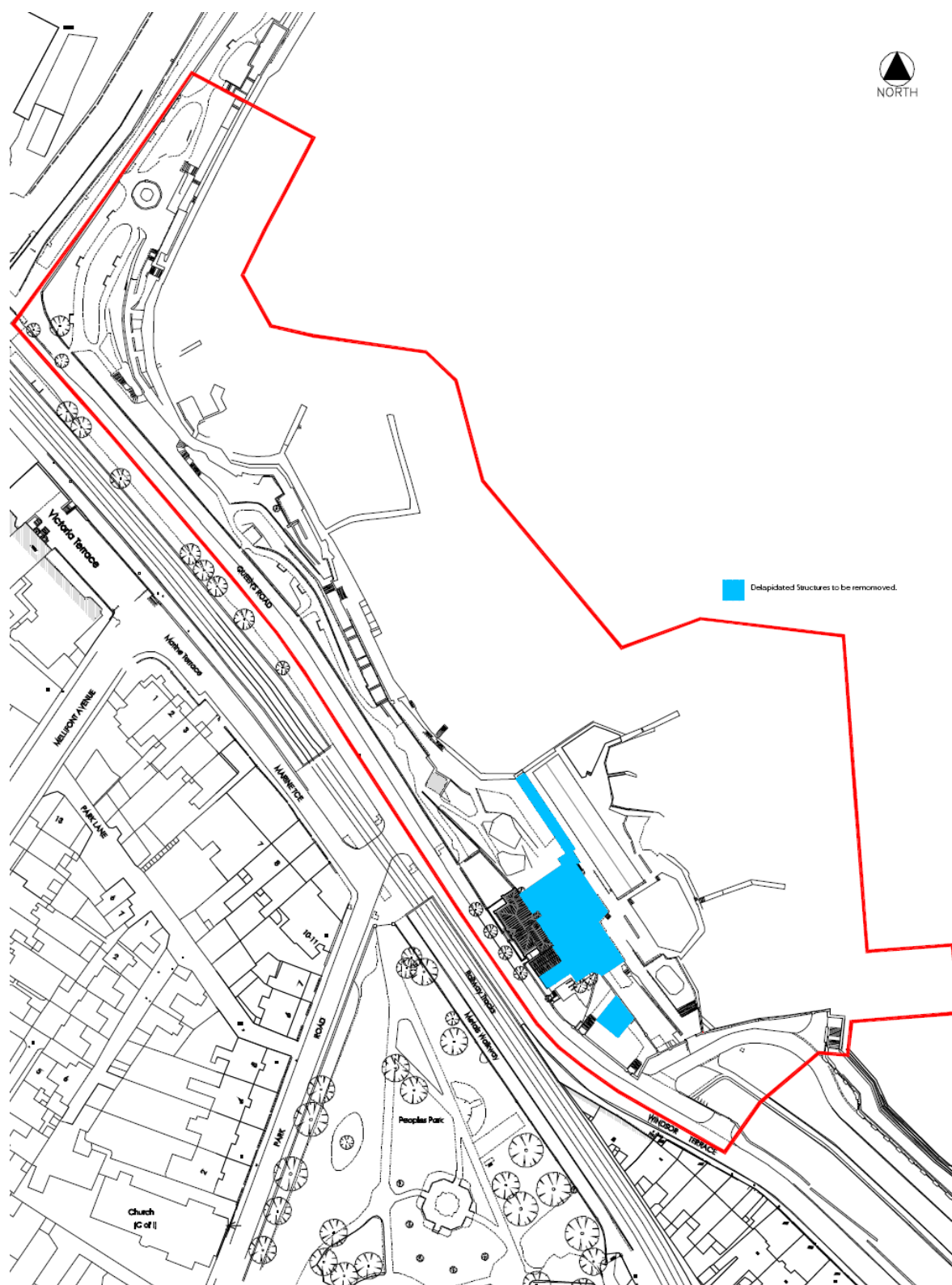
Figure 1 **Proposed Plan for the Baths site**

Figure 2 Outline of the Dilapidated Structures to be removed

2.3 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURA 2000 SITES

This section of the screening process describes the Natura 2000 sites within a 15km radius of the proposed interim works. A 15km buffer zone has been chosen as a precautionary measure, to ensure that all potentially affected Natura 2000 sites are included in the screening process, which is in line with *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities* produced by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Table 2.1 lists the SACs and **Table 2.2** lists the SPA that are within 15km of the project area, and **Figure 3** shows their locations in relation to the proposed interim works.

