

7.

## CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

A search and review in relation to plans and projects that may have the potential to result in cumulative and/or in-combination impacts on European Sites was conducted. This assessment focuses on the potential for cumulative in-combination effects on the European Sites where potential for adverse effects was identified at the screening stage (Appendix 1). This included a review of online Planning Registers, development plans and other available information and served to identify past and future plans and projects, their activities and their predicted environmental effects.

7.1.1

### Plans

The following development plans been reviewed and taken into consideration as part of this assessment:

- > Sligo County Development Plan 2017 – 2023
- > National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021

The review focused on policies and objectives that relate to Natura 2000 sites and natural heritage. Policies and objectives relating to sustainable land use were also reviewed.

Table 7.1: Review of plans

Plans	Key Policies/Issues/Objectives Directly Related to European Sites in the Zone of Influence	Assessment of Potential Impact on European Sites
<p><b>Sligo County Development Plan 2017 – 2023</b></p>	<p>P-NH-1 Protect, sustainably manage and enhance the natural heritage, biodiversity, geological heritage, landscape and environment of County Sligo in recognition of its importance for nature conservation and biodiversity, and as a non-renewable resource, in association with all stakeholders.</p> <p>P-NH-3 Protect and, where possible, enhance the plant and animal species and their habitats that have been identified under the EU Habitats Directive, EU Birds Directive, the Wildlife Act and the Flora Protection Order.</p> <p>P-NH-4 Take full account of the precautionary principle where uncertainty exists regarding the potential impact of a proposed development on the natural heritage resource</p> <p>P-DSNC-1 Protect and maintain the favourable conservation status and conservation value of all natural heritage sites designated or proposed for designation in accordance with European and national legislation and agreements. These include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs), Ramsar Sites, Statutory Nature Reserves. In addition, the Council will identify, maintain and develop non designated areas of high nature conservation value which serve as linkages or ‘stepping stones’ between protected sites in accordance with Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>P-DSNC-2 Promote the maintenance and, as appropriate, achievement of ‘favourable conservation status’ of habitats and species in association with the NPWS.</p> <p>P-DSNC-3 Carry out an appropriate level of assessment for all development plans, land-use plans and projects that the Council authorizes or proposes to undertake or adopt, to determine the potential for these plans or projects to impact on designated sites, proposed designated sites or associated ecological corridors and linkages in accordance with the Habitats Directive, All appropriate assessments shall be in compliance with the provisions of Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000.</p>	<p>The Development plan was comprehensively reviewed, with particular reference to Policies and Objectives that relate to the Natura 2000 network and other natural heritage interests. No potential for cumulative impacts when considered in conjunction with the current proposal were identified.</p> <p>There will be no impact on designated sites as a result of deterioration in water quality. As outlined in section 5, best practice/mitigation measures will be implemented to avoid effects on water quality.</p> <p>There will be no adverse effects on sensitive aquatic receptors listed as QIs/SCIs of European Sites, as a result of deterioration in water quality.</p> <p>There will be no adverse effects on ecological receptors listed as QIs/SCIs of European Sites, as a result of habitat loss, displacement or disturbance</p> <p>The Development plan was comprehensively reviewed, with particular reference to Policies and Objectives that relate to the Natura 2000 network and other natural heritage interests. No potential for cumulative impacts when considered in conjunction with the current proposal were identified.</p>

