Kildare County Council

Naas Local Area Plan

Strategic Environmental Assessment Report

278388-00

Issue 1 | 8 March 2021

Job number 278388-00

Ove Arup & Partners Ireland Ltd

Arup
50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4
D04 T6X0
Ireland
www.arup.com

ARUP

Contents

Appendices

1 Introduction

1.1 Introduction

Kildare County Council (KCC) has prepared the Naas Local Area Plan (referred to hereinafter as the 'Plan' or the 'LAP') for the period 2021 - 2027. The LAP sets out the strategic land use and planning policy guidance for Naas for the six-year period between 2021-2027.

Arup has been appointed by KCC to prepare the relevant Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) documentation, relative to the Plan, which will allow KCC, as the competent authority, to undertake SEA and AA of the Plan.

This SEA Environmental Report (ER) presents the findings of the environmental assessment of the likely significant effects on the environment as a result of implementing the LAP. A Scoping Report was prepared which provided information to allow consultation with defined statutory bodies on the scope and level of detail to be considered in the environmental assessment.

The purpose of this SEA Environmental Report – which should be read in conjunction with the LAP – is to provide a clear understanding of the likely environmental consequences of decisions arising from the LAP.

1.2 SEA Process and Legislative Context

1.2.1 Legislative Background

Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment, (also known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive), was transposed into Irish Law by the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 435 of 2004) as amended by S.I. No 200 of 2011. It provided a statutory basis for the making of the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004) as amended by S.I. No. 201 of 2011. These Planning and Development Regulations, S.I. No. 436 of 2004 and S.I. No. 201 of 2011, amended articles and schedules to the Planning and Development Regulations, (S.I. 600 of 2001).

Under the Directive (2001/42/EC) SEA is required on plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment, in the following eleven sectors:

- Agriculture;
- Forestry;
- Fisheries;
- Energy;
- Industry;
- Transport;
- Waste Management;
- Water Management;
- Telecommunications; and
- Tourism, Town and Country Planning or Land-use.

The objectives of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive is 'to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans … with a view to promoting sustainable development' (Article 1 SEA Directive). It is a systematic, on-going process for evaluating, at the earliest possible stage, the environmental quality and consequences of implementing certain plans and programmes on the environment.

The requirements for SEA in Ireland are set out in the national legislation as follows:

- European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations (S.I. No. 435 of 2004) as amended by European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations (S.I. No. 200 of 2011); and
- Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations (S.I. No. 436 of 2004) as amended by the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations (S.I. No. 201 of 2011).

1.2.2 SEA Process

The objective of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive is 'to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans … with a view to promoting sustainable development' (Article 1 SEA Directive). It is a systematic, on-going process for evaluating, at the earliest possible stage, the environmental quality and consequences of implementing certain plans and programmes on the environment.

The SEA process is comprised of the following steps:

- Screening: Decision on whether or not SEA of a Plan or Programme is required. This stage has been completed;
- Scoping: Consultation with the defined statutory bodies on the scope and level of detail to be considered in the assessment;
- Environmental Assessment: An assessment of the likely significant impacts on the environment as a result of the Plan or Programme. This is the current stage of the SEA process to which this report relates;
- Preparation of an Environmental Report (this report);
- Consultation on the Plan or Programme and associated Environmental Report;
- Evaluation of the submissions and observations made on the Plan or Programme and Environmental Report; and
- Issuance of an SEA Statement identifying how environmental considerations and consultation have been integrated into the Final Plan or Programme.

SEA is intended to inform decision-making and needs to 'test' systematically the performance of the plan as a whole and its individual objectives and policies against SEA criteria.

It is noted that under EIA and Planning and Development legislation, certain projects taking place within the plan area arising during implementation of the Plan may require an Environmental Impact Assessment.

1.2.3 SEA Guidance

The SEA methodology for the LAP is based on legislative requirements and Department of Environment, Community and Local Government (DoECLG) / Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidance. The EPA's SEA Pack (Version 21/02/2020) was also used as a source of information during the scoping process along with published EPA SEA Scoping Guidance.

2 Naas Local Area Plan

2.1.1 Introduction

The draft Naas LAP will provide the main public statement of planning policies and objectives for Naas for the plan duration (2021-2027). The policies and objectives are critical in determining the appropriate location and form of different types of development as the LAP is the primary statutory land use policy framework against which planning applications are assessed.

The objectives of the local area plan are also used by KCC to guide their activities and to indicate priority areas for action and investment by the Council such as focusing on attracting employment into the town or enhancing the town as a centre for tourism.

The draft Naas LAP will be a key document for setting out a vision for how Naas should develop over the years 2021-2027.

2.1.2 Background to the Local Area Plan 2021-2027

The existing land-use plan for Naas is the Naas Town Development Plan 2011-2017. In 2018, the first draft Naas LAP was prepared for the period 2019-2023. The draft LAP set out the main public statement of planning policies and objectives for Naas for the period 2019-2023. However, the draft LAP was not formally adopted.

KCC drafted the Naas LAP 2021-2027 which takes into account all submissions made on the draft 2019 LAP, including all recommendations from the Office of the Planning Regulator, NTA and TII. The Naas LAP 2021-2027 has been prepared in full compliance with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Eastern and Midlands Region.

A Social Infrastructure Assessment, a Sustianable Planning and Infrastructural Assessment and a Transport Strategy have also been undertaken to inform the Naas LAP 2021-2027.

2.1.3 Policies of the Local Area Plan

The Naas LAP 2021-2027 has been prepared under the provisions of Section 18, 19 & 20 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended.

In accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the Draft Naas Local Area Plan 2021-2027 includes objectives relating to land use zoning and protection of the environment. It also has regard to Ministerial Guidelines under the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended, and accords with national planning legislation and relevant European legislation.

Thus, in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the LAP is consistent with the objectives, Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy of the Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023 and any subsequent reviews or variations.

In order to develop in a sustainable manner, Naas, as a Key Town, must accommodate the appropriate levels of residential, economic, recreational and community development in tandem with necessary improvements in physical infrastructure and public transport.

In accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended) the LAP must also be consistent with the RSES for the Eastern and Midlands Region.

Naas is identified as being a 'Key Town' in the RSES which are defined as "*large economically active service and/or county towns that provide employment for their surrounding areas and with high-quality transport links and the capacity to act as growth drivers to complement the Regional Growth Centres*". The settlement strategy for key towns, as set out in the RSES, is to "*provide for the sustainable, compact, sequential growth and urban regeneration in the town core of identified Key Towns by consolidating the built footprint through a focus on regeneration and development of identified Key Town centre infill / brownfield sites*".

Regional Policy Objectives for Naas outlined in the RSES are as follows:

> *"RPO 4.48: Promote the improvement of the transport network within and serving Naas town, including delivery of a robust and efficient walking, cycling and bus network with strong links to Sallins Railway Station, key destinations within the town and to the North West Quadrant and town centre area.*
>
> *RPO 4.49: Support the development of the Grand Canal for amenity, recreation and sustainable transport purposes including the Naas to Sallins and Naas to Corbally harbour greenways and linking these to the national Grand Canal Greenway.*
>
> *RPO 4.50: Regeneration and consolidation of the historic centre to improve the retail and commercial functions of the town core, with enhanced permeability and sustainable mobility within the town centre and improve links between the core and surrounding residential and employment areas through the further development of walking and cycling routes and improved public transport.*
>
> *RPO 4.51: Strengthen the local employment base including through the development of MERITS, Millennium Park in the North West Quadrant and the regeneration of underutilised lands including industrial lands in the north east of the town.*
>
> *RPO 4.52: Support the delivery of new and enhanced public transport infrastructure in Naas and Sallins, including Park and Ride and*

interchange facilities as identified by the NTA and Kildare County Council.

RPO 4.53: Support an enhanced role and function of Naas as the County town of Kildare, particularly as a hub for high quality employment, residential and amenities."

Finally, the Naas LAP 2021-2027 has been prepared in full compliance with the National Planning Framework.

2.1.4 Alternatives

The SEA Directive requires that reasonable alternatives be assessed in order to demonstrate how the preferred strategy performs against other forms of action. Alternatives must be developed, described and assessed within the SEA process, with the results presented in the Environmental Report.

Alternatives are assessed as part of the plan development process and discussed in this Environmental Report.

2.2 Extent of Plan Area

The extent of the plan is shown in Figure 2.1 included in Appendix A.

3 Relationship with Other Relevant Plans and Programmes

3.1 Plan Hierarchy

The hierarchy of the planning process within Ireland is summarised in the flow chart depicted in **Figure 2.2**. This flow chart (adapted from the DoECLG Development Plan Guidelines for Planning Authorities) indicates where the Naas LAP falls within that hierarchy.

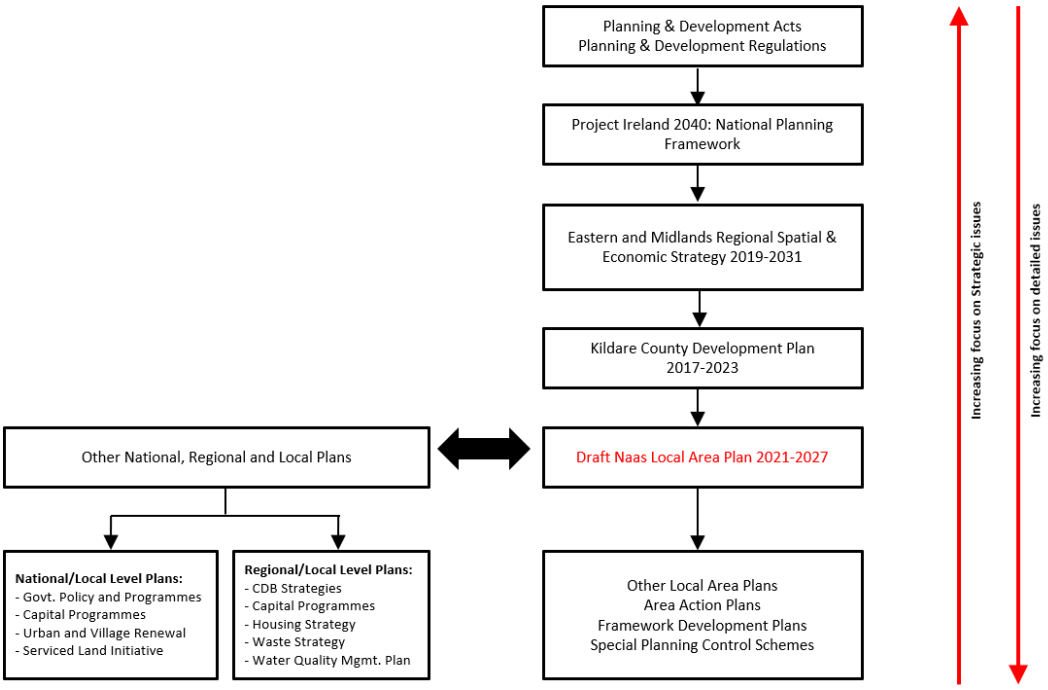


Figure 2.2: Hierarchy of the planning process in Ireland

3.2 Relevant Plans and Programmes

As part of the SEA process the context of the LAP must be established with regard to other plans and programmes that have been adopted at international, national, regional and local level. Specifically, the interaction of the LAP with the environmental protection objectives and standards included within these other plans and programmes must be considered.

The legislation, plans and programmes of relevance to the LAP, that have been considered in this SEA, are outlined in **Table 3.1**.

Table 3.1: Relevant Legislation, Plans and Programmes based on environmental aspect

Aspect	Legislation, Plans and Programmes
Climate Action and Energy	Global • UN Framework Convention on Climate Change • Paris Agreement • Kyoto Protocol European Directives and Policies • EU Green Deal • 2020 Climate and Energy Package • 2030 Climate and Energy Framework • Emissions Trading Directive • Effort Sharing Regulation • Floods Directive • EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change • LULUCF Regulation (EU 2018/841) • EU Climate Law National Policies/Plans • Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2020 • Climate Action Plan (2019) • National Adaptation Framework (2018) • National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (2013) • Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act (2015) • Sectoral adaptation and mitigation plans (various) • National Energy and Climate Plan (2021-2030) Local/regional plans • Local authority Adaptation Plans (2019) and • Low Carbon Roadmaps • Flood Risk Management Plans
Air quality	Global

Aspect	Legislation, Plans and Programmes
	• UN Air Convention (also known as the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution) European Directives and Policies • EU Green Deal • Clean Air Package • CAFE Directive • National Emission Ceilings Directive • Emissions directives e.g. Industrial Emissions Directive, Vehicle (Euro) Emission standards, Ecodesign Directive for stoves National Policies/Plans • National Air Pollution Control Programme (2019) Draft/in preparation: • National Clean Air Strategy Local/regional plans • Low Smoke Zones
Biodiversity	Global • Convention on Biological Diversity and associated Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 • Bonn Convention • Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance • Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora European Directives and Policies • EU Green Deal • Habitats Directive • Birds Directive • EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 • Marine Strategy Framework Directive National Policies/Plans • National Biodiversity Action Plan (2017-2021) • All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (2015-2020) • National Peatlands Strategy 2015 • National Raised-Bog SAC Management Plan 2017 Local/regional plans • Local authority Biodiversity Plans and Green Infrastructure Strategies
Water	Global • OSPAR Convention • MARPOL Convention European Directives and Policies • Water Framework Directive • Marine Strategy Framework Directive • Bathing Water Directive • Groundwater Directive

Aspect	Legislation, Plans and Programmes
	• Nitrates Directive • Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive National Policies/Plans • River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) (2018-2021) • Nitrates Action Programme • Marine Strategy Framework Directive Programme of Measure Local/regional plans • Priority areas for action (under the RBMP)
Waste and circular economy	Global • Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal European Directives and Policies • EU Green Deal • Circular Economy Action Plan • Waste Framework Directive • Individual producer responsibility directives on Packaging, WEEE, End-of-life Vehicles, Batteries and Accumulators, etc. • Landfill Directive • Waste Shipment Regulation • Single-use Plastics Directive • National Policies/Plans • National Waste Policy 2020-2025, A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy • Climate Action Plan (2019) • National Waste Prevention Programme (last reviewed 2018) • National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (2014- 2020) Local/regional plans • Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021 • Litter management plans
Cross-cutting and Integrated Environmental Assessment	Global • UN Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 • Landscape Convention European Directives and Policies • EU Green Deal • Industrial Emissions Directive • Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive • Environmental Impact Assessment Directive • Environmental Liabilities Directive • Common Agricultural Policy National Policies/Plans • National Implementation Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals (2018-2020) • Our Sustainable Future (2012) • Project Ireland 2040

Aspect	Legislation, Plans and Programmes
	• National Landscape Strategy • EPA Enforcement and Compliance Policy Local/regional plans • Local authority Landscape Character Assessment

4 SEA Methodology

4.1 Introduction

This section highlights how the SEA has been undertaken for the LAP. The SEA methodology is based on legislative requirements and relevant Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidance and will ensure compliance with the SEA Directive and associated legislation. The EPA's SEA Pack (Version 18/02/2020) was also used as a source of information during the scoping process.