The integrity of a Natura 2000 site (referred to in Article 6.3 of the EU Habitats Directive) is determined based on the conservation status of the Qualifying Interests of the SAC or SPA. The Qualifying Interests for each site have been obtained through a review of the Conservation Objectives available from the NPWS.

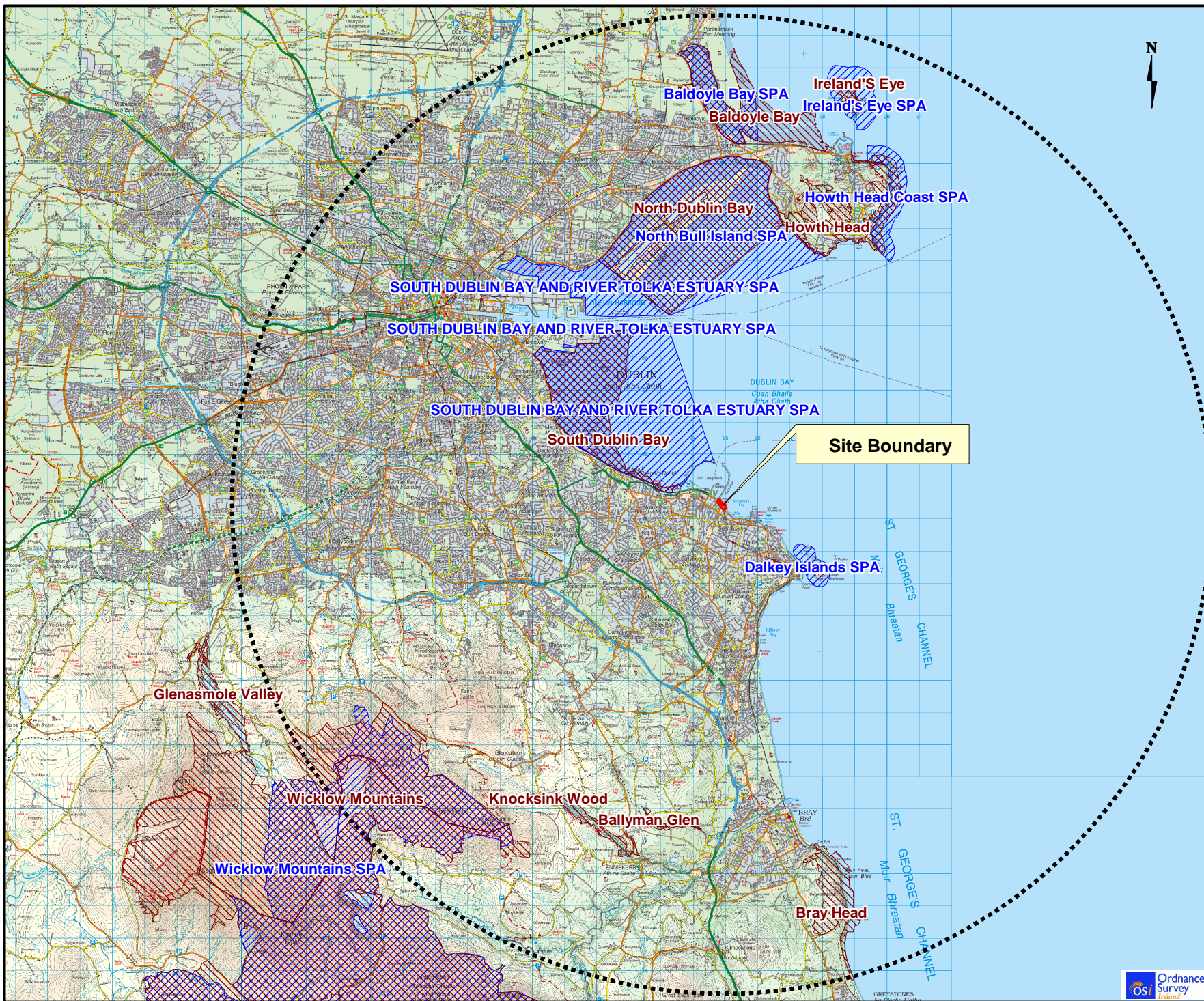
Table 2.1: SACs within 15km of the Proposed Interim Works at Dún Laoghaire Baths

