

## **Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination under:**

Sections 6(3) a& 6 (4) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of

Wild Fauna and Flora (The Habitats Directive) and The European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 – 15, as amended

## **Tuam Regeneration Masterplan**

An Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening determination has been made by Galway County Council regarding the Draft Tuam Regeneration Masterplan.

The screening for Appropriate Assessment was undertaken by Doherty Environmental Consultants (DEC) Ltd. on behalf of Galway County Council. The screening concluded that an Appropriate Assessment of the Tuam Regeneration Masterplan was not required for the following reasons:

The Tuam Regeneration Masterplan is wholly consistent with the Tuam LAP 2018-2024 which was subject to NIR and AA. The vision of the LAP has informed the masterplan development and the masterplan proposals are wholly consistent with the landuse zoning objectives of the Tuam LAP as well as the objectives and policies of the Tuam LAP.

Following detailed review and assessment it is considered that the Tuam Regeneration Masterplan will not result in likely significant effects to European Sites. This assessment is derived from consideration of the following factors:

- The plan is a non-statutory plan and is wholly consistent with the landuse zoning objectives of the Tuam LAP 2018-2024 which was subject to full SEA and AA.
- The plan sits beneath the Tuam LAP 2018-2024 as well as the Galway County Development Plan within the statutory planning hierarchy
- The masterplan proposals aim to prioritise the published objectives of the LAP that relate in particular to the overall enhancement of the town centre.
- Masterplan proposals have been shown to be wholly consistent with the Tuam LAP (see Table 5.1 of Screening Statement in support of Appropriate Assessment)
- The existing environmental protection measures of the Tuam LAP as detailed in the NIR and SEA of the LAP.
- The scale, nature and extent of masterplan proposals which will not give rise to any land use activities that could result in impacts to European Sites not already addressed as part of the Tuam LAP NIR and Appropriate Assessment.

In light of the findings of this report it is the considered view of the authors of this Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment that it can be concluded by Galway County Council that the Tuam Regeneration Masterplan is not likely, alone or in-combination with other plans or projects, to have

a significant effect on any European Sites in view of their Conservation Objectives. Consequently further assessment is not required.

Signed Valere Couphrace famon behalf of Galway County Council

Position A Dos

Date 12 04 2021.