The LAP (KCC), the SEA Environmental Report and the Appropriate Assessment (Arup) were prepared in an iterative manner whereby multiple revisions of each document were prepared, each informing subsequent iterations of the others. To facilitate this iterative approach, numerous discussions were held between KCC and Arup.

The key stages outlined in **Figure 4.1** were identified and are discussed in the following sections.

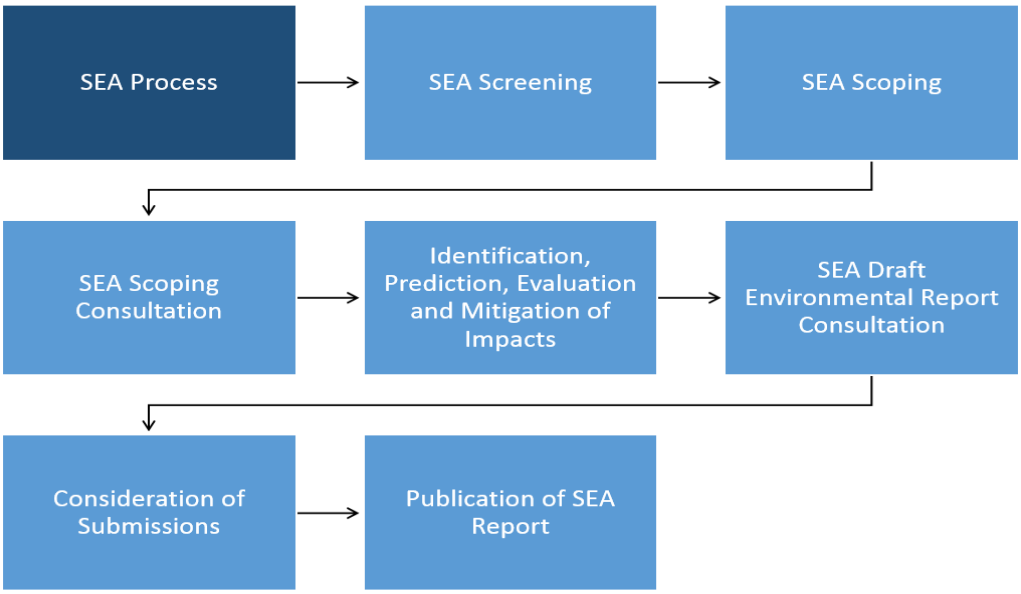


Figure 4.1: Key Stages of the SEA Process

4.2 Screening

Screening is the process for deciding whether a particular plan would warrant SEA. The screening process allowed KCC to identify at the earliest possible opportunity whether the development of the LAP required an SEA and facilitated the assessment findings to be factored into the plan development process.

The LAP was screened for SEA (refer to the SEA Screening Report, Arup (2020)) in accordance with the SEA Directive.

Following this assessment, it was concluded that the LAP falls within the requirements of the SEA Directive in that the population of the LAP area exceeds the threshold of 5,000 persons.

In accordance with the EPA methodology, it was determined that SEA is required, in accordance with the SEA Directive and that the LAP should be taken forward to Stage 2 - SEA Scoping, and subsequent environmental assessment.

4.3 Scoping

The main objective of the Scoping Stage is to identify the key environmental issues that may arise as a result of the LAP, so they may be addressed appropriately in the Environmental Report. There are a number of tasks at this stage:

- Determine the key elements of the LAP to be assessed;
- Determine the environmental issues to be assessed;
- Collect and report on relevant international, national and local plans, objectives and environmental standards that may influence or impact on the LAP;
- Develop draft environmental objectives, indicators and targets to allow the evaluation of impacts; and
- Identify reasonable alternative means of achieving the strategic goals of the LAP.

A Scoping Report was prepared in October 2020 in relation to the LAP, which provided information to allow consultation with defined statutory bodies on the scope and level of detail to be considered in the environmental assessment. The LAP was issued to the statutory consultees, and the consultees were given a period of four weeks to respond with any observations or submissions on the content of the SEA Scoping Report. Responses received are provided in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1: Scoping responses received for the SEA of the Draft LAP

Consultee/ Stakeholder	SEA Scoping Response	SEA Action
Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment on behalf of Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI)	• IFI should be contacted in relation to all works that may have an impact on surface waters, at formal planning stage. • Recommended to recognise in planning systems (local area planning, town planning, individual application assessment etc.) surface waters and their riparian areas as key natural habitats inherently supporting significant floral and faunal biodiversity • Recommended that County Development Plan, Town Plan and Local Area Plan objectives include retention of open and natural channels • Development potentially impacting aquatic habitats should be strictly controlled to ensure ecological protection and enhancement. • The council should seek to establish riparian corridors free from development along all significant watercourses. • IFI advocates at least a 10m buffer zone between river channel and the line of maximum extent of development. • The implementation of a SUDS design for surface water disposal in any areas of increased urbanisation is a positive indicator of the Council's intention for the sustainable development of the area and should, in conjunction with good management of the site, aid in flooding and pollution management. Policies and recommendations made under the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (GDSDS) should be applied in development of a drainage strategy for the County. • IFI's policy is to maintain watercourses in their natural open state in order to prevent habitat loss, maintain or enhance biological diversity value and aid in pollution detection. However, when culverts have been installed it must be highlighted that ongoing maintenance is essential to keep these structures debris-free which in turn allows for the free movement of salmonid species as is required under the Fisheries Acts. • While Osberstown WWTP has recently been upgraded to final treatment capacity of 130,000 PE, it is important to note that sufficient treatment capacity must be available both within the receiving sewerage system locally and downstream at Osberstown WWTP over the full duration of the plan in order that the ecological integrity of the ultimate receiving water (River Liffey) is protected. • IFI would highlight the 'at risk' status of most surface waters in the Naas area under the WFD characterisation process and would stress the availability of IFI's full cooperation in order to protect and enhance water and habitat quality in all surface waters within the broad WFD context. • Consideration of protected, vulnerable and sensitive (such as Brown trout) aquatic species should be a priority when formulating the new LAP it is vital to note that salmonid waters constraints apply to any development in the catchment areas surrounding Naas(The River Liffey and Local watercourses). • The issue of climate change should be comprehensively considered and integrated into the final Naas Local Area Plan. • IFI's key concern in relation to abstractions is that the sourcing of water supplies from groundwater or surface water resources must not result in a negative impact on the ecology. The Development	• The consideration of aquatic ecology has formed a key part of the impact assessment process. • The implementation of SUDS is highlighted in the SEA ER by means of an objective. • The protection of all habitats/species within, and outside designated areas of the Plan is a key consideration taken into account in the preparation of the SEA ER. • The issue of climate change is a key concern considered in the preparation of the SEA ER.

	Plan must address the need to meet WFD objectives for all surface waters in the region. All resulting policies should be informed by fisheries and other relevant legislation. • The protection of habitats outside designated areas and a Council commitment to reject proposals that would interfere with natural floodplains would greatly benefit both aquatic and riparian features in the surrounding areas. IFI is strongly opposed to any development on natural floodplain lands.	
EPA	• In considering additional zoning/development and growth of settlements within the Plan area, it is critical that development be closely linked to the ability to provide a safe and secure supply of drinking water and related critical service infrastructure. It is recommended to include a commitment to collaborate with Irish Water and other relevant stakeholders in the Plan, to provide an adequate and appropriate drinking water supply. • An Objective/Policy promoting the need for the conservation of water resources and also the need for detection/mitigation of infrastructural leakages should be included with consideration to developing a Water Conservation Strategy. • The need to provide and maintain adequate and appropriate wastewater treatment infrastructure to service zoned lands and developments over the lifetime of the Plan. • Issues of poorly performing treatment plants, and measures to ensure that combined storm water overflows, sewers and trade effluent in the area covered by the Plan is also managed properly should be included as appropriate. • Clear commitments should be provided in the Plan to protect surface water, groundwater and coastal/estuarine resources and their associated habitats and species, including fisheries within and adjacent to the Plan area. • Clear objectives supporting the quality of water in individual water bodies, within the Plan area as set out in the existing relevant Water Framework Directive and River Basin Management Plan, is protected/improved and maintained. • A clear Policy / Objective should be included for the protection of groundwater resources and associated habitats and species integrating any existing Groundwater Protection Schemes and Groundwater Source Protection Zones, as relevant and appropriate within the Plan area, and a commitment to comply with the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010). • An obligation to protect bathing waters within (and adjacent to) the Plan area should be reflected. • Any sites of significant biodiversity value within or adjacent to the Plan area listed on the Water Framework Directive Register of Protected Areas, (such as Fresh Water Pearl Mussel Catchments, designated Salmonid waters, fisheries / shellfisheries), should be protected in preparing the Plan. • The Plan and SEA should be in full compliance with The Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (OPW/DEHLG, 2009) and ensure that development within the Plan area is appropriate to the risk of flooding identified and that vulnerable land uses are avoided in flood zone A/B areas where possible • The Plan should promote appropriate flood risk assessments to be undertaken, where development / zoning is being proposed in the Plan area where there is significant risk of flooding and consider, where appropriate, adaptation measures to account for the likely	• Issues of water resources, water/wastewater treatment, and surface and groundwaters are taken into consideration in the SEA. This includes the improvement of existing water resources and infrastructure with consideration given to the protection of biodiversity in the plan area. • The River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021 and Water Framework directive (WFD) have been taken into account in the preparation of the SEA and integrated into this Environmental Report. • The SEA ER has been prepared with reference to the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010). • The SEA ER has been prepared in compliance with The Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (OPW/DEHLG, 2009) • The SEA ER has been prepared with consideration given to the National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development, the National Climate Action Plan 2019 and the National Adaptation Framework. • Climate change mitigation and monitoring measures are considered in the SEA. • Air and noise pollution are addressed in the SEA. • The SEA has been prepared with particular consideration of pollutants such as Particulate Matter, Nitrogen Dioxide, and Radon • Waste infrastructure and capacity is addressed in the SEA with regard to the relevant aspects of the Eastern-Midlands Regional Waste Management Plan, and relevant EPA reports

	increased risk of flooding due to climate change within the Plan area, including implementation of adequate and appropriate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems. Additionally, the Plan should provide for protection, management, and as appropriate, enhancement of existing wetland habitats where flood protection/management measures are necessary. Integrated Coastal Zone Management should also be considered as relevant and appropriate. • Climate change adaptation and mitigation measures should be included in the Plan as appropriate and the Plan should be consistent with the National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development1, the National Climate Action Plan 2019, the National Mitigation Plan and the National Adaptation Framework, as well as relevant sectoral, regional and local adaption plans. • Reflect the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to protect, maintain and enhance carbon stocks. Relevant actions in The National Mitigation Plan (NMP) should be integrated into the Plan as appropriate • The Plan should include appropriate climate change adaptation measures that can be implemented either directly or through relevant land use plans and/or specific plans e.g. Flood Risk Management Plans, Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans etc. • The Plan and SEA should consider monitoring for both climate mitigation and climate adaptation monitoring aspects, where relevant and appropriate. • Air quality legislation in Ireland highlights the need "to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole". In addition, it requires that Local Authorities where appropriate "shall promote the preservation of best ambient air quality compatible with sustainable development.". These requirements should be incorporated by means of a specific plan objective / policy. The pollutants of most concern are those whose main source is traffic such as Particulate Matter and Nitrogen Dioxide should to be taken into account. • The objectives of EU and Irish noise legislation is "to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole", and this includes noise nuisance, this requirement should be complied with. Consideration should also be given to protect, where relevant, any designated quiet areas in open country. • The Plan should promote the integration of land use zoning and development to existing and planned availability of waste infrastructure and capacity. The Plan should also refer to and incorporate the relevant aspects of the relevant Regional Waste Management Plan, and relevant EPA reports. • Where significant concentrations of radon occur within the Plan area, these should be taken into account in the Plan or associated development control measures. • The protection of ecological resources is a key consideration which needs to be addressed. While also promoting the need to protect wider aspects of biodiversity including ecological corridors / linkages / green infrastructure, areas of important local biodiversity, the provision of buffer zones between developments and areas of significant biodiversity and ensuring appropriate control and management measures for invasive species. • When considering energy conservation / renewable energy aspects of the Plan, where relevant, the Interim Guidelines for Planning	• Considerations for the protection of ecological resources and all aspects of biodiversity is a key aspect considered in the SEA • The Interim Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Statutory Plans, Renewable Energy and Climate Change (DHPCLG, 2017) have been taken into account where relevant in the SEA. • Energy conservation and renewable energy are key considerations taken into account in preparation of the SEA. • Objectives to protect designated Geological and Geomorphological NHAs/pNHA are incorporated in the SEA. • Adequate infrastructure and sustainable transport for existing and future use are assessed in the SEA. • The requirement of an Environmental Impact Assessment for certain projects arising over the lifetime of this plan is considered in the SEA.

	Authorities on Statutory Plans, Renewable Energy and Climate Change (DHPCLG, 2017) should be taken into account. • The relevant renewable energy / energy conservation actions in the National Mitigation Plan should be integrated. Additionally, the Plan should, where relevant, include a commitment to prepare and implement an 'Energy Conservation Strategy' and associated awareness campaign within the lifetime of the Plan where feasible. • Promote the need for energy conservation measures to be incorporated into buildings. • Considerations for the protection of designated scenic landscapes, scenic views, scenic routes and landscape features of national, regional, county and local value. The Plan should also take into account the landscape character adjoining the Plan area. • The Plan should protect any designated Geological and Geomorphological NHAs/pNHAs, which may be present/designated within or adjacent to the Plan area in consultation with the Geological Survey of Ireland. • The Plan should ensure provision of adequate and appropriate infrastructure and to serve both the existing community and likely future predicted increases in population within the Plan area • The Plan should promote and as appropriate, provide for the provision of sustainable modes of transport • Where zoning/rezoning of lands and the introduction of new development is being proposed within the Plan area, consideration should be given to the need for an integrated planning approach to service any development proposed and authorised during the lifetime of the Plan in collaboration with key stakeholders, while supporting and promoting the provision of adequate and appropriate critical service infrastructure, surface and storm water drainage, public transport, waste management, community services and amenities etc. on a planned and phased basis. • It should be highlighted that, under the EIA and Planning & Development Regulations, certain projects arising during the implementation of the Plan may require an EIA.	