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	
		Annex I habitat	Annex II Species
000199	Baldoyle Bay	Tidal mudflats and sandflats [1140]; Atlantic salt meadows [1330]; Mediterranean salt meadows [1410]; and <i>Salicornia</i> mud [1310].	-
000202	Howth Head	European Dry heath [4030]; and Vegetated sea cliffs [1230].	-
002193	Ireland's Eye	Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]; and Vegetated sea cliffs [1230].	-
000206	North Dublin Bay	Tidal mudflats and sandflats [1140]; Atlantic salt meadows [1330]; Mediterranean salt meadows [1410]; <i>Salicornia</i> mud [1310]; Marram dunes (White Dunes) [2120]; Fixed dunes (Grey Dunes) [2130]; Humid Dune Slacks [2190]; Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]; and Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210].	<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i> (Petalwort)
000210	South Dublin Bay	Tidal mudflats and sandflats [1140].	-
000714	Bray Head	Vegetated sea cliffs [1230]; and European dry heaths [4030].	-
002122	Wicklow Mountains	Blanket bog (Active) [7130]; Northern Atlantic wet heaths [4010];	<i>Lutra lutra</i> (Otter)





Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	
		Annex I habitat	Annex II Species
		European dry heaths [4030]; Old sessile oak woods [91A0]; Siliceous rocky slopes [8220]; Calcareous rocky slopes [8210]; Siliceous scree [8110]; Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]; Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160]; Upland Oligotrophic Lakes [3130]; and Species-rich Nardus upland grasslands [6230].	
000725	Knocksink Wood	Petrifying springs with tufa formation [7220]; and Alluvial forests [91E0].	-
000713	Ballyman Glen	Petrifying springs with tufa formation [7220]; and Alkaline fens [7230].	-

Table 2.2: SPAs within 15km of the Proposed Interim Works at Dún Laoghaire Baths

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature
		Annex I species
004016	Baldoyle Bay SPA	To maintain the favourable conservation status of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA: Light-bellied Brent Goose, Shelduck, Ringed Plover, Golden plover, Grey Plover, Bar tailed Godwit and Wetlands & Waterbirds.
004113	Howth Head Coast SPA	To maintain the favourable conservation status of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA: Kittiwake.
004117	Ireland's Eye SPA	To maintain the favourable conservation status of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA: Cormorant, Herring Gull, Kittiwake, Guillemot and Razorbill.
004006	North Bull Island SPA	To maintain the favourable conservation status of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA: Light-bellied Brent Goose, Shelduck, Teal, Pintail, Shoveler, Oystercatcher, Golden Plover, Grey Plover, Knot, Sanderling, Dunlin, Black-tailed Godwit, Bar-tailed Godwit, Curlew, Redshank, Turnstone, Black-headed Gull and Wetlands & Waterbirds.
004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	To maintain the favourable conservation status of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA: Light-bellied Brent Goose, Oystercatcher, Ringed Plover, Golden Plover, Knot, Sanderling, Dunlin, Bar-tailed Godwit, Redshank, Black-headed Gull, Roseate Tern, Common Tern, Arctic Tern and Wetlands & Waterbirds.
004172	Dalkey Island SPA	To maintain the favourable conservation status of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA: Roseate Tern, Common Tern and Arctic Tern.
004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	To maintain the favourable conservation status of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA: Merlin and Peregrine.