Plans	Key Policies/Issues/Objectives Directly Related to European Sites in the Zone of Influence	Assessment of Potential Impact on European Sites
	<p>O-DSNC-1 Identify and protect local areas of high nature conservation value and support the management of landscape features which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora in accordance with Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>P-PPAS-1 Ensure that development does not have a significant adverse impact, incapable of satisfactory mitigation on plant, animal or bird species protected by law.</p> <p>P-PPAS-2 Consult with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (DAHG) and take account of any licensing requirements when undertaking, approving and authorising development which is likely to affect plant, animal or bird species protected by law.</p> <p>P-NCODS-2 Ensure that development proposals, where relevant, improve the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network and encourage the retention and management of landscape features that are of major importance for wild fauna and flora as per Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>P- INW-3 Ensure that all proposed greenfield residential and commercial developments use sustainable drainage systems (SUDS) in accordance with best current practice, ensuring protection of the integrity of wetland sites in the adjoining area, including their hydrological regime.</p> <p>P- INW-4 Ensure that floodplains and wetlands within the Plan area are retained for their biodiversity and flood protection value.</p> <p>P- INW-5 Ensure that proposed developments do not adversely affect groundwater resources and groundwater dependent habitats and species.</p> <p>O- INW-2 Require that runoff from a developed area does not result in deterioration of downstream watercourses or habitats, and that pollution generated by a development is treated within the development area prior to discharge to local watercourses.</p>	<p>There will be no impact on designated sites as a result of deterioration in water quality. As outlined in section 5, and the CEMP accompanying this application, best practice/mitigation measures will be implemented to avoid effects on water quality.</p> <p>There will be no adverse effects on sensitive aquatic receptors listed as QIs/SCIs of European Sites, as a result of deterioration in water quality. There will be no adverse effects on ecological receptors listed as QIs/SCIs of European Sites, as a result of habitat loss, displacement or disturbance.</p>

Plans	Key Policies/Issues/Objectives Directly Related to European Sites in the Zone of Influence	Assessment of Potential Impact on European Sites
<p><b>National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021</b></p>	<p><b>Target 4.2:</b> Principal pollutant pressures on terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity substantially reduced by 2020.</p> <p><b>Target 6.2:</b> Sufficiency, coherence, connectivity, and resilience of the protected areas network substantially enhanced by 2020.</p>	<p>There will be no adverse effects on designated sites or biodiversity as a result of the development works.</p> <p>There will be no impact on designated sites or other natural heritage interests as a result of deterioration of water quality. There will be no adverse effects on sensitive aquatic receptors listed as QIs/SCIs of European Sites as a result of deterioration in water quality.</p>

## 7.1.2 Other Projects

The proposed development was considered in-combination with other plans and projects in the area that could result in cumulative impacts on designated Sites. The online planning system for Sligo County Council as well as the An Bord Pleanála Website (planning searches), was consulted on the 04/03/2022 for the relevant area surrounding the site. Projects identified in the 1km radius of the proposed development from the last 5 years were:

- Permission for development consisting of the construction of extension to south-east elevation of existing semi-detached dwelling house (Planning ref. 20414).
- Permission for development consisting of permission of access from public road to serve existing agricultural sheds (Planning ref. 18122).
- Permission for development consisting of proposed renovation and extensions to side and rear of existing detached dwelling house. Alterations to include increasing ridge and eave levels of side roof to match existing front facade, two new windows at first floor level and all associated landscaping and site works (Planning ref. 18314).
- Permission for development consisting of (a) Convert part of attic space to living accommodation, (b) Construct a two-storey extension to side of dwelling house and (c) Construct a single storey extension to rear of dwelling house (Planning ref: 19351).
- Permission for development consisting of the construction of a dwelling house, domestic garage and connect to public utilities, together with all associated site works (Planning ref. 17364).
- Retention for development consisting of Construction of extension to rear of existing dwelling house. 2) Retention of alterations to plans and elevations of existing dwelling house from those previously permitted under PL05/905 with all associated site works (Planning ref. 18324).
- Permission for development consisting of: 1. Construction of a single storey extension to the front elevation of existing house and carry out material alterations to existing elevations. 2. Conversion of existing attached garage into habitable accommodation. 3. Reconnection to existing site services and associated site development works (Planning ref. 2058)
- Permission for development consisting of the change of design to dwelling house based on previously granted planning permission ref. No PL20/154, and all associated site works (Planning ref: 2175).
- Permission for development consisting of construction of a 1st floor rear bedroom extension (Planning ref. 19226)
- Permission for development consisting of the erection of signage on the West and South elevations of Unit 14 and associated site works (Planning ref. 17272).
- Permission for development consisting of Permission for the construction of a motor sales showroom and service garage building (1596 m<sup>2</sup> gross floor area) with accommodation at a single level with a maximum height of 7.3 meters. The proposed accommodation comprises of car sales showroom (567 m<sup>2</sup>) aftersales (696 m<sup>2</sup>) valeting, photo booth and tyre fitting (267 m<sup>2</sup>) with staff accommodation. The proposed development includes 18 customer parking spaces and 170 spaces for display and storage of cars for sales. Permission is also sought for signage, hard and soft landscaping, new boundary treatments and all associated site development works. Access to the proposed development is to be from a new service road linked to the current site access at the North end of the site. A temporary motor sales site is also proposed to the east of the site with a small reception / office unit (66 m<sup>2</sup>), 5 customer parking and 51 display spaces, signage hard and soft landscaping and associated site works (Planning ref: 18245).
- Permission for development consisting of permission for the alterations to the previous planning application Reg. Ref: PL18/275. Proposed alterations include; Existing 2 no. Single and 2 no. Double internally illuminated Triple Sided Poster and Menu signs to be replaced with 1