4.4 Baseline Data

Gathering relevant information relating to the state of the environment for a plan area is an integral part of the SEA process. The SEA Directive requires that certain information relating to the relevant environmental baseline is presented in order to help test the performance of the plan's implementation, as well as helping establish how the environment would change if the plan were not to implemented.

Baseline information has been collected from readily available sources, including the 2020 EPA State of the Environment Report. A Geographical Information System (GIS) was used to graphically present relevant information. The baseline information is reported in Section 5 of this report.

4.5 Consideration of Alternatives

The SEA Directive requires that reasonable alternatives be assessed in order to demonstrate how the preferred strategy performs against other forms of action. Alternatives must be developed, described and assessed within the SEA process, with the results presented in the Environmental Report.

Section 7 of this report identifies, describes and evaluates different scenarios for the development of the gas transmission network, taking into account national energy planning, economic development policy, and the SEOs identified in Section 6.

4.6 SEA Sensitivity Mapping

Environmental Sensitivity Mapping was prepared in order to provide relevant information on environmental constraints so that environmental issues could be taken into consideration from the earliest possible stages of the SEA.

The Environmental Sensitivity Mapping has been used to inform the environmental baseline description provided in Section 5 of this Report and certain mitigation measures identified in Section 9.

4.7 Environmental Assessment of the LAP

The environmental assessment process ran in parallel to the development and preparation of the LAP.

The environmental assessment process was undertaken in accordance with best practice SEA principles and guidance. This included desk reviews of all of the available GIS data, specialist investigation into the likely effects associated with the LAP and recommendations for suitable mitigation measures along with monitoring.

4.8 SEA Statement

On adoption of the LAP, the SEA Statement will be made public and will include information on how environmental considerations were integrated into the LAP. It will highlight the following:

- main changes to the LAP which resulted from the SEA process,
- how the Environmental Report and consultations were taken into account,
- summary of the key issues raised in consultations and in the Environmental Report indicating what action was taken in response,
- the reasons for choosing the LAP in the light of the other alternatives, identifying the other alternatives considered, commenting on their potential effects and explaining why the LAP was selected.

4.9 Consultations

Further to the SEA Scoping consultation outlined in Section 4.3, this SEA Environmental Report will be issued to the relevant statutory stakeholders for comment. The responses received will be addressed in the finalisation of the Environmental Report. An outline of the responses received will be included in the SEA Statement.

4.10 Technical Difficulties Encountered

No major technical difficulties were encountered during the preparation of this Environmental Report.

5 Current State of the Environment

5.1 Introduction

Being consistent with the high level, strategic provisions of the LAP, this section provides a high- level, strategic description of environmental factors which have the greatest potential to be affected by implementation of the LAP. GIS is used extensively to provide regional information.

The baseline environment is assessed under the following headings:

- Population & Human Health;
- Biodiversity including Flora & Fauna;
- Land & Soils;
- Water;
- Air, Noise & Climate;
- Archaeological, Architectural & Cultural Heritage;
- Landscape & Visual; and
- Material Assets.

5.2 Population and Human Health

5.2.1 Population Baseline

According to Census 2016 data, the population of Naas in 2016 was 21,597 (legal town boundary). This represents a population increase of 4%, or 884 since the 2011.

The Core Strategy of the Kildare CDP (Variation) allocates growth within Naas of 14.9% of the overall county allocation. Table 3.3 of the CDP identifies dwelling targets for the year 2023. The growth estimates for Naas is reproduced in **Table 5.1**. Note the population figures presented in Table 3.1 relate to the settlement of Naas, as opposed to the legal town boundary quoted above.

Table 5.1: Excerpt from Table 3.3 of the Variation to the Kildare County Development Plan 2017 – 2023[1]

Settlement Type	Towns/ Villages	2016 Pop Census	2016 Dwellings	Allocated Growth (%) 2020 - 2023	NPF 2026 Population Growth in Persona	NPF 2026 Population Growth in Housing Units	Population Growth 2020 to 2023	Dwellings Target 2020 to 2023
Key town	Naas	21,393	7,726	14.9	5,866	2,095	2,514	898

5.2.2 Human Health Baseline

The concept of health has been defined by the World Health Organisation as *"... a state of complete physical, psychological and social well-being, and not simply the absence of disease or infirmity*." Health is influenced by many factors in the social and built environment including housing, employment status, education, transport and access to fresh food and resources, as well as the impacts of air quality, water quality, flooding and access to green space.

Good planning can play an important role in reducing health inequalities. The World Health Organisation's Commission on the Social Determinants of Health (CSDH) states governments should '*ensure urban planning promotes healthy and safe behaviours equitably, through investment in active transport, retail planning to manage access to unhealthy foods, and through good environmental design and regulatory controls, including control of the number of alcohol outlet*s'.

Given the strong links between income and health, it is recognised that the sustainability of current and future economic activity is an important element in protecting and promoting population health. However, emphasising economic growth without due regard for social and environmental consequences of such growth can have negative impacts on health both for the population as a whole and for groups within the population.

Even within areas of economic development, job creation does not necessarily 'trickle down' to job opportunities for the long-term unemployed, and is neither a sufficient, nor necessary, condition for reducing long-term unemployment. Thus economic development needs to be targeted, geographically and within population groups to ensure that it reduces and does not exacerbate social inequalities.

Cognisance must also be paid to environmental issues and sustainability endeavours to protect human health as the local economy develops. While employment is generally good for health, there can be negative impacts, usually related to the quality of the working environment and type of work undertaken. The groups which face the highest risk of experiencing the adverse effects of unemployment appear to be middle-aged men, youths who have recently left school, the economically marginal such as women attempting re-entry to the labour force and children in families in which the primary earner is unemployed.

The level of green space and access to the natural environment is extremely important for the populace health. The health and wellbeing of individuals is greatly affected by the communities in which they live and the nature of their physical environment. A key element of sustainable communities is access to space as environments which lack public gathering places can encourage sedentary living habits. Open space provision can improve levels of exercise in a community which can impact on health and can improve social interaction and community activities which can contribute to reducing stress-related problems.

The Kildare CDP sets out the Council's policies and objectives relating to the provision of health services in the county. It is the policy of the Council, for example, '*to respond to current and future health needs to support healthy communities across the county and to facilitate and enable a multiagency approach to service delivery in community settings'*.

According to the Kildare Socio-Economic Baseline Report (2015) only 1.2% of the population of Naas identified themselves as having Bad or Very Bad health which is lower than the State average. According to the Kildare Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) (2016-2021) Socio-Economic Baseline Report, the highest rate of GP surgeries per 1,000 of the population in Co. Kildare is in Naas at a rate of 1.74.

The greatest health risk from radiation in Ireland is caused by radon, which accounts for more than half of the total radiation dose received by the Irish population. As a known carcinogen, in the same category as tobacco smoke and asbestos it is a cause of lung cancer. Up to 250 cases of lung cancer in Ireland every year can be linked to radon. These lung cancer cases are principally associated with exposure to radon in the home, but exposure in the workplace is also a contributor. In the workplace, the employer must protect the health of workers from this identifiable risk.

Certain areas of the country are more likely to have a high number of homes with excessive levels of radon and these areas are known as High Radon Areas. They can be found on the radon map of Ireland. The map was produced from a national survey of approximately 11,000 homes. In addition to the map, statistics for the number of homes above the national Reference Level are available for each county in Ireland.

The Government's Building Regulations require that all new homes in High Radon Area are installed with a Radon Barrier. According to the EPA Radon Map, approximately 20% of land cover in Naas (to the South East) is classified as a 'High Radon Area.'

The assessment of impacts on human health references other sections of the SEA as relevant along with considering aspects such as the Industrial Emissions Directive, the Control of Major-Accident Hazards Involving Dangerous Substance ("SEVESO") Directive and Flood Risk Assessments. This ensures that all relevant vectors through which human health impacts could be caused as a result of the Plan are assessed.

The Control of Major-Accident Hazards Involving Dangerous Substance ("SEVESO") III Directive: 2012/18/EU came into effect in Ireland on 1st June 2015, replacing the Seveso II Directive 96/82/EC.

Article 13 of the new Directive requires member states to ensure that the objectives of preventing major accidents and limiting the consequences of such accidents are taken into account in land use policies and/or other relevant policies. These objectives must be pursued through controls on the following:

- The siting of new establishments; and

- Modifications to existing establishments.
- New developments including transport routes, locations of public use and residential areas in the vicinity of establishments, where the siting or developments may be the source of or increase the risk or consequences of a major accident.

There are no designated Seveso sites located within the Plan area.

5.2.3 Key Issues

The potential key issues relating to population in the plan area relate to the high growth forecast in Naas. This may result in additional demands on future housing demand and all of the services required to sustainably meet demand (e.g. health and sanitation services including waste collection, wastewater treatment and potable water supply, electricity, gas, telecommunications, transportation, education and amenity access).

The following are the potential key issues relating to human health due to the plan development:

- Impacts from noise and air pollution as a result of development and transport;
- Effects on water quality due to new emissions;
- Promotion of walking and cycling via integrated land use and transport policy;
- Housing needs for all sectors of the community;
- Community infrastructure needs including community facilities;
- Educational needs for both primary and secondary level education;
- Provision of open spaces within residential areas and areas throughout the town;
- Health/medical facility requirements for the town for the future;
- Preservation of public rights of way to allow public access to amenity;
- Adequacy of public/civil space areas;
- Provision for retail and commercial services;
- Potential exposure to high levels of radon;
- Vitality and viability of the town centre; and
- Ease of access to the town centre.

5.3 Biodiversity including Flora & Fauna

5.3.1 Baseline

Natural heritage in County Kildare includes a wide range of natural features that make an essential contribution to the environmental quality, ecological biodiversity, landscape character, visual amenity and recreational activities across the County.

The Kildare County Biodiversity Plan (2009-2014) provides a framework for conserving biodiversity and natural heritage at a local level. It complements the Kildare Heritage Plan by including detailed actions to deliver positive outcomes focused on species and habitats.

The dominant environments across Kildare County are improved grassland (for agriculture), urban, built land and forest/woodland (mixed and broad leaved) and bog and wetlands. For this reason, it is important to ensure that local biodiversity areas support connectivity within the network, are maintained, and given the opportunity to increase their distribution.

Naas falls into the catchment of the Liffey, with many smaller watercourses flowing through the town. The occurrence of natural vegetation adjacent to these watercourses also makes important contributions in terms of landscape character and ecology/biodiversity.

The biodiversity of County Kildare is protected by National and EU legislation (The Wildlife Act (1976 & 2000) and the EU Habitats and Birds Directives) and is also protected by KCC through policies in the Kildare County Development Plan.

5.3.1.1 Habitats

The Kildare Biodiversity Action Plan provides an overview of the habitats of County Kildare. There are habitats and features which are of particular importance for biodiversity throughout Naas. These include woodlands, hedgerows, field boundaries, rivers, streams and associated riparian zones, canals, freshwater wetlands, urban parks and gardens. A summary of those relevant to Naas is provided below:

Canals, Rivers and Streams

The three main rivers that flow through Kildare are the Barrow, the Liffey and the Boyne, along with other small rivers and tributaries. These rivers are good for trout and coarse fishing. Salmon were once common but their numbers have decreased, as in other parts of the country, mainly due to a deterioration in water quality and damage to their spawning beds.

The Barrow is designated as a site of international nature conservation importance based of the diverse range of habitats that occur along and in the river, including wet woodland and petrifying springs, and because of the presence of several species such as otters, crayfish and Atlantic salmon. Kingfishers are reported to be common along the Barrow utilising its rich food supply. The Royal and the Grand Canals flow through the county. Both are designated as proposed Natural Heritage Areas and have a rich natural heritage and biodiversity.

The canals have a mosaic of wildlife habitats associated with them which contributes to their high biodiversity value. These include stretches of open water, fringing wetlands, towpath grasslands and hedgerows or patches of scrub. These habitats in turn support a rich wildlife. The towpath grasslands are of particular interest because they often occur on lime-rich substrate imported to create pathways along the canals and as a result can be quite species-rich. Such natural and unimproved grasslands are an increasingly rare habitat in Ireland.

The canal, rivers and streams occurring within Naas provide a network which are home to a variety of habitats and species. The banks (riparian zones) of rivers and streams are particularly important as they contain a range of habitats and species, which are different from the surrounding landscape. In many cases the maintenance of rivers and streams in an open, semi-natural condition, will be encouraged to protect and maintain biodiversity, landscape and for flood protection control value wherever possible. This will be achieved by regulating development in river and stream corridors by implementing sustainable drainage systems for commercial and residential developments.

Wetlands

Wetlands such as marshes and riparian zones (habitats along rivers and lakes with vegetation that can tolerate the wet conditions e.g., wet woodland or reed swamp), are also important for wildlife and for helping to maintain water quality.

Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows

Trees and hedgerows constitute an important natural and historic resource, given their contribution to landscape quality, their ecological importance as wildlife habitats and historical significance as townland and field boundaries. In urban settings, trees and groups of trees can contribute significantly to the local landscape/townscape and in the successful integration of new buildings into the landscape. Naas contains many large trees and groups of trees of considerable heritage value, which enhance the urban fabric of the town. The most notable trees are those found at Oldtown Demesne. These are considered visually important to the landscape, as well as providing significant recreational capacity and important wildlife habitats. The planting or retention of mature trees can contribute to amenity and more attractive developments as well as important wildlife habitats.

Grassland

Less intensively-managed or improved grasslands and grasslands on lime-rich soils often have greater diversity of grasses and wildflowers than intensively managed grassland and support a large number of invertebrates.

These semi-natural grasslands are becoming increasingly rare and survive only in areas that are unsuitable for cultivation or are inaccessible to large machinery. Semi-natural grasslands can be found in some commonage areas, on cutaway bogland, along road margins, canal banks and abandoned quarries.

Urban wildlife habitats

Urban areas are not necessarily wildlife deserts and a wide range of plants and animals can be found in public green spaces, town parks, old stone walls, hedgerows, graveyards, rivers, canals, gardens and waste ground. Certain species such as foxes have become increasingly visible in urban areas as they forage for food in dustbins and hunt in town parks. Many other animals are present but are a bit more shy in going about their daily activities.

