Habitats Directive Assessment Report for Proposed Change No. 10.17 Objective TM 5-2 to



Amendment No.10.17 Objective TM 5-2: Cork and Other Ports to the Draft Cork County Development Plan, 2013

Habitats Directive Assessment 26th September 2014

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Introduction

Cork County Council is proposing an amendment to the Draft Cork County Development Plan, 2013 as follows:

Proposed Change No 10.17 OBJECTIVE TM 5-2: CORK AND OTHER PORTS

County Development Plan Objective TM 5-2: Cork and Other Ports

- a) Ensure that the strategic port facilities at Ringaskiddy, Whitegate and Cork Airport have appropriate road transport capacity to facilitate their sustainable development in future years.
 See also Objective EE 6-2:Cork Harbour
- b) Support the relocation of port activities and other industry away from the upper harbour on the eastern approaches to the city. See also Objective EE 6-2:Cork Harbour
- c) Support Ringaskiddy as the preferred location for the relocation of the majority of port related activities having regard to the need for a significant improvement to the road network. Also recognising the key role that Marino Point can play in providing an alternative relocation option for some of the port related uses that could best be served by rail transport taking account of residential amenity, tourism recreation. The Council is committed to engage with the Port of Cork and other relevant stakeholders in achieving this objective. See also Objective EE 6-2:Cork Harbour
- **d)** Local area plans should give priority to identifying appropriate and sustainable locations for port related activities.
- e) Generally support the ports and harbours of the County and recognise their essential role in facilitating industrial development, defence, trade, marine leisure, recreation and other economic sectors, while

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County Development Plan Objective TM 5-2: Cork and Other Ports

respecting their environmental setting.

f) Improve port and harbour infrastructure in the County and to safeguard lands in the vicinity of ports and harbours against inappropriate uses that could compromise the long-term economic potential (including access) of the port or harbour.

Screening Conclusion

We have reviewed this proposed amendment in the context of Appropriate Assessment and are satisfied that there is no potential for the proposed amendment to give rise to significant impacts on any Natura 2000 site.

Accordingly the requirement for Appropriate Assessment is screened out.