- no. Single and 3 no. Double, digital Poster and Menu Signs and 1 no. proposed 15" Digital Screen at the Drive Thru Window and associated site works (Planning ref. 19219).
- Permission for development consisting of modifications to the drive-thru arrangements to provide a side by side ordering arrangement: demolition of 6 sq m at the northern elevation reducing the corral and bin store from 30 sq m to 14 sq m and change of use of remaining space to dry storage; extension to existing collection booth/managers office (6.3 sq m) at eastern elevation; modifications to entrance arrangements to southern and western elevation; provision of an outdoor seating area including a canopy area in lieu of the existing outdoor play area; extension of external bin storage area by 13 sq m (providing a bin store of 30.4 sq m); 1 No goal post height restrictor; 2 No Customer Order Displays, 3 No. new double digital screen signs; 15" digital display sign to customer collection window; amendments to fascia signage comprising removal of existing illuminated 'Golden Arch' sign to southern elevation and provision of a repositioned illuminated 'Golden Arch' sign (1,540mm X 1,540mm), provision of an illuminated 'Golden Arch' sign (1,540mm x 1,540mm) to northern elevation, removal of existing Illuminated 'Golden Arch' sign to western elevation and provision of a repositioned illuminated 'Golden Arch' sign (1,442mm X 1,729mm); relocation of existing sky sign; associated elevational changes; new road markings; speed control measures; protective bollards; directional signage; and all other associated site works (Planning ref. 208)
  - Permission for development consisting of the installation of 10 No external condenser's, 1 No Air Handling Unit within a 2.1 m high palisade fence compound, new double door and external vent louvre's within the service yard at rear (Planning ref. 19364).
  - Permission for development consisting of the following: the erection of new external signage to the front elevation of Unit No. 4 and all associated site works (Planning ref. 19456).
  - Permission for development consisting of a) Units 1a, 1b and 2 - 3 no. existing units (c.5,001 sq.m in total ) to be internally rearranged to form 2 no. new units 1 (c. 4050 sq.m) and 2 (c.784 sq.m) - including minor elevational alterations. B) Unit 4 - Internal alterations including removal of existing mezzanine (c.77 sq.m) and provision of a new mezzanine floor level measuring c 747 sq.m with associated stairs/lift and minor alterations to existing rear elevation. c) Unit 8 - Internal alterations including removal of existing mezzanine (c. 200 sq.m) and provision of a new first floor level measuring c.903 sq.m with associated stairs/lift and minor alterations to existing rear and side elevations d) Unit 11 - Internal alterations including provision of a new first floor level measuring c 836 sq.m, associated stairs / lift and minor alterations to existing rear and side elevations. All associated site development works and services provision (Planning ref. 1818).
  - Permission for development consisting of the construction of a 161sqm storage mezzanine, 67 sqm external WEEE enclosure, installation of 2 no external air handling units and condensers, elevational changes to the rear facade including installation of dock shelter/roller door, personnel door, distribution ductwork and all associated site works (Planning ref 20182).
  - Permission for development consisting of demolition of the old Staff Quarters Building and for permission to erect a Storage Building at the rear of the site (Planning ref. 19182).
  - Permission for development consisting of the construction a single storey extension to the rear of dwelling house with all associated works (Planning ref. 19120).
  - Permission for development consisting of the construction of 6 no. new dwelling houses (1 no. detached, 2 no. semi-detached and a terrace of 3 no. houses), new vehicular entrances onto Pearse Road and all associated site works and services (Planning ref. 19447).
  - Permission for development consisting of; (a) demolition of 2 no. garages to rear of existing dwelling, (b) alterations to elevations of existing dwelling, (c) construction of a new rear extension, (d) construction of new front porch, (e) removal of 2 no. chimneys together with all associated site works (Planning ref. 20323).
  - Retention for development consisting of retention of single storey extension, floor area 22.50 sq.m. to the rear of existing dwellinghouse (Planning ref. 20377).
  - Permission for development consisting of construction of a single storey extension to the rear of a single storey semi-detached dwelling house (Planning ref. 18127).
  - Permission for development consisting of construction of a two storey extension semi-detached dwelling house (Planning ref. 18126).