5.3.1.2 Species

Kildare is home to several rare, protected and/or threatened plants and animals. Protected plants are those that are legally protected under the Flora Protection Order within the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 (e.g., Opposite leaved Pondweed, Basil Thyme or Hairy St. John's-wort). Various animals are also afforded protection within the Wildlife Acts (e.g., all native mammals). Species listed on Annex II of the European Union Habitats Directive (e.g., Otters, White-clawed Crayfish, Marsh Fritillary Butterfly) or Annex I of the EU Birds Directive (e.g., Golden Plover, Kingfisher) are also protected. More information on national and European Union wildlife legislation is provided in the section below titled 'Policies and legislation'.

Otter

Otters have strong populations in Kildare, particularly along the Barrow and the Liffey. Otters are a protected species under European Union legislation mainly because numbers have declined sharply in other parts of Europe. The Irish population is therefore particularly important. Otters depend on healthy fish populations and the presence of suitable vegetation cover along the riverbank in which they make their burrows or 'holts'. Recording and studying the distribution and abundance of rare plants and animals is very important for monitoring the state of the environment and the impact, if any, of climate change.

White-clawed crayfish

The White-clawed Crayfish is regarded as a keystone species. In Ireland, it is found in large rivers (such as the River Barrow), small headwater tributaries and in lakes. A variety of aquatic habitats are important for crayfish. Juvenile crayfish live among submerged tree roots, gravel or macrophytes, while larger crayfish must have stones to hide under, or an earthen bank in which to burrow.

White-clawed Crayfish are widespread across much of Ireland and populations have not declined to the extent that they have in other parts of Europe.

Marsh Fritillary butterfly

This beautiful butterfly is one of the most endangered species in Europe. It has been recorded at a number of sites in Kildare, mainly in areas of natural grassland that have been established on cutover peatlands.

Devil's-bit Scabious is the main food plant for the larval stage of the Marsh Fritillary. Efforts are being made by the Irish Peatland Conservation Council, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Butterfly Conservation Ireland to study the Marsh Fritillary in Kildare in order to conserve this species for future generations.

5.3.1.3 Trees

Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) may be made under Section 45 of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 1963 and subsequent acts. Part XIII of the Planning and Development Act 2000 sets out the provisions for TPOs. A TPO can be made if it appears to the planning authority to be desirable and appropriate in the interest of amenity or the environment. A TPO can apply to a tree, trees, group of trees or woodland. The principle effect of a TPO is to prohibit the cutting down, topping, lopping or wilful destruction of trees without the planning authority's consent. The order can also require the owner and occupier of the land subject to the order to enter into an agreement with the planning authority to ensure the proper management of the tree, trees or woodland.

No tree preservation orders have been identified in the plan area.

5.3.1.4 Designated Sites

There are a range of statutory provisions in force in Ireland to protect, conserve and manage our natural heritage, and to control and regulate human activities that may impact upon it negatively. The Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs is responsible, through the National Parks and Wildlife Service, for the designation of conservation sites in Ireland. Currently there are three main types of designation of protected areas- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA) and National Heritage Areas (NHA).

Designated conservation sites in the vicinity of Naas are highlighted on **Figure 5.1.**

SACs have been selected for protection under the European Council Directive on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (92/43/EEC) by the DAHG due to their conservation value for habitats and species of importance in the European Union.

SPAs have been selected for protection under the 1979 European Council Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC) by the DEHLG due to their conservation value for birds of importance in the European Union.

There are no SACs or SPAs within the Plan boundary. However, there are six SACs and two SPAs within 15km of the Plan area which are of relevance to the preparation of the draft Plan. These include:

Table 5.2: SACs and SPAs within 15km of the Naas Plan boundary

Site Name	Site Code
Ballynafagh Lake SAC	001387
Ballynafagh Bog SAC	000391
Mouds Bog SAC	002331
Red Bog, Kildare SAC	000397
Wicklow Mountains SAC	002122
Pollardstown Fen SAC	000396
Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA	004063
Wicklow Mountains SPA	004040

NHAs are designated due to their national conservation value for ecological and/or geological/geomorphological heritage. They cover nationally important semi-natural and natural habitats, landforms or geomorphological features, wildlife plant and animal species or a diversity of these natural attributes. NHAs are designated under the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000. Proposed NHAs were published on a non-statutory basis in 1995, but have not since been statutorily proposed or designated. There is one proposed Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) within the Naas LAP boundary, Grand Canal pNHA (Site Code 00104). There are 17 proposed Natural Heritage Area's (pNHAs) within 15km of the Plan boundary, as outlined in **Table 5.3** and illustrated on **Figure 5.1**.

Table 5.3: NHAs and pNHAs within 15km of the Naas Local Area Plan Boundary

Site Name	Site Code
Hollywood Glen	002053
Ballynafagh Lake pNHA	001387
Ballynafagh Bog pNHA	000391
Donadea Wood pNHA	001391
Grand Canal pNHA	002104
Mouds Bog pNHA	000395
Curragh (Kildare) pNHA	000392
Newtown Marshes pNHA	001759
Poulaphouca Reservoir pNHA	000731
Pollardstown Fen pNHA	000396
Red Bog, Kildare pNHA	000397
Slade Of Saggart And Crooksling Glen pNHA	000211
Kilteel Wood pNHA	001394

Liffey Valley Meander Belt pNHA	000393
Liffey At Osberstown	001395
Liffey Bank Above Athgarvan	001396
Dunlavin Marshes	001772

A brief summary of each of the above designated sites is provided in **Table 5.4** below. This text is taken from the National Parks and Wildlife Service's Site Synopses.

Table 5.4: Summary of Designated Sites

Ballynafagh Lake SAC (001387)
Ballynafagh Lake is located about 2 km north-west of Prosperous in Co. Kildare. It is a shallow alkaline lake with some emergent vegetation. The Blackwood Feeder, which connects Ballynafagh Lake to the Grand Canal, is also included in the site. The site is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) selected for the following habitats and/or species listed on Annex I / II of the E.U. Habitats Directive (* = priority; numbers in brackets are Natura 2000 codes): [7230] Alkaline Fens [1016] Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1065] Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia)
Ballynafagh Bog SAC (000391)
This site is a raised bog situated about 1 km west of Prosperous in Co. Kildare. The area is directly underlain by muddy, fossiliferous limestones, interbedded with calcareous shales. The subsoils are predominantly clay-rich tills. All are of low permeability. The site comprises a relatively small core of uncut high bog (approx. 70 ha), which is surrounded by a more extensive area of cutover bog (approx. 90 ha). The high bog area can be divided into a wet core of active bog which covers an area of 23 ha, surrounded by approximately 44 ha of degraded raised bog which is experiencing drying-out at present. The site is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) selected for the following habitats and/or species listed on Annex I / II of the E.U. Habitats Directive (* = priority; numbers in brackets are Natura 2000 codes): [7110] Raised Bog (Active)* [7120] Degraded Raised Bog [7150] Rhynchosporion Vegetation
Mouds Bog SAC (002331)
Mouds Bog is located about 3 km north-west of Newbridge in Co. Kildare, close to the Hill of Allen, and includes amongst others, the townlands of Grangehiggin, Barretstown and Hawkfield. The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. Much of the margins of the site are bounded by trackways. The site is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) selected for the following habitats and/or species listed on Annex I / II of the E.U. Habitats Directive (* = priority; numbers in brackets are Natura 2000 codes): [7110] Raised Bog (Active)* [7120] Degraded Raised Bog [7150] Rhynchosporion Vegetation
Red Bog, Kildare SAC (000397)
Red Bog, Kildare is located 3 km north of the village of Blessington in east Co. Kildare, close to the boundary with Co. Wicklow. It comprises a wetland complex of lake, fen and bog situated in a hollow between ridges of glacially-deposited material and underlain by rocks of Ordovician age. The site is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) selected for the following

habitats and/or species listed on Annex I / II of the E.U. Habitats Directive (* = priority; numbers in brackets are Natura 2000 codes):

[7140] Transition Mires

Wicklow Mountains SAC (002122)

Mouds Bog is located about 3 km north-west of Newbridge in Co. Kildare, close to the Hill of Allen, and includes amongst others, the townlands of Grangehiggin, Barretstown and Hawkfield. The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. Much of the margins of the site are bounded by trackways. The site is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) selected for the following habitats and/or species listed on Annex I / II of the E.U. Habitats Directive (* = priority; numbers in brackets are Natura 2000 codes):

[7110] Raised Bog (Active)*

[7120] Degraded Raised Bog

[7150] Rhynchosporion Vegetation

Pollardstown Fen SAC (000396)

Pollardstown Fen is situated on the northern margin of the Curragh of Kildare, approximately 3 km north-west of Newbridge. It lies in a shallow depression, running in a north-west/south-east direction. About 40 springs provide a continuous supply of water to the fen. These rise chiefly at its margins, along distinct seepage areas of mineral ground above the fen level. The continual inflow of calcium-rich water from the Curragh, and from the limestone ground to the north, creates waterlogged conditions which lead to peat formation. There are layers of calcareous marl in this peat, reflecting inundation by calcium-rich water. This peat-marl deposit reaches some 6 m at its deepest point and is underlain by clay.

The site is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) selected for the following habitats and/or species listed on Annex I / II of the E.U. Habitats Directive (* = priority; numbers in brackets are Natura 2000 codes):

[7210] Cladium Fens*

[7220] Petrifying Springs* [7230] Alkaline Fens

[1013] Geyer's Whorl Snail (Vertigo geyeri) [1014] Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail (Vertigo angustior)

[1016] Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (Vertigo moulinsiana)

Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA (004063)

Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA, located in the western foothills of the Wicklow Mountains, was created in 1944 by damming of the River Liffey for the purpose of generating electricity from hydropower. The reservoir covers an area of approximately 20 square kilometres and is the largest inland water body in the mideast and south-east regions. The reservoir receives water from two main sources, the River Liffey at the northern end, and the Kings River at the southern end. The exit is into the River Liffey gorge at the western end. Underlying the reservoir are sands and gravels deposited during the last glaciation. The shores of the lake are mostly sandy. When water levels are low the exposed lake muds are colonised by an ephemeral flora of annual plant species. Wet grassland areas occur in sheltered bays around the lake but especially in the northern part. Reed Canary-grass (Phalaris arundinacea) is the main grass species present, but other plant species characteristic of wet grasslands occur, including Creeping Bent (Agrostis stolonifera), Meadowsweet (Filipendula ulmaria), Yellow Iris (Iris pseudacorus) and Water Mint (Mentha aquatica). Sedges (Carex spp.) are locally common, while Rusty Willow (Salix cinerea subsp. oleifolia) scrub is often found associated with the wet grassland. In some places the water washes against grassy banks which are generally less than a metre high, and in a few places there are steep sand and clay cliffs, up to 15 m high - these are remnants of the old River Liffey channel. In many places the banks are actively eroding, and a strip of conifers has been planted around much of the perimeter of the reservoir in an attempt to stabilize the banks. The site is a Special Protection Area (SPA) under the E.U. Birds Directive, of special conservation interest for the following species: Greylag Goose and Lesser Blackbacked Gull.

Wicklow Mountains SPA (004040)
This is an extensive upland site, comprising a substantial part of the Wicklow Mountains. Most of the site is in Co. Wicklow, but a small area lies in Co. Dublin. The underlying geology of the site is mainly of Leinster granites, flanked by Ordovician schists, mudstones and volcanics. The area was subject to glaciation and features fine examples of glacial lakes, deep valleys and moraines. Most of site is over 300 m, with much ground being over 600 m; the highest peak is Lugnaquillia (925 m). The substrate over much of site is peat, with poor mineral soil occurring on the slopes and lower ground. Exposed rock and scree are features of the site. The predominant habitats present are blanket bog, heaths and upland grassland. The site is a Special Protection Area (SPA) under the E.U. Birds Directive, of special conservation interest for the following species: Merlin and Peregrine.
Hodgestown Bog NHA (001393)
Hodgestown Bog NHA is located 4 km north-west of Prosperous, mostly in the townlands of Hodgestown, Coolearagh East and Garvoge in Co. Kildare. The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. This raised bog was originally part of a much larger area of bog that has now been cutover and reclaimed for forestry and agriculture. Hodgestown Bog is separated by a mineral ridge from Ballynafagh SAC (391) and together these are two of the bogs at the eastern extreme of the range of raised bogs in Ireland. Although Hodgestown bog has no pools there are hummocks throughout the high bog and there is also a small hummock/hollow complex. Cutover is found all around the high bog. Much of the high bog has vegetation typical of a Midland Raised Bog, consisting of Ling Heather (Calluna vulgaris), White Beak-sedge (Rhynchospora alba), Cranberry (Vaccinium oxycoccos) and Bog-rosemary (Andromeda polifolia). The bog moss Sphagnum tenellum is common on the bog as is White Beak-sedge. Hummocks of the bog moss Sphagnum capillifolium are also common but only one hummock of S. imbricatum was recorded. The bog moss S. magellanicum is also frequently seen on the bog, in hollows with S. tenellum or with S. cuspidatum in in-filling old drains. In areas of the bog where there are signs of disturbance and bare peat patches are found the moss Campylopus introflexus, Deergrass (Scirpus cespitosus), Bog Asphodel (Narthecium ossifragum), Ling Heather and Cross-leaved Heath (Erica tetralix) tend to dominate. Much of the site was burnt in the 1970s but a subsequent survey reported that the bog was recovering well with active Sphagnum regeneration. There was a swallow hole in the east of the bog, with an associated soak area where the bog mosses S. palustre and S. recurvum were recorded, but this area has now been cutover. The high bog is surrounded by cutover much of which has been planted with coniferous forestry, especially in the south and east of the site.

5.3.2 Key Issues

The following are the potential key issues relating to the plan development:

- Impacts on protected/designated sites;
- Impacts on protected species;
- Impacts on sensitive habitats outside of protected areas;
- Increase in invasive species;
- Potential for habitat loss and fragmentation.

An Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening (Stage 1) has been carried out to examine potential impacts of the draft Plan on Natura 2000 sites.

5.4 Land and Soils

5.4.1 Baseline

According to the report 'The Geological Heritage of Kildare' (Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI), 2005), the predominant rock type in the Naas area is sedimentary rock, limestone of Carboniferous age in particular.

The soils underlying the study area are identified by the Geological Survey of Ireland as being predominantly Made Ground in the urban centre. Made ground consists of materials modified by people, including those associated with mineral exploitation and waste disposal. They include materials deposited as a result of human activities or geological material modified artificially so that their physical properties (structure, cohesion and compaction) have been drastically altered.