LEGEND

-  Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
-  Special Protection Areas (SPA)
-  Circle Radius 15 km
-  Site Boundary

Data Source:
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA) boundaries downloaded from the National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS) website www.npws.ie



Client

Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown
County Council Comhairle Contae
Dún Laoghaire-Ráth an Dúin

Project
**Proposed Interim Works at
Dun Laoghaire Baths**

Title
Natura 2000 Sites

Figure 3

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2.4 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

2.4.1 Direct, Indirect or Secondary Impacts

Table 2.1 and **2.2** list the Natura 2000 sites within 15km of the proposed works area. There are 16 sites in all, 9 SACs and 7 SPAs. None of the Natura 2000 sites lie within the boundaries of the proposed interim works area; therefore, no direct impacts will occur through landtake or fragmentation of habitats.

There are two principal activities involved in the construction phase of the proposed interim works:

- 1) Aspects that will be extended out into the water, which includes the creation of a small promenade in line with the existing structure, and the extension and burying of the existing stormwater outlet pipe, 50m in order for it to be located beyond the low water mark. A new wall and viewing area will be built over the outfall pipe; and
- 2) Aspects that are based on land, which includes the demolition and removal of dilapidated structures, and the associated upgrades works on land.

Those aspects of the proposed interim works which will be on the beach or within the water have the potential for the re-suspension of solids within the water. The volume of suspended material generated by the proposed interim works is likely to be low and rapidly dispersed by the tide in Dún Laoghaire. Therefore, it is anticipated that the proposed interim works will not have a significant impacts on the South Dublin Bay SAC, North Dublin Bay SAC, Howth Head SAC, Irelands Eye SAC or Baldoyle Bay SAC, or the habitats and species for which they are designated.

In addition, the suspended solids will not form a 'barrier' to dispersal, and therefore, fish will be able to avoid affected areas and it is also unlikely to restrict the feeding activities of fish. Further, sediment re-suspension will be temporary and unlikely to have an impact on the habitat for invertebrate species. If any area is affected it will be very small compared to the available unaffected feeding areas outside the area of construction. Any bird species which may feed on fish or invertebrates are unlikely to be affected by the proposed interim works. Given the nature of the proposed interim works and its distance from the nearest SPAs (the Dalkey Islands SPA and South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA), it is not anticipated that the proposed interim works would result in any noise disturbance to birds. Therefore, no significant potential impacts are anticipated in relation to these SPAs from the proposed interim works.

The proposed development works will contain the necessary pollution control measures to ensure the prevention of any polluting substances from entering the water at Dún Laoghaire. In addition, the risk of spillage of hydrocarbons will be mitigated by strict site management. Therefore, it is not anticipated that the proposed interim works will impact on Dún Laoghaire or any of the Natura 2000 sites identified.

Bray Head SAC, Wicklow Mountains SAC, Knocksink Wood SAC and Ballyman Glen SAC are all at elevated locations relative to the proposed interim works, with no connecting pathways, e.g. streams or rivers, and therefore, no significant potential impacts are anticipated in relation to these SACs from the proposed interim works.

The overall objective of the proposed interim works is to ensure the long-term survival of the Baths building as a local amenity and to provide connectivity with other amenities in the area. Any disturbance to bird species as a result of the increased amenity value and usage of the area is considered extremely unlikely, and no significant potential impacts are anticipated in relation to Dalkey Islands SPA or South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA, or any of the SPA's within the 15km radius of the proposed interim works.

2.4.2 Cumulative and in Combination Impacts

It is not anticipated that the proposed interim works will result in any impacts on the SPAs and SACs within the 15km boundary. No other pathway has been identified by which any plan or project could have a significant 'in combination' effect on any of the Natura 2000 sites.

