



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

**Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening
Report Addendum No 2**

26th September 2014

Introduction

In accordance with Section 12(7) of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) that Cork County Council, being the Planning Authority for Cork County, has proposed to make and an amendment to the Draft Cork County Development Plan 2013. This Proposed Change should be read to conjunction with the “Proposed Amendments to the Draft Cork County Development Plan, 2013” document dated 21st August 2014, “Addendum to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Report “ dated 21st August 2014 and the” Habitats Directive Assessment report on the Proposed Amendments to the Draft Cork County Development Plan, 2013 dated 21st August 2014. See Draft Cork Development Plan, 2013 at www.corkcoco.ie for further details.

This amendment has arisen following discussions at Development Committee Meetings held on the 11th of July, the 18th of July and the 25th of July 2014 to discuss proposed amendments to the Draft Cork County Development Plan, 2013.

The purpose of this report is to consider whether the proposed change to the Draft Plan will have any likely significant environmental effects, and as such, would therefore require the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

The SEA process is the formal systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme before a decision is made to adopt the plan or programme. The key indicator that will determine if an SEA is required, of particular plans or amendments to plans, is if they are likely to have significant environmental effects on the environment or not. Screening is the technique applied to determine whether a particular Plan or amendments to a plan would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant an SEA.

In accordance with Section 14A and 14G of the Planning & Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations, 2004, as amended, the amendment to the Draft Plan requires to be screened for SEA.

This screening report concludes that the Proposed Change No 10.17, Objective TM 5-2: Cork and Other Ports of the Draft Plan would not warrant a full SEA including SFRA.

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 and 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 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

County Development Plan Objective

TM 5-2: Cork and Other Ports

inappropriate uses that could compromise the long-term economic potential (including access) of the port or harbour.

Having assessed the proposed change against the criteria set out above it was considered that the change would have a likely positive effect on the environment.

Recommendation

Based on the screening process it is considered that an SEA will not be required for the Proposed Change No.10.17 to the Draft Cork County Development Plan, 2013. As outlined in section 14A of the Planning & Development (Strategic environmental Assessment) Regulations, 2004, subject to any submissions received during the consultation period, full SEA scoping and environmental reports shall not be necessary.