Other soils identified in the plan area include Fine loamy drift with limestones such as Elton Straffan and Faoldroim.

Refer to **Figures 5.2** and **5.3** for details of the soils and bedrock geology in the vicinity of the study area.

County Kildare is positioned at the forefront of geological heritage within Ireland. There are no sites of Geological Heritage located within the plan area, however a number of sites can be found within 15km of the plan boundary. One of these sites of Geological Heritage, Rathcore Spring is of particular importance to the plan area.

According to the GSI, Rathcore Spring is a spring that feeds the part of the Grand Canal known as the Naas and Corbally Branch. The source of the spring cannot be seen due to high levels of vegetation but the constant flow of water from this spring can be heard from the banks of the canal.

Refer to **Figure 5.4** for Geological Heritage in the vicinity of Naas.

5.4.2 Key Issues

The following are the potential key issues relating to the plan development:

- Impacts of pollution from construction work or from the operation of new developments;
- Disturbance to land and soil during new development;
- Pressures on good quality agricultural land due to development.

5.5 Water Resources

5.5.1 Baseline

5.5.1.1 Hydrology

The plan area is located in the Liffey and Dublin Bay Catchment, in Hydrometric Area 09. Naas is located on the River Liffey in the 'Liffey_SC_060' Sub catchment. The River Liffey rises in the Wicklow Mountains, about 32km southwest of Dublin, and flows in a generally north-westerly direction from its source to the Lackan Reservoir. The river then runs westward in the Kildare lowland and gradually turns north-westward to Newbridge and northeast to Celbridge and Leixlip. It then flows eastward through the city of Dublin, in which it is extensively canalized and bordered with quays. It empties into Dublin Bay, an arm of the Irish Sea, after a course of 80 km.

Since 2000, Water Management in the EU has been directed by the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD).

The WFD has been transposed into Irish legislation by the European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations 2003 (SI No. 722 of 2003) and requires that all member states implement the necessary measures to prevent deterioration of the status of all waters - surface, ground, estuarine and coastal - and protect, enhance and restore all waters with the aim of achieving good status by 2015.

For the purpose of implementing the WFD, Ireland has been divided into eight river basin districts or areas of land that are drained by a large river or number of rivers and the adjacent estuarine / coastal areas. Naas falls within the Eastern River Basin District (ERBD).

As part of the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) a baseline risk assessment was completed of the water bodies within each River Basin District. These assessments were made using water pollution indicators, point and diffuse pollution sources, water abstractions and detail on commercial activities. The risk assessment assigned a water quality status to each waterbody and indicated a risk status namely, whether the water body would meet the criteria for "good status" or would be considered "at risk" of not meeting the standards by 2015.

Based on water quality, ecology and morphology the EPA has determined that the River Liffey which flows through the Plan area is of 'good' status. It was also classed as "not at risk" of not achieving "good status" by 2015 under the Water Framework Directive (WFD) risk score system in 2010.

There are no 'Nutrient Sensitive' rivers identified in the plan area. Nutrient Sensitive Waters comprise nitrate vulnerable zones designated under the Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC) and areas designated as sensitive under the Urban Waste-Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC).

Surface water features in the vicinity of Naas are shown on **Figure 5.5**. The Water Framework Directive Status for Rivers within the plan area are shown in **Figure 5.6.** The Water Framework Directive Risk Status for waterbodies within the plan area is shown on **Figure 5.7**. for 2013-2018.

5.5.1.2 Hydrogeology

The majority of the plan area is underlain by a bedrock aquifer which is classified by the GSI as a 'Locally Important Aquifer.' This represents bedrock which is 'Moderately Productive only in Local Zones' However, the north-west of the plan area is underlain by a bedrock aquifer which is classified by the GSI as a 'Regionally Important Aquifer - Karstified (diffuse),' In addition, the south of the plan area is underlain by a Gravel Aquifer: Curragh Gravels which is classified by the GSI as being a 'Locally Important Aquifer' - bedrock which is 'Moderately Productive only in Local Zones.' The remained of the plan area is underlain by a bedrock aquifer which is classified as a 'Poor Aquifer'- 'Bedrock which is Generally Unproductive.'

Groundwater quality in the plan area is of 'good status' and groundwater vulnerability is generally classed as being of 'moderate' or 'high' vulnerability. Groundwater status in the vicinity of the plan area is shown in **Figure 5.8** and groundwater vulnerability is shown on **Figure 5.9**.

Groundwater for drinking water in the region is shown in **Figure 5.10.** Groundwater features and source protection zones in the vicinity of the plan area are shown in **Figure 5.11.**

5.5.1.3 Flooding

KCC is part of the Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Study.

According to the 'Naas Town Development Plan 2011- 2017 Two Year Progress Report' (Kildare County Council, 2013), KCC has carried out works in a number of locations in Naas that were prone to flooding during the lifetime of the Town Development Plan. The Council works, on an ongoing basis with the OPW in the advancement of its programme of Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM). Flood Risk Management Plans have been delivered by the OPW and were adopted by KCC in July 2018. Arising from CFRAM works, consultants have recently been appointed and work is underway on the OPW's Flood Relief Scheme for Naas. The Council has also secured funding from the Office of Public Works (OPW) to establish a dedicated team to deliver the CFRAMs programme over the next 8-10 years including Naas.

The SFRA prepared for the Plan has identified lands that are at elevated levels of flood risk within the Plan area and has facilitated the integration of flood risk management considerations into the Plan.

5.5.2 Key Issues

There are a range of existing pressures on the water resources of the region. Many of these pressures apply to biodiversity, flora and fauna, land and soil, land use and landscape as well as water. In general, these pressures apply directly to quality, quantity and supply and demand of water resources with indirect pressure on the other environmental features.

The following are the potential key issues relating to the plan development:

- Impacts on surface water and groundwater quality due to development;
- Impacts to designated SACs and SPAs as a result of surface water pollution;
- Compliance with the WFD and achieving the River Basin Management Objectives;
- Compliance with the requirements of the Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities (OPW/DEHLG, 2009).
- Ensuring drinking water capacity for future predicted increases in population and economic growth;
- Maintenance of water services infrastructure;
- Provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure;
- Effects of flooding due to development;
- Effects of developments within floodplains;
- Climate change impacts on flood levels; and
- Adhering to EPA wastewater licence discharge limits.

5.6 Air, Noise & Climate

5.6.1 Baseline

5.6.1.1 Air Quality

The EPA measures the levels of a number of atmospheric pollutants throughout Ireland in order to measure compliance with Air Quality Standards Regulations, 2011 (S.I. No. 180 of 2011). For the purposes of monitoring in Ireland, four zones are defined in the Regulations:

- Zone A: Dublin Conurbation;
- Zone B: Cork Conurbation;
- Zone C: Other Cities and Large Towns; and
- Zone D: Rural Ireland which is the remainder of the State excluding Zones A, B and C.

Naas is located in Zone C. The Air quality in Zone C as reported in the EPA 2020 report 'Air Quality in Ireland 2019' is summarised in **Table 5.6** below.

Table 5.6: Air Quality Assessment Zone C Concentrations compared to Air Quality Standards

Parameter	Zone	Average measured concentration (µg/m^3)	Air quality standard (µg/m^3)
NO_2	Zone C	11	40
SO_2	Zone C	1.3	20
CO	Zone C	0.1	10
Ozone	Zone C	54	120
PM_{10}	Zone C	15	40
$PM_{2.5}$	Zone C	10	25
Benzene	Zone C	0.12	5

The most recent EPA dioxin similar survey shows that concentrations of dioxins and pollutants remain at a consistently low level in the Irish environment.

Current and future challenges to air quality in Ireland were identified as follows:

- Reduction of solid fuel use;
- Efficient traffic management and provision of choice in terms of public transport in towns; and
- Transboundary impacts of ozone, to which Ireland's air mass is subject.

5.6.1.2 Noise

The Environmental Noise Directive (END) (2002/49/EC) requires that action is taken by each member state, with a view to preventing and reducing environmental noise where necessary (particularly where exposure levels can induce harmful effects on human health) and to preserving environmental acoustic quality where it is good. The relevant local authorities have been designated by the Environmental Noise Regulations, S.I. Regulations No. 140 of 2006, as the bodies charged with development and making of 'Noise Action Plans'.

KCC prepared the second Noise Action Plan (2019-2023) for County Kildare in 2019. This Noise Action Plan primarily considers the long term environmental noise impact from road, rail and air traffic noise sources, and sets out an approach to review noise impact levels near to the major sources assessed during the strategic noise mapping with a view to identifying locations where noise reduction is deemed necessary in the first instance. In County Kildare there are no major agglomerations or major airports subject to noise mapping or action planning.

Strategic Noise Maps have been prepared for all roads deemed to fall within the threshold of 3 million vehicles a year.

The total length of identified major roads included within the strategic noise mapping was 258 km which amounts to 10.2% of the total road network which is relatively large compared to other counties. This broke down into 157 km of motorways and national roads, 94.4 km of regional roads and 6.4 km of local road.

The Noise Action Plan addressed a number of sections of major roadway that are located either within, or immediately adjacent to Naas which qualified for noise mapping and, as such were subject to consideration for action planning. This refers to all areas exposed to noise from the "Major Roads" above a level of L_{den} 55 dB(A) and L_{night} 50 dB(A). Major roads in Naas which qualified for noise mapping are detailed in **Table 5.7**.

Table 5.7: Major Roads in Naas which qualify for Noise Mapping

Road Type	Description
National Roads	M7/N7 between the boundary with South Dublin County Council at Castlewarden and the boundary with Laois County Council at Jamestown
Regional Roads	R407, R410, R445, R448
Local Roads	L2036, L2038, L2039.

The plan concludes that that there are an estimated 745 people in Kildare above the L_{den} threshold for noise from road traffic sources, and an estimated 5,185 people above the L_{night} threshold from road traffic sources.

Proposals for residential developments near busy roads in urban areas may be required to show how it is proposed that impacts of noise are mitigated. A Noise Impact Assessment along with noise screening measures such as facade insulation and noise barriers should form part of proposals, as appropriate.

The general approach to be taken by KCC in managing environmental noise in the area involves:

- Noise reduction at source;
- Land use planning adapted to noise goals;
- Procedures to reduce noise impact; and
- Operating restrictions to reduce noise emissions.

KCC has developed a detailed Programme of Works for the duration of the Noise Action Plan (2019 to 2023) and proposed to implement the programme subject to the availability of the requisite technical staff, expertise and financial resources.

5.6.1.3 Climate

The existing climate for Naas corresponds with the general climatic conditions for the whole country which is dominated by the Atlantic Ocean and its air and oceanic currents. Consequently, the region does not suffer from extremes of temperature. According to Met Éireann, average annual temperature is about 9°C and the mean annual wind speed is at approximately 4 m/sec in the east midlands.

Average rainfall varies between about 800mm and 2800mm. Rainfall accumulation tends to be highest in winter and lowest in early summer.

According to the United Nations Integrated Panel on Climate Change, in line with the global picture, Ireland's average temperature has increased by about 0.7°C over the last 100 years, and the rate of increase has been higher in the last couple of decades. The increase has not been uniform over time, with a warming period from 1910 to the 1940s, followed by a cooling period up to the 1960s. The current warming period commenced around 1980. The clearest trend is evident in the temperature records which show a mean temperature increase of 0.7º C between 1890 and 2008, i.e. an increase of 0.06º C per decade. The increase was 0.4º C during the period 1980-2008, i.e. equivalent to 0.14º C per decade.

While the national scale of potential change is evident, translating the potential effects of climate change to a region is a process of inference on what will happen to Ireland at large being reduced to a regional scale. Temperatures in Ireland are predicted to increase by 1.25-1.5°C by 2040 compared to the 1961 to 2000 period.

Rainfall is expected to increase in winter by about 15% and summer projections range from no change to a 20% decrease, potentially along the east coast of the country.

Studies have shown that extreme rainfall events associated with climate change show more marked changes with more events occurring in autumn and a 20% increase in 2-day extreme rain amounts, especially in northern areas.

Taking the projected precipitation changes into account, there will be the potential for a significant increase in the number of extreme discharge events and a slight increase in their intensity, leading to an increased probability of flooding in the future.

The potential rise in global temperature might affect the intensity and frequency of storms in the North Atlantic. As a consequence of stormy weather there exists the potential for flash flooding and erosion which would affect a wide range of ecosystems and economic sectors.

Climate Change Targets

In October 2014, EU leaders agreed a 2030 policy framework to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% compared to a 1990 baseline. Since then, the EU has proposed a yet more ambitious target, in its 2030 Climate Target Plan, which proposes to cut greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030, setting the EU on a trajectory to be climate neutral by 2050.[1] This new proposal 'delivers on the commitment made in the Communication on the European Green Deal to put forward a comprehensive plan to increase the European Union's target for 2030 towards 55% in a responsible way.

The European Commission is working on preparing legislative proposals on how this target is achieved and aims to revise, by June 2021 all relevant policy documents to deliver this objective.

In Ireland, the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act was published by government in January 2015. The Act sets out the national objective of transitioning to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy in the period up to 2050.

Since then and to reflect the ever increasing focus on climate change and the need for accelerated action, the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill was published in October 2020. This commits Ireland, in law, to move to a climate resilient and climate neutral economy by 2050.

The Bill brings in a system of 5-year economy-wide carbon budgets, which will outline a ceiling for total greenhouse gas emissions. These will be prepared by the Climate Change Advisory Council and presented to Government to consider and approve, with input from the Oireachtas.

The Bill includes the following key elements:

- Establishes a 2050 emissions target;
- Introduces system of successive 5-year, economy-wide carbon budgets starting in 2021;
- Strengthens the role of the Climate Change Advisory Council in proposing carbon budgets;
- Introduces a requirement to annually revise the Climate Action Plan and prepare a National Long Term Climate Action Strategy at least every decade;
- Introduces a requirement for all Local Authorities to prepare individual Climate Action Plans which will include both mitigation and adaptation measures.

This legislation sends a clear signal to businesses, to farmers and to communities that climate action is good for the economy. It will allow Ireland to reach climate targets while creating jobs and sustainable growth in new sectors.

[1] https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/eu-climate-action/2030_ctp_en

The publication Ireland's Environment – An Integrated Assessment (EPA, 2020) provides a high-level summary on the status of greenhouse gases and climate change in the Irish context. Ireland's GHG emissions increased by 10.1% in the period from 1990 to 2019. The full implementation of additional policies and measures, outlined in the 2019 Climate Action Plan, will result in a reduction in Ireland's total GHG emissions by up to 25% by 2030 compared with 2020 levels.