Table 2.3 identifies the potential direct, indirect and secondary impacts of the proposed interim works at Dún Laoghaire Baths on Natura 2000 sites within a 15 km radius of the proposed interim works.

Table 2.3: Potential Significant Impacts on Natura 2000 sites from the Proposed Interim Works at Dún Laoghaire Baths

Site Name	Direct Impacts	Indirect/ Secondary	Resource Requirements (Drinking Water Abstraction Etc.)	Emissions (Disposal to Land, Water or Air)	Excavation Requirements	Transportation Requirements	Duration of Construction, Operation, Decommissioning
Baldoyle Bay SAC	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat
Howth Head SAC	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat
Ireland's Eye SAC	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat
North Dublin Bay SAC	No impact on qualifying habitat or species	No impact on qualifying habitat or species	No impact on qualifying habitat or species	No impact on qualifying habitat or species	No impact on qualifying habitat or species	No impact on qualifying habitat or species	No impact on qualifying habitat or species
South Dublin Bay SAC	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat
Bray Head SAC	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat
Wicklow Mountains SAC	No impact on qualifying habitat or species	No impact on qualifying habitat or species	No impact on qualifying habitat or species	No impact on qualifying habitat or species	No impact on qualifying habitat or species	No impact on qualifying habitat or species	No impact on qualifying habitat or species
Knocksink Wood SAC	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat
Ballyman Glen SAC	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat	No impact on qualifying habitat
Baldoyle Bay SPA	No impact on	No impact	No impact on	No impact on	No impact on	No impact on	No impact on qualifying species

Site Name	Direct Impacts	Indirect/ Secondary	Resource Requirements (Drinking Water Abstraction Etc.)	Emissions (Disposal to Land, Water or Air)	Excavation Requirements	Transportation Requirements	Duration of Construction, Operation, Decommissioning
	qualifying species	on qualifying species	qualifying species	qualifying species	qualifying species	qualifying species	
Howth Head Coast SPA	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species
Ireland's Eye SPA	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species
North Bull Island SPA	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species
South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species
Dalkey Island SPA	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species
Wicklow Mountains SPA	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species	No impact on qualifying species

2.4.3 Likely Changes to the Natura 2000 Site(s)

The likely changes that will arise from the interim works at Dún Laoghaire Baths have been examined in the context of a number of factors that could potentially affect the integrity of the identified Natura 2000 sites. Overall, it has been found that the implementation of the proposed interim works will not affect the integrity of the identified Natura 2000 sites.

Table 2.4: Likely Affect on Natura 2000 Sites

Site Name	Reduction of Habitat Area	Disturbance to Key Species	Habitat or Species Fragmentation	Reduction in Species Density	Changes in Key Indicators of Conservation Value (Water Quality Etc.)	Climate Change
Baldoyle Bay SAC	None	None	None	None	None	None
Howth Head SAC	None	None	None	None	None	None
Ireland's Eye SAC	None	None	None	None	None	None
North Dublin Bay SAC	None	None	None	None	None	None
South Dublin Bay SAC	None	None	None	None	None	None
Bray Head SAC	None	None	None	None	None	None
Wicklow Mountains SAC	None	None	None	None	None	None
Knocksink Wood SAC	None	None	None	None	None	None
Ballyman Glen SAC	None	None	None	None	None	None
Baldoyle Bay SPA	None	None	None	None	None	None
Howth Head Coast SPA	None	None	None	None	None	None
Ireland's Eye SPA	None	None	None	None	None	None
North Bull Island SPA	None	None	None	None	None	None
South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	None	None	None	None	None	None
Dalkey Island SPA	None	None	None	None	None	None
Wicklow Mountains SPA	None	None	None	None	None	None

2.4.4 Elements of the Project where the Impacts are Likely to be Significant

No elements of the proposed interim works at Dun Laoghaire Baths are likely to cause significant impacts on Natura 2000 sites.