- Permission for development consisting of the construction a single storey extension to the rear of dwelling house with all associated works (Planning ref. 19120).
- Retention for development consisting of the retention of extension to side of Scooters Creche (Planning ref. 20187).
- Permission for development consisting of the proposed demolition of existing dwelling and associated ancillary buildings, decommissioning of existing septic tank system, and their replacement with the proposed construction of a new dwelling, on-site wastewater treatment system, and detached domestic garage. Proposed alterations to existing vehicular access and all associated landscaping and site works (Planning ref. 17471).
- Development of the following: (a) a total of 34 no. residential units consisting of 1 no. - Type A - 2 Bed Bungalow House 1 No. - Type A1 - 2 Bed Bungalow House 1 No. - Type A2 - 2 Bed Bungalow House 2 no. - Type A3 - 2 Bed Bungalow Houses 7 no. - Type B - 3 Bed Semi Detached Houses 5 no. - type B1 - 2 Bed Mid Terrace/Semi Detached Houses 1 no. - type B2 - 3 Bed Semi Detached House 5 No. - Type C - 3 Bed Semi Detached / Detached Houses 4 no. - Type C1 - 3 Bed Semi Detached/Mid Terrace Houses 1 no. - Type C2 - 4 Bed Semi Detached House 3 no. - Type D - 4 Bed Semi Detached Houses 3 no. -Type D1 - 4 bed semi detached houses (b) all car parking, landscaping, entrance improvements, pump station and all associated site works (Planning ref. 21190)
- Development consisting of construction of nine dwelling houses on a vacant site. The development will consist of one detached and eight semi-detached houses, each with connections to the existing public services (Planning ref. 2214)

### 7.1.3

## Conclusion of Cumulative Assessment

Following the detailed assessment provided in the preceding sections, it is concluded that, the proposed development will not result in any residual adverse effects on any of the European Sites, their integrity or their conservation objectives when considered on its own. There is therefore no potential for the proposed development to contribute to any cumulative adverse effects on any European Site when considered in-combination with other plans and projects.

In the review of the projects that was undertaken, no connection, that could potentially result in additional or cumulative impacts was identified. Neither was any potential for different (new) impacts resulting from the combination of the various projects and plans in association with the proposed development.

Taking into consideration the reported residual impacts from other plans and projects in the area and the predicted impacts with the current proposal, no residual cumulative impacts have been identified with regard to any European Site.