Agriculture represents the single largest contributor to emissions (35.3%), followed by Transport, Energy Industries and the Residential sector with 20.3%, 15.8% and 10.9% respectively. The key drivers and pressures and responses to climate change that may occur, especially in relation to Ireland's current high dependency on fossil fuels, are particularly challenging. The longer reduction of GHG emissions is delayed, the greater the effort and costs.

Restrictions related to Covid-19 have taught us that long term improvements can only be achieved with targeted climate and environmental actions that change consumption and production systems in a sustainable and lasting manner.

The recent Kildare County Council Climate Adaptation Strategy informs policies and objectives throughout the Development Plan and local area plan process with increased emphasis on sustainable development and travel patterns, energy use and the protection of green infrastructure. Well-designed places and buildings can have a strong impact on resilience to climate change and reduction in carbon emissions can be achieved, for example, encouraging walking and cycling and providing easier access to public transport.

5.6.2 Key Issues

5.6.2.1 Air quality

The following are the potential air quality key issues relating to the plan development:

- Potential for increased pollution at sensitive receptors due to the development of infrastructure resulting in emissions;
- Potential for increased exposure to higher pollution levels due to development of new housing, schools etc. developments in proximity to existing polluting sources.

5.6.2.2 Noise

The following are the potential key issues relating to the plan development:

- Potential for increased noise levels at sensitive receptors due to the development of noisy infrastructure;
- Potential for increased exposure to noise levels due to development of new housing, schools etc. developments in proximity to existing noise sources.

5.6.2.3 Climate

The following are the potential key issues relating to the plan development:

- Increases in greenhouse gas emissions from increased transport, industry, development etc.
- Impact of climate change effects of severe events including flooding.

5.7 Archaeology, Architectural and Cultural Heritage

5.7.1 Baseline

Built heritage is addressed in this report under the following headings:

- Archaeological Heritage;
- Architectural Heritage; and
- Vernacular Heritage.

KCC published the County Kildare Heritage Plan 2019-2025 in 2019. The aim of the Heritage Plan is to 'recognise by all, the value and opportunity of Kildare's unique heritage resource and to manage, conserve and protect it, in partnership, for present and future generations." The Heritage Plan sets out a range of strategic objectives and aims to be implemented over the plan period. The strategic objectives and aims of the Heritage Plan will be taken into consideration in the preparation of the draft LAP.

The built heritage of Kildare refers to all man-made features, buildings or structures in the environment. This includes a rich and varied archaeological and architectural heritage to be found throughout the countryside and within the historic towns and villages of the county.

The architectural and archaeological heritage of a town, village or place contributes greatly to the distinctive character of each local area.

5.7.1.1 Archaeological Heritage

A record of archaeological heritage is maintained on the 'Record of Monuments and Places' which was established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994 (No. 17 of 1994). Structures, features, objects or sites listed in this Record are known as Recorded Monuments.

The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) comprises a list of recorded monuments and places and accompanying maps on which such monuments and places are shown for each county.

The National Monuments Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs will advise on the protection applying to any particular monument or place under the National Monuments Acts by reason of it being entered in the Record of Monuments and Places and should be consulted if there is any doubt as to the status of the site.

According to the database there are approximately 69 Recorded Monuments within the plan area. **Figure 5.12** depicts Recorded Monuments in the vicinity of Naas.

Any person intending to carry out works at or in relation to a Recorded Monument, or within the zone of Archaeological potential, must give the National Monuments Section of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs two months' notice in writing.

5.7.1.2 Architectural Heritage

As defined by the Heritage Act, 1995, 'architectural heritage' includes all structures, buildings, traditional and designed, and groups of buildings including street-scapes and urban vistas, which are of historical, archaeological, artistic, engineering, scientific, social or technical interest.

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) is a state initiative under the administration of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and established on a statutory basis under the provisions of the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999.

The purpose of the NIAH is to identify, record, and evaluate the post-1700 architectural heritage of Ireland, uniformly and consistently as an aid in the protection and conservation of the built heritage. NIAH surveys provide the basis for the recommendations of the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs to the planning authorities for the inclusion of particular structures in their Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

Naas has an abundance of structures of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest. Such features are contained in the Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

According to the database, there are approximately 137 protected structures in Naas, as indicated in **Figure 5.13**. Owners and occupiers of protected buildings are required to ensure that buildings do not become endangered through harm, decay or damage.

5.7.1.3 Vernacular Heritage

Vernacular Architecture describes the local regional traditional building forms and types using indigenous materials, and without grand architectural pretensions, i.e. the homes and workplaces of the ordinary people built by local people using local materials.

This is in contrast to formal architecture, such as the grand estate houses of the gentry, churches and public buildings, which were often designed by architects or engineers.

The majority of vernacular buildings are domestic dwellings. Examples of other structures that may fall into this category include shops, outbuildings, mills, limekilns, farmsteads, forges, gates and gate piers.

5.7.2 Key Issues

The following are the potential key issues relating to the plan development:

- Impacts on sites of archaeological, architectural and vernacular heritage through development;
- Impacts on historic / heritage landscapes through development;
- Loss of vernacular heritage as a result of evolution of society and building use; and
- Impacts on considerable built heritage due to continued high levels of vacancy / abandonment and potential dereliction unless addressed.

5.8 Landscape and Visual

5.8.1 Baseline

5.8.1.1 Landscape

Landscape embraces all that is visible when one looks across an area of land. As well as being an important part of people's lives, giving individuals a sense of identity and belonging, landscape is the context in which all changes take place. The landscape of County Kildare comprises a central plain bounded to the east by the Kildare uplands, which lie at the foot-hills of the Wicklow and Dublin Mountains. The Curragh, the boglands of north-west Kildare and the fertile lowlands of the south all comprise part of the central plain. The plain lands are interrupted by two groups of isolated hills, the Chair of Kildare and the Newtown Hills. The location of these hills within the central plain has a considerable impact on the landscape of Kildare. Inland waters comprise the River Liffey, River Barrow, River Slate, River Boyne, Royal Canal, Grand Canal and Rye Water River that traverse the county, providing important landscape features.

The Naas LAP area is located in the eastern part of County Kildare, near its borders with County Wicklow and Dublin. The River Castlesize, a tributary of the River Liffey provides an important landscape feature.

A Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) of the county was prepared as part of the Kildare County Development Plan. The LCA focused on characterisation i.e. the discernment of the character of the landscape based on its land cover and landform, but also on its values, such as historical, cultural, religious and other understandings of the landscape.

The purpose of this document was to assists in the development of the landscape objectives for the County Development Plan.

The County is divided into 15 geographically specific Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) The LCA of interest to the Draft Naas LAP is the Northern Lowlands.

In order to inform the Landscape Character Assessment, a landscape sensitivity map was prepared. Landscape sensitivity is a measure of the ability of the landscape to accommodate change or intervention without suffering unacceptable effects to its character and values.

The sensitivity of the Northern Lowlands is deemed to be of 'Low-Sensitivity' and is defined as an area '*with the capacity to generally accommodate a wide range of uses without significant adverse effects on the appearance or character of the area.*'

The CORINE Land Cover (CLC) inventory is a Pan-European land-use and landcover mapping programme. It supplies spatial data on the state of the European environmental landscape and how it is changing over time. CORINE Land Cover mapping classifies land cover under various headings. The main land-use in the Plan area is discontinuous urban fabric, and pastures.

Discontinuous urban fabric comprises residential areas around the edge of urban district centres, and certain urban districts in rural areas. Pastures are dense grass cover of floral composition, dominated by graminaceae which are not under a rotation system. They are mainly used for grazing but may be harvested mechanically.

Refer to **Figure 5.14** for CORINE Landcover Data in the vicinity of Naas.

5.8.1.2 Visual

Scenic routes and protected views consist of important and valued views and prospects within the county. The Kildare County Development Plan outlines all the views and prospects in the County which have been identified as being worthy of protection.

There are ten protected views/prospects located within the plan boundary, as illustrated in **Figure 5.15**. These are sourced from the Kildare County Development Plan and generally located along water corridors.

No scenic routes have been identified in the plan area.

5.8.2 Key Issues

The following are the potential key issues relating to the plan development:

- Maintenance of existing landscape character.
- Impacts on designated protected landscapes, heritage landscapes and protected views as a result of development.
- Impacts due to development on the ecological components of the landscape.

5.9 Material Assets

5.9.1 Baseline

The term 'Material Assets' refers to all infrastructure and local services including; transportation, water supply, wastewater treatment and discharge, waste management services, electricity supply, telecommunications etc. A summary of all material assets in Naas will be provided in the Environmental Report.

5.9.1.1 Water Supply

The provision of an adequate supply of water and wastewater treatment facilities is critical to facilitate and sustain the growth of Naas over the lifetime of the Local Area Plan 2021-2027 and beyond. The delivery, integration and implementation of water and wastewater projects and infrastructural improvements are the responsibility of Irish Water. KCC works closely with Irish Water to ensure that the Kildare County Development Plan and the draft Naas Local Area Plan continue to align with both the National Planning Framework and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy that the provision of water/ wastewater services will not be a limiting factor in terms of targeted growth.

Naas is currently served by the Poulaphouca Regional Scheme which is serviced by Ballymore Eustace Water Treatment Plant to Naas via Dowdenstown Reservoir. However, the future supply will be fed from a combination of the Barrow (Srowland) and the Ballymore Eustace Scheme.

A Remedial Action List (RAL) of problematic drinking water supplies is released by the EPA on a quarterly basis. The Remedial Action list is a public record for the supplies known to be at risk and where the EPA is requiring Irish Water to take corrective action. The EPA has instructed Irish Water to submit an action programme for the improvement of each of these supplies and has initiated enforcement action where action programmes were not being prepared or were not prepared to the satisfaction of the EPA. This includes issuing legally binding Directions requiring specific work to be carried out. The Poulaphouca Regional drinking water supply which serves Naas was not included on the Remedial Action list for Q2 of 2020.

5.9.1.2 Wastewater Treatment

Naas's wastewater is collected via a gravity and rising mains network as part of the Lower Liffey Valley Regional Sewerage Scheme and is treated at Osberstown Wastewater Treatment Plant which also serves the towns of Newbridge, Kilcullen, Sallins and Kill.

In 2017, the Osberstown plant was upgraded however a significant proportion of this capacity has been absorbed by a large industrial connection and headroom capacity for other developments is limited. Irish Water is currently working on the next stage of the scheme, upgrading the sewer network. These upgrades will ensure the network has enough capacity for future growth, and will reduce the risk of overflows during storms.

The Osberstown treatment plant is the largest inshore discharge points in the country, discharging treated wastewater into the River Liffey.

The 2019 Annual Environmental Report for the Lower Liffey Valley Regional Sewerage Scheme (Irish Water, 2019) shows full compliance with all Emission Limit Values (ELVs).

5.9.1.3 Transport Infrastructure and Facilities

Over recent decades, Naas has rapidly expanded with the population doubling since the early 1990s; leading to the spread of housing estates across the urban area, particularly to the north-east and south-east of Naas Town Centre. This rapid expansion has increased pressure on the town's amenities, transport infrastructure and parking supply. Car dependency is relatively high, with 77.5% of people in Naas driving to work, which presents a key challenge in the promotion of sustainable travel.

The main east-west access road through Naas is the R445, Dublin/Newbridge Road, along with the R409 in the west of the town. The main north-south access is provided by the R407, Sallins Road, and the R448, Kilcullen Road, which is the only link road between Naas and Sallins prior to the completion of the Sallins bypass in 2020. The primary orbital distributor roads in Naas are the R447 south ring, the Millennium Link Road in the north-west and the Monread Road in the north-east. Naas and Sallins have access to the M7 motorway from Junction 9 in the east and Junction 10 in the west. As part of the Sallins bypass, a new M7 junction, Junction 9A, will be created between Junction 9 and 10, which will improve access to the motorway from Naas.

The modal split for work trips by Naas residents from the Small Area Population Statistics (SAPS) of the Census 2016 has been examined. This highlights that Naas residents are highly car dependent with 77.5% of commuters travelling by private car. Public transport use is relatively low with only 4.2% and 3.5% using bus and rail respectively.

The percentage for active modes is higher in Naas than Sallins with 9.6% walking and 2.6% cycling to work, this reflects the fact that Naas is a large urban centre which will contain a reasonable amount of jobs within walking or cycling distance. However, the majority of residents travel longer distances to County Dublin, and they do this primarily by private motor vehicle.

With regards to public transport, Sallins Railway Station, which serves Naas, provides a high-quality commuter service to and from Dublin. Naas is also served by a number of coach and bus services run by Go-Ahead[2] and private operators. As well as radial bus services, there are also a small number of orbital bus services. Orbital bus routes are particularly important in Naas as they provide a vital link to the train station in Sallins, which is beyond walking distance for most residents. There is a dedicated Irish Rail feeder bus service from Poplar Square which links Naas town centre with Sallins train station throughout the day. Cycling infrastructure in Naas is largely restricted to the ring roads, and there is very limited cycle infrastructure throughout the town.

5.9.1.4 Waste Management

Waste and recycling bin collection services have been privatised in County Kildare for the past 15 years. The following waste collectors currently provide these services:

- AES;
- Mahons Recycling;
- Oxigen;
- Ray Whelan; and
- Thorntons.

The Waste Facility Permit and the Certificate of Registration Database is a register for waste facility permits and certificates of registration issued by local authorities under the Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration) Regulations, S.I. No. 821 of 2007, as amended.

According to the Local Authority Waste Facility Register, there are no licensed waste facilities within the LAP boundary.

5.9.2 Key Issues

5.9.2.1 Traffic and Transportation

As outlined in the submission from the Office of the Planning Regulator on the draft 2019-2023 LAP, issues relating to transport in Naas are a key concern. These include:

[2] It should be noted that local Bus Eireann services changed operator in 2019 and are now run by Go-Ahead Ireland as a result of a competitive tendering process by the NTA

- High level of car dependency
- Peripheral train station location
- Poor bus links to train station
- Out of town schools, shopping centres and employment
- Low housing densities and urban sprawl
- Cul-de-sac design and perimeter walls around housing estates
- Unsafe road conditions for cyclists
- Land segregation by the motorway, railway and canals
- Lack of lighting on pedestrian/cyclist routes

5.9.2.2 Water and Wastewater Services:

Key issues relating to water and wastewater include:

- Ongoing maintenance of water supply infrastructure;
- Provision of new wastewater treatment infrastructure, as required.