3 SCREENING CONCLUSIONS AND STATEMENT

The likely impacts that will arise from the proposed interim works at Dún Laoghaire Baths have been examined in the context of a number of factors that could potentially affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network. None of the sites within 15km of the development area will be adversely affected. A finding of No Significant Effects Matrix has been completed and is presented in Section 4 of this Screening Statement.

On the basis of the findings of this Screening for Appropriate Assessment of Natura 2000 Sites, it is concluded that the interim works at Dún Laoghaire Baths will not have a significant effect on the Natura 2000 network and a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is not required.

4 FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS REPORT MATRIX

Name of project or plan	Proposed Development at Bioniche Pharma
Name and location of Natura 2000 site	Baldoyle Bay SAC; Howth Head SAC; Ireland's Eye SAC; North Dublin Bay SAC; South Dublin Bay SAC; Bray Head SAC; Wicklow Mountains SAC; Knocksink Wood SAC; Ballyman Glen SAC; Baldoyle Bay SPA; Howth Head Coast SPA ; Ireland's Eye SPA; North Bull Island SPA; South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA; Dalkey Islands SPA; and Wicklow Mountains SPA.
Description of the project or plan	<p>The interim works at the Baths site will provide for the retention and securing of the existing building for use as artist workspaces, a gallery café with outdoor seating and public toilet facilities, as shown in Figure 1. The proposed removal of dilapidated structures, as outlined in Figure 2 will permit the creation of a new route that will connect Newtownsmith with the East Pier and the Peoples Park. There are a number of buildings within the Bath's site, with the main building referred to as the Baths Pavilion, being retained, while the newer outbuildings to the rear of the original main building will be demolished to provide space for the connecting walkway.</p> <p>In order to ensure the long-term survival of the baths building as a local amenity and to provide connectivity with other amenities in the area, the following works are proposed to be carried out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the existing Dún Laoghaire Baths site; • Demolition and removal of specific dilapidated structures; • Renovation and re-opening of pavilion building to provide public café/gallery, toilets, terrace area and artists studios; • Creation of a new route with associated landscaping to connect the walkway at Newtownsmith to both the East Pier and the Peoples Park; • Enhanced facilities for swimming and improved access to the waters edge e.g. ramps, steps and

	<p>renovation of the existing bandstand;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of a small jetty in line with the existing structure and the provision of a changing area; • Upgrading of lower walkway in maritime gardens linking the new jetty with the East Pier; and • Extension and burying of existing stormwater outlet pipe, 50m in order for it to be located beyond the low water mark. A new wall and viewing area will be built over the outfall pipe. <p>It is proposed that the existing Baths Pavilion together with a smaller outbuilding will be retained, weathered and secured while the remaining dilapidated outbuildings to the rear and side of the Pavilion will be removed. The original baths entrance along Windsor Terrace will be restored to provide access to the studio space and café facilities. It is also proposed to create new public toilets, which will be accessed at street level. The footpath along Windsor Terrace will be upgraded and new street trees will be planted.</p> <p>The removal of the dilapidated structures to the rear of the Baths Pavilion will create a new pedestrian and cycle route that will connect the Newtownsmith walkway with the East Pier. The alignment of the walkway will reflect the original rocky shoreline and sitting and viewing points will be incorporated along it. The land adjoining the walkway will be re-graded to create grassy areas that will provide continuation of the park at Newtownsmith with the Maritime Gardens leading on to the East Pier.</p> <p>The new promenade will be linked by new steps to the café terrace that will be located in the Baths Pavilion. The access point to the new steps will be linked to the pedestrian crossing point on Windsor Terrace, which will provide a through route for pedestrians to the Peoples Park, the entrance for which lies in close proximity to the pedestrian crossing point.</p> <p>The proposed landscaping for the interim works will have materials chosen from a palette primarily of stone, concrete and steel. Lighting will be installed along the newly constructed walkway to the rear of the Baths Pavilion and the design for the lighting will be a combination of modern and reproduction styles. In addition, the planting along the walkway will compliment the materials used for its construction.</p>
Is the project or plan directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site?	No
Are there other projects or plans that together with the project or plan being assessed could affect the site?	No.
The Assessment of Significance of Effects	
Describe how the project or plan (alone or in combination) is likely to affect the Natura 2000 site.	The proposed interim works at Dún Laoghaire Baths is not likely to affect any site that makes up the Natura 2000 network.