5.9.2.3 Waste Management:

Key issues relating to waste management include:

- Limited waste management infrastructure and impacts associated with over reliance on landfill.

5.9.2.4 Energy Supply:

Key issues relating to energy include:

- Over-reliance on non-renewable energy sources;
- Energy efficiency and associated Greenhouse Gas emissions;
- Visual impact of infrastructure on landscape

5.9.2.5 Telecommunications:

Key issues relating to telecommunication include:

- Visual impact of infrastructure in telecommunications, particularly in rural areas.

5.10 Sensitivity Mapping

In order to identify where most sensitivities within Naas occur, a number of the environmental sensitivities described above were weighted and mapped overlapping each other. The weighting system applied is adopted from the EPA report 'GISEA Manual Improving the Evidence Base in SEA', as follows:

- SACs and SPAs: 10 points;
- pNHAs: 5 points;
- Protected Structures: 10 points;
- Recorded Monuments: 10 points;
- Surface Water Status Bad and Poor: 10 points;
- Surface Water Status Moderate, Good and High: 5 points;
- Ground Water Status Bad and Poor: 10 points;
- Ground Water Status Moderate, Good and High: 5 points;
- Prospects and Views: 10 points;
- Groundwater Vulnerability Extreme or Rock: 10 points;
- Groundwater Vulnerability High: 5 points; and
- Groundwater Vulnerability Moderate or Low: 0 points.

The scores for each are added together in order to determine overall vulnerability as shown in **Table 5.4** below.

Table 5.4: Environmental Sensitivity Overlay Mapping Vulnerability Classes

Overlay Results	Category
0-5	No sensitivity (i.e. areas without any environmentally sensitive features)
10-15	Low-sensitivity areas
20-25	Moderate-sensitivity areas
30-35	Elevated-sensitivity areas
40-45	High-sensitivity areas
50-60	Extreme-sensitivity areas
>65	Acute-sensitivity areas (i.e. severe sensitivity due to a significant number of overlapping environmental aspects and a clear likelihood of cumulative effects)

This classification assumes that the sensitivity of an area increases significantly when two or more highly sensitive environmental factors overlap. A score of 5 represents one sensitive environmental factor occurring.

A score of 10 indicates two sensitive or one highly sensitive factor; a score of 20 encompasses four sensitive, two highly sensitive or one highly sensitive and two sensitive environmental factors, and so on. In light of this categorisation, each pixel reflects a sensitivity score which determines the relative sensitivity to impact of those lands.

Refer to **Figure 5.16** for the environmental sensitivity of the study area.

6 SEA Objectives, Targets and Indicators

6.1 Introduction

The SEA is designed to assess the potential environmental effect of the policies of the LAP against the environmental baselines established.

The policies and associated recommendations are assessed against a range of established environmental objectives and targets. Indicators that are recommended in the SEA are utilised over the lifetime of the LAP to quantify the level of impact that the policies and recommendations have on the environment.

6.2 Objectives and Targets

Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) are methodological measures against which the environmental effects of the LAP can be assessed. If complied with in full, SEOs would result in an environmentally positive, or neutral impact from realisation of the LAP. The SEOs are set out under a range of topics and are used as standards against which the provisions of the LAP can be evaluated in order to help identify areas in which potential significant adverse impacts may occur. SEOs are distinct from the objectives of the LAP and are developed from international and national policies which generally govern environmental protection objectives. Such policies include those of various European Directives which have been transposed into Irish law and which are intended to be implemented across the country.

The SEA Directive requires that the evaluation of the LAP be focused upon the relevant aspects of the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected. In compliance with this requirement the SEA will focus upon the most relevant aspects of the environmental characteristics. The SEOs are linked to indicators which can facilitate monitoring the environmental effects of the LAP, as well identifying targets which the LAP can help work towards.

Table 6.1: Objectives and Targets

Objectives	Targets
SEO 1 Biodiversity	
SEO 1.1 Protect, conserve, enhance where possible and avoid loss of diversity and integrity of the broad range of habitats, species and wildlife corridors. **SEO 1.2** To support achievement of the conservation objectives of European Sites (SACs and SPAs) and other sites of nature conservation.	**SET 1.1** Siting of development of infrastructure installation on non-sensitive sites. **SET 1.2** Maintenance of favourable conservation status for all habitats and species protected under the Habitat Directive. **SET 1.3** No loss of protected habitats and species during the lifetime of the Plan.

Objectives	Targets
SEO 1.3 Conserve and protect other sites of nature conservation including NHAs, pNHAs, National Parks, Nature Reserves, Wildfowl Sanctuaries as well as protected species outside these areas as covered by the Wildlife Act. **SEO 1.4** To minimise and, where possible, eliminate threats to biodiversity including invasive species.	**SET 1.4** No significant ecological networks or parts thereof which provide functional connectivity for SAC/SPAs to be lost without remediation resulting from development provided for by the LAP**.**
SEO 2 Population and Human Health	
SEO 2.1 Protect, enhance and improve people's quality of life through energy provision. **SEO 2.2** Protect human health from hazards or nuisances arising from incompatible development. **SEO 2.3** Provide all of the energy services required to sustainably meet future housing demands. **SEO 2.4** To minimise the proximity of development to concentrations of population and to mitigate potential effect of development in order to reduce actual and perceived environmental effects.	**SET 2.1** Minimise population exposure to high levels of noise, vibration and air pollution. **SET 2.2** No significant deterioration in human health as a result of environmental factors. **SET 2.3** No spatial concentrations of health problems arising from environmental factors. **SET 2.4** Maintenance of gas supply to meet the energy needs of the population, while commencing a shift towards renewable energy use.
SEO 3 Land & Soil	
SEO 3.1 Conserve, protect and avoid loss of diversity and integrity of designated habitats, geological features, species or their sustaining resources in designated ecological sites.	**SET 3.1** Prevent pollution of soil through adoption of appropriate environmental protection procedures during construction, installation and maintenance works on site. **SET 3.2** No incidences of soil contamination. **SET 3.3** Ensure appropriate management of existing contaminated soil in accordance with the requirements of current waste legislation.
SEO 4 Water	
SEO 4.1 Maintain or improve the quality of surface water and groundwater (including estuarine) to status objectives as set out in the Water Framework Directive (WFD). **SEO 4.2** Support achievement of the requirements of the Water Framework	**SET 4.1** Support the achievement of "good" ecological and chemical status/potential of waterbodies by 2015 in accordance with the Water Framework Directive. **SET 4.2** Not to cause deterioration in the status of any surface or ground water or

Objectives	Targets
Directive and implementation of the National River Basin Management Plan'	affect the ability of any surface or groundwater to maintain or achieve 'good' status.
SEO 5 Air & Noise	
SEO 5.1 To support the protection of ambient environment through the implementation of European, national and regional policy and legislation relating to air quality, greenhouse gases, climate change, light pollution noise pollution and waste management.	**SET 5.1** Maintain ambient air quality. **SET 5.2** Minimise air and noise emissions during construction and operation of new developments.
SEO 6 Climate and Resilience	
SEO 6.1 Comply with relevant national climate change targets e.g. Ireland's Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015, the and EU 2030 and 2050 Emissions and Renewable Energy Targets and the Paris Agreement Targets. **SEO 6.2** To support implementation of the National Climate Action Plan 2019	**SET 6.1** Achieve a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. **SET 6.2** Increase the amount of gas from renewable sources that is introduced to the network. **SET 6.3** Growth in the level of fuel switching from high-carbon fuels to gas, in both heating and transport. **SET 6.4** Promote minimisation of greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere. **SET 6.5** To achieve a 30% reduction on GHG emission levels (compared with 2005 levels) by 2030.
SEO 7 Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage	
SEO 7.1 Promote the protection and conservation of archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage, specifically those buildings identified on the Record of Protected Structures, and Recorded Monuments in Ireland.	**SET 7.1** Maintenance and enhancement of archaeological heritage- including entries to the Record of Monuments and Places and unknown archaeology- and the context of the above within the surrounding landscape where relevant. **SET 7.2** Maintenance and enhancement of entries to the Record of Protected Structures and/or their context within the surrounding landscape where relevant.
SEO 8 Landscape and Visual	
SEO 8.1 Ensure no significant disruption of historic/cultural landscapes and features. **SEO 8.2** Ensure no significant visual impact from developments/installations.	**SET 8.1** No avoidable significant impacts on the landscape resulting from development provided for by the LAP. **SET 8.2** Ensure development and infrastructure installations are sensitive to its surroundings.

Objectives	Targets
SEO 8.3 Ensure no significant disruption of high landscape values. **SEO 8.4** To support achievement of the objectives of the National Landscape Strategy	**SET 8.3** Ensure no significant disruption of historic/cultural landscapes and features.
SEO 9 Material Assets	
SEO 9.1 Make best use of existing infrastructure and phase the significant future growth of Ireland in line with the capacity and delivery of the sustainable development of new physical infrastructure. **SEO 9.2** Promote use of renewable energy sources and support energy conservation initiatives including the development of low carbon business practices and buildings. **SEO 9.3** Minimise effects upon the existing and planned infrastructure.	**SET 9.1** High levels of energy demand growth are accommodated. **SET 9.2** Secure and competitive supplied of gas and are maintained. **SET 9.3** Increase in renewable energy developments. **SET 9.4** To achieve a 30% reduction on GHG emission levels (compared with 2005 levels) by 2050. **SET 9.5** Improve efficiencies of energy infrastructure.

6.3 SEA Indicators

The assessment of aims and commitments with respect to the Environmental Objectives and Targets is required to be measurable. The Environmental Indicators need to be capable of the following:

- Describing trends in the baseline environment.
- Demonstrating the likely significant effect of the implementation LAP.
- Being used in a monitoring programme.
- Providing an early warning of significant unforeseen adverse effects.
- Prioritising key environmental effects.
- Ensuring the number and range of environmental indicators are manageable in terms of time and resources.

Consequently, a range of Environmental Indicators required to assess the level of impact on the environment are outlined in **Table 6.2.**

Table 6.2: Draft SEA Indicators

Item	Draft SEA Indicator
Biodiversity	• **SEI 1.1** Number and extent of designated Sites; • **SEI 1.2** Achievement of favourable conservation status of designated sites;

Item	Draft SEA Indicator
	• **SEI 1.3** Population and range of Designated Species; and • **SEI 1.4** Achievement of the Objectives of Biodiversity Plans and County Development Plans.
Population & Health	• **SEI 2.1** Census population data; • **SEI 2.2** % increase in housing (number and type); and • **SEI 2.3** Changes in trends in perceived health status.
Land & Soil	• **SEI 3.1** Incidences of soil contamination; • **SEI 3.2** Rates of re-use/recycling of construction waste; • **SEI 3.3** Rates of brownfield site and contaminated land reuse and development; and • **SEI 3.4** Rates of greenfield development.
Water Resources	• **SEI 4.1** Compliance of surface and ground waters with national and international standards; • **SEI 4.2** Achievement of the Objectives of the River Basin Management Plan;
Air & Noise	• **SEI 5.1** Air quality indicators- National and region-specific emission data; and • **SEI 5.2** Compliance with national standards.
Climate Change & Resilience	• **SEI 6.1** Levels of greenhouse gas emissions; • **SEI 6.2** Number of energy/renewable energy production facilities; and • **SEI 6.3** Rates of energy/renewable energy consumption.
Heritage	• **SEI 7.1** Achieving the objectives of development plans regarding heritage protection; and • **SEI 7.2** full or partial loss to entries to the RPSs/NIAHs
Landscape & Visual	• **SEI 8.1** Range and extent of Amenity Landscapes; • **SEI 8.2** Rates of development within designated landscapes; • **SEI 8.3** Rates of urban expansion; and • **SEI 8.4** % change of land use from rural to urban.
Material Assets	• **SEI 9.1** Location/level of infrastructure; • **SEI 9.2** Achievement of development plan objectives; and • **SEI 9.3** No. of renewable energy developments granted planning permission.

7 Alternatives Considered

7.1 Introduction

The SEA Directive requires that reasonable alternatives be assessed in order to demonstrate how the preferred strategy performs against other forms of action.

The plan is based on the principles of sustainable development which means that development will be promoted in accordance with the appropriate international, national, regional and county guidelines.

The following factors have been used to determine the suitability of specific lands for residential development which constitute the proper planning and sustainable development of the town:

- Tiered Approach to zoning;
- Infrastructural Assessment;
- Proximity to Naas Town Centre;
- Availability of public transport- to maximise public transport investment, it is important that land use planning underpins its efficiency by sustainable transport patterns. This includes promoting higher densities within walking distance of the public transport;
- Regeneration of town centre, residential areas, infill and brownfield sites within the existing settlement boundary of the town;
- Consideration as to whether a site could be considered an infill opportunity as opposed to extending the urban footprint further from the town centre;
- Leapfrogging beyond other available sites will not be considered favourably.

Four reasonable alternatives were considered:

- Scenario 1: Northwest Quadrant Expansion.
- Scenario 2: Eastern Expansion and Town Centre Consolidation.
- Scenario 3: Southwest Expansion, and
- Scenario 4: Town Centre Regeneration, North West Quadrant Expansion plus the development of extents.

7.1.1 Scenario 1: Northwest Quadrant Expansion

This scenario includes:

- Development of employment and residential land-uses in the north western quadrant of the town;
- Provision of ancillary services within the quarter to facilitate new neighbourhood quarter;

- The provision of infrastructural links back to the town centre and around the town centre– public transport route, pedestrian, cycle etc and improved links to railway station;
- Development in close proximity to planned strategic infrastructural improvements – N7/M7 upgrade and Sallins Train Station.

7.1.2 Scenario 2: Eastern Expansion and Town Centre Consolidation

This scenario includes development of an eastern expansion area by zoning lands for residential development:

- The growth and development of the town is focused on greenfield lands to the east of the town while at the same time seeking to consolidate the town centre by seeking development of vacant or underutilised sites;
- The zoning of former agricultural lands for new residential development regardless of conformity with planning guidelines, infrastructure capacity or environmental constraints;
- The provision of new and upgraded infrastructural links to serve the expanded area.

7.1.3 Scenario 3: Southwest Expansion

This scenario includes the development on the south-western periphery of the town by extending town boundary to the south of the southern ring road, as follows:

- Allows for growth of employment and residential development to the south west of the town, to merge with the Killashee and Jigginstown areas;
- Focuses on the development of new residential and employment uses in the environs of the town centre, in proximity to the M7 Motorway.

7.1.4 Scenario 4: Town Centre Regeneration, North West Quadrant Expansion plus the development of extants.

This scenario involves the consolidation and regeneration of town centre and sequential development of zoned lands for residential and employment purposes to the north-west area of the town (Northwest Quadrant).

The town centre consolidation encourages the regeneration and appropriate development of vacant and under-utilised sites in the town, including:

a) St. David's Castle and Corban's Lane.

b) Town Centre Backlands (site of three car parks along John's Lane and Friary Road);

c) Devoy Quarter; and

d) Abbey Street, Basin Street

The Naas local Area Plan 2021-2027 has a total unit target of 2,394 residential units by 2027. Removed from this target are the 964 private residential units constructed in recent times and the 877 extant permissions, many of which are under construction. However, there are 2,275 applicants on the Local Authority's social housing list that have identified Naas as their area of preference (2021), however, only 594 of these are currently resident in Naas and represents a housing need and have been included in the calculations. Thereby assuming these permitted schemes will be implemented, the remaining units target is 1,147 units. over the lifetime of this plan. This number of units could y be accommodated within the aforementioned under-utilised urban sites and the Northwest Quadrant

These underutilised town centre sites could also accommodate many employment uses.

The Northwest Quadrant would allow for expansion of the town purposes of residential and employment development.

The Naas LAP 2021-2027 aims that a further 3,329 jobs are created by 2027. . This would be catered for in Northwest Quadrant and could be clustered with Kerry group and surrounding industries around the northwest sector of the ring road.

7.2 Assessment of Alternatives

7.2.1 Introduction

This section provides an assessment of the alternative development scenarios.

The assessment process categorised environmental impacts using the ratings outlined in **Table 7.1** which is based on the impact assessment criteria defined by the EPA for environmental impact assessment.

Table 7.1: Impact Ratings

Significance of Impact	
	Positive
	Neutral
	Negative
	Uncertain

7.2.2 Scenario 1: Northwest Quadrant Expansion

This scenario involves the development of employment and residential land in the Northwest quadrant of the town, and the provision of ancillary services within the quarter to facilitate this development.

Development will be concentrated in close proximity to planned strategic infrastructural improvements- particularly the N7/M7 upgrade and Sallins Train Station.

For the purpose of this assessment, it is assumed that this scenario relates to land that is predominantly already zoned for employment and residential development in the Northwest Quadrant and does not generally relate to greenfield development. As such, an overall neutral impact on the environment in general is predicted. A positive impact on population and human health is likely to occur through the provision of a new neighbourhood centre and indeed the fulfilment of new residential and employment opportunities.

The stipulation that the development would occur in close proximity to strategic infrastructural improvements- such as the Sallins Train station or the N7/M7 motorways is however a new consideration. For the purpose of this assessment it is assumed that this relates to greenfield land. Thus a negative impact on the environment in general is anticipated.

A positive impact on population and human health and air, noise and climate is predicted here in that development in close proximity to strategic infrastructure would reduce dependence on private transport and long commuting distances.

As part of this development scenario it is proposed that infrastructural links would be provided back to, and around the town centre, including public transport, pedestrian, and cycle links. Improved links to the railway station are also proposed.

It is assumed, for the purposes of this assessment, that the infrastructural links proposed under this scenario do not relate to any ‘New Roads Objectives’ and are instead restricted to the provision of sustainable transport links. The development of the same is considered to be minor development, and as such an overall neutral impact on the environment is predicted. A positive impact on population and human health as well as air quality, noise and climate are predicted through the provision of these sustainable transport links, as the initiative will likely result in a reduction of vehicular traffic and subsequent emissions in the area.

7.2.3 Scenario 2: Eastern Expansion and Town Centre Consolidation

This Scenario involves greenfield development on lands to the east of the town while at the same time seeking to consolidate the town centre by seeking development of vacant or underutilised sites.

Greenfield development has the potential to result in a significant negative impact on the environment, in general, and is not considered a desirable development scenario. It is not possible to classify the predicted impact on population and human health as a result of this development scenario as both a positive and negative impact on the same could be considered. It is likely that a positive impact on population and human health will occur through the provision of residential opportunities, and the consolidation of the urban core.

However, the loss of open space in the LAP area as a result of the proposed greenfield development is also likely to result in a negative impact on the same environmental factors.

This scenario also provides for the zoning of former agricultural lands for new residential development regardless of conformity with planning guidelines, infrastructure capacity or environmental constraints.

This has the potential to result in a significant negative impact on the environment and is not considered a desirable development scenario for the LAP.

In addition, this scenario provides for new and upgraded infrastructural links to serve the expanded area. For the purpose of this assessment, it is assumed that this relates to New Roads Objective. Any new roads development has the potential to result in a negative impact on the environment, in general. However, a positive impact on population and human health is envisaged through enhanced transport opportunities.

7.2.4 Scenario 3: Southwest Expansion

This scenario relates to the growth of employment and residential development to the south west of the town, to merge with the Killashee and Jigginstown areas. It focuses on the development of new residential and employment uses in the environs of the town centre, in proximity to the M7 Motorway.

For the purposes of this assessment, it is assumed that lands currently greenfield. As such, a negative impact on the environment in general is predicted.

The focus on development of low density residential and employment uses in the environs of the town centre is likely to result in a negative impact the environment, where development takes place away from the town centre.

7.2.5 Scenario 4: Town Centre Regeneration, North West Quadrant Expansion plus the development of extents.

This development scenario involves the consolidation of the existing town centre by encouraging the regeneration and appropriate development of vacant and under-utilised sites in the town.

Urban regeneration and redevelopment can substantially contribute to the sustainable development of urban areas and are likely to result in an overall positive impact on the environment.

Much of the town centre of Naas is already zoned for development, so by focusing on the re-development and regeneration of these zonings rather than zoning new greenfield land for development on the periphery, additional environmental impacts can be avoided. Similarly, by focusing on the sequential development of already zoned residential and employment lands in the Northwest Quadrant, the Council can seek to meet the demands of the growing population of the LAP area, without having to develop on greenfield lands.

These initiatives will both work towards reducing the onset of urban sprawl in Naas. Urban sprawl and the prevalence of low-density development on the periphery of urban centres work to exacerbate problems of over-consumption of green-field land, dependence on private transport and long commuting distances.

Thus, consolidation of the town will likely result in a positive impact on air, noise and climate. A positive impact on population and human health is also envisaged, through the provision of residential and commercial opportunities. A high population density in the Town Centre of Naas could however put a strain on utilities and services, and it should be ensured that there is sufficient water and wastewater capacity to facilitate any residential development.

It is not possible to fully ascertain the potential impact on heritage, as a large portion of the town is designated as an Architectural Conservation Area. Any development in this area could negatively impact on sites or buildings of historical or architectural significance.

High density housing can also result in a landscape and visual impact if residential units are too intrusive- the scale or density of the development proposed under this scenario is not known.

For the purpose of this assessment, it is assumed that this scenario relates to land that is predominantly already zoned for employment and residential development in the Northwest Quadrant and does not generally relate to greenfield development. As such, an overall neutral impact on the environment in general is predicted. A positive impact on population and human health is likely to occur through the provision of a new neighbourhood centre and indeed the fulfilment of new residential and employment opportunities.

7.3 Outcomes

The emerging preferred development scenario for the Naas LAP from an environmental perspective is Scenario 4: Town Centre Regeneration, Northwest Quadrant Expansion plus the development of extants.

Table 7.2: Assessment of Alternative Scenarios

Scenario	Description	Population and Health	Biodiversity	Soils and Geology	Water Resources	Air, Noise and Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets
Scenario 1	Development of employment and residential landuses in the north-western quadrant of the town.								
	Provision of ancillary services within the quarter to facilitate new neighbourhood quarter.								
	The provision of infrastructural links back to the town centre and around the								

Scenario	Description	Population and Health	Biodiversity	Soils and Geology	Water Resources	Air, Noise and Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets
	town centre– public transport route, pedestrian, cycle etc and improved links to railway station.								
	Development in close proximity to planned strategic infrastructural improvements – N7/M7 upgrade and Sallins Train Station.								
Scenario 2	The growth and development of the town is focused on greenfield lands to the east of the town while at the same time seeking to consolidate the town centre by seeking development of vacant or underutilised sites.								
	The zoning of former agricultural lands for low density residential development regardless of conformity with planning guidelines, infrastructure capacity or environmental constraints.								
	The provision of new and upgraded infrastructural links to serve the expanded area.								
Scenario 3	Allows for growth of employment and residential development to the south west of the town, to merge with the Killashee and Jigginstown areas.								
	Focuses on the development of low density residential and employment uses in the environs of the town centre, in proximity to the M7 Motorway.								
Scenario 4	Consolidation of the existing town centre by encouraging the regeneration and appropriate development of vacant and under-utilised sites in the town.								
	The Northwest Quadrant would allow for expansion of the town purposes of residential and employment development.								

8 Assessment of Significant Effects

8.1 Introduction

The approach used for assessing likely significant effects was objectives led. The assessment was primarily qualitative in nature, with some assessment based on expert judgement. This qualitative assessment compares the likely effects against the Strategic Environmental Objectives to see which aims and commitments of KCC meet the Strategic Environmental Objectives and which, if any, contradict these.

Particular reference was made to the potential for cumulative effects in association with other relevant plans and programmes.

Particular regard was also paid to the need for the sustainable development of ecological resources (including the conservation of fish and other species of fauna and flora, habitats and the biodiversity of water ecosystems and commercial and natural fisheries) as economic resources.

8.2 Assessment of Environmental Effects

The environmental effects of the LAP aims and commitments were assessed with respect to the existing environmental baseline as outlined in Section 5 and the environmental objectives listed in Section 6.

The assessment process categorised environmental effects using the ratings outlined in **Table 8.1** which is based on the impact assessment criteria defined by the EPA for environmental impact assessment.

Table 8.1: Significance Ratings

Significance of Effects	
	Neutral
	Positive
	Negative
	Uncertain

8.3 Principal Environmental Effects

The environmental effects of the LAP was assessed, having regard to the baseline environmental assessment (Section 5). This assessment outlines an unmitigated scenario. The matrix outlined in **Table 8.2** highlights these potential effects.

Where potential effects are identified, it is expected that these can be mitigated through the implementation of the mitigation measures outlined in Section 9.

This Section also includes a site-specific zoning assessment relative to the LAP (**Table 8.3**).

Table 8.2 Strategic Environmental Assessment- Policies and Objectives of the LAP

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
Compliance with Core Strategy										
CDP 1.1	Align the Naas Local Area Plan 2021–2027, if necessary, with the Core Strategy of the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 once adopted and any other material changes relevant to Naas contained in the Kildare County Development Plan 2023 – 2029, by way of a statutory amendment to the Local Area Plan pursuant to Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).									This is standard, existing policy- It is a requirement that local area plans are consistent with the core strategies of the relevant development plan. An overall potential neutral environmental effect is therefore identified.
Policy CS1	It is the policy of the Council to support the sustainable long-term growth of Naas in accordance with the Core Strategy of the Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023 (as varied), or an subsequent plan, the provisions of the National Planning Framework (2018) and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031.									Sustainable long-term growth will have a positive effect on all aspects of the SEA Environmental Objectives.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
CSO 1.1	Support and facilitate compact growth through the sustainable intensification and consolidation of the town centre and established residential areas.									The sustainable intensification the town and established residential areas will have a positive impact on population and human health, as well as air quality and climate as it discourages urban sprawl, reduces traffic movements and encourages more sustainable transport methods. It is not possible to fully ascertain the potential impact on heritage, as a large portion of the town is designated as an Architectural Conservation Area. Development in this area, even re-development or re-generation could potentially negatively impact on sites or buildings of historical or architectural significance. A high population density in Naas town centre could however put a strain on material assets, however, by the use of the term 'sustainable development' here it is assumed that development would only occur where it could be ensured that there is sufficient water and wastewater capacity to facilitate any residential development. High density housing can also result in a landscape and visual impact if residential units are too intrusive- the scale or density of development is not known.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
CSO 1.2	Monitor the scale, type, tenure and location of constructed and permitted developments in Naas during the lifetime of the Plan and apply appropriate development management standards to ensure compliance with the Core Strategy to achieve the delivery of strategic plan-led and coordinated balanced development within the town									The targeted delivery of appropriate and strategic development in the LAP area is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health through provision of residential, commercial, employment and/or recreational opportunities. The application of development management standards and monitoring of the scale and type of new development is likely to result in a positive impact on both landscape and visual and material assets in that it will ensure that no new development is visually intrusive, or outside the capacity of existing utilities. It will also ensure that any development within the ACA of the town is appropriate and will not negatively impact sites or buildings of historical or architectural significance

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
CSO 1.3	Support and facilitate the implementation of the Urban Development and Regeneration Strategy for the town and pursue suitable funding mechanisms to bring forward the realisation of the Strategy as they arise									Urban development and regeneration of the town of Naas will contribute positively to the compact growth agenda. The development and regeneration of the town centre will provide greater opportunity to live and work in the town- in addition to greater service provision. Thus, a potential positive effect on the population is identified. Compact growth also favours air, noise and climate factors in that it reduces the need for urban sprawl and subsequent traffic movements. An uncertain effect on Heritage is identified at this time in that Naas town, in particular the ACA is of unique heritage value. Development or regeneration in the town will need to be cognisant of any features or areas of architectural significance. Regeneration by its nature generally has a positive effect on the landscape and visual amenity of the town centre- where previously derelict or poor quality buildings are targeted. An uncertain effect on Material assets is identified in that urban development and regeneration of a town centre can lead to both positive and negative environmental effects. Positive effects on material assets as a result of regeneration and urban development stem from reductions in urban sprawl and the new services and utilities provisions required in rural areas- as well as the increased reliance on private vehicle use. Negative effects of compact growth include increased demand on existing services and utilities.
CSO 1.4	Focus new enterprise development into lands identified for Enterprise and Employment, and Industry and Warehousing uses.									An overall uncertain environmental effect is identified with regards this objective. Refer to the site-specific zoning assessment for an assessment of any proposed new developments on, or zoning of lands for Enterprise and Employment, and Industry and Warehousing uses.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
CSO 1.5	Support the delivery of supporting physical and social infrastructure to support all residential development									The delivery of physical and social infrastructure to support all residential development will result in a positive impact on Population & Human Health and Material Assets.
CSO 1.6	Work with multi-disciplinary stakeholders and the business community to realise the objectives and actions contained in this Plan.									A potential positive effect on the population is identified through increased involvement- and say- in the implementation of the LAP objectives. An uncertain environmental effect is identified with regards other SEA environmental objectives