<p>Explain why these effects are not considered significant.</p>	<p>None of the Natura 2000 sites lie within the boundaries of the proposed interim works area; therefore, no direct impacts will occur through landtake or fragmentation of habitats.</p> <p>There are two principal activities involved in the construction phase of the proposed interim works:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Aspects that will be extended out into the water, which includes the creation of a small promenade in line with the existing structure, and the extension and burying of the existing stormwater outlet pipe, 50m in order for it to be located beyond the low water mark. A new wall and viewing area will be built over the outfall pipe; and 2) Aspects that are based on land, which includes the demolition and removal of dilapidated structures, and the associated upgrades works on land. <p>Those aspects of the proposed interim works which will be on the beach or within the water have the potential for the re-suspension of solids within the water. The volume of suspended material generated by the proposed interim works is likely to be low and rapidly dispersed by the tide in Dún Laoghaire. Therefore, it is anticipated that the proposed interim works will not have a significant impacts on the South Dublin Bay SAC, North Dublin Bay SAC, Howth Head SAC, Irelands Eye SAC or Baldoyle Bay SAC, or the habitats and species for which they are designated.</p> <p>In addition, the suspended solids will not form a 'barrier' to dispersal, and therefore, fish will be able to avoid affected areas and it is also unlikely to restrict the feeding activities of fish. Further, sediment re-suspension will be temporary and unlikely to have an impact on the habitat for invertebrate species. If any area is affected it will be very small compared to the available unaffected feeding areas outside the area of construction. Any bird species which may feed on fish or invertebrates are unlikely to be affected by the proposed interim works. Given the nature of the proposed interim works and its distance from the nearest SPAs (the Dalkey Islands SPA and South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA), it is not anticipated that the proposed interim works would result in any noise disturbance to birds. Therefore, no significant potential impacts are anticipated in relation to these SPAs from the proposed interim works.</p> <p>The proposed development works will contain the necessary pollution control measures to ensure the prevention of any polluting substances from entering the water at Dún Laoghaire. In addition, the risk of spillage of hydrocarbons will be mitigated by strict site management. Therefore, it is not anticipated that the proposed interim works will impact on Dún Laoghaire or any of the Natura 2000 sites identified.</p> <p>Bray Head SAC, Wicklow Mountains SAC, Knocksink Wood SAC and Ballyman Glen SAC are all at elevated locations relative to the proposed interim works, with no connecting pathways, e.g. streams or rivers, and therefore, no significant potential impacts are anticipated in relation to these SACs from the proposed interim works.</p> <p>The overall objective of the proposed interim works is to</p>
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	ensure the long-term survival of the Baths building as a local amenity and to provide connectivity with other amenities in the area. Any disturbance to bird species as a result of the increased amenity value and usage of the area is considered extremely unlikely, and no significant potential impacts are anticipated in relation to Dalkey Islands SPA or South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA, or any of the SPA's within the 15km radius of the proposed interim works.
List of agencies consulted: provide contact name and telephone or e-mail address.	-
Response to consultation.	-
Data Collected to Carry Out the Assessment	
Who carried out the assessment?	RPS
Sources of data	NPWS database Information from RPS.
Level of assessment completed	Desktop
Where can the full results of the assessment be accessed and viewed?	Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council
Overall Conclusion	Stage 1 Screening indicates that the proposed interim works at Dún Laoghaire Baths will not have a significant negative impact on the Natura 2000 network. Therefore, a Stage 2 'Appropriate Assessment' under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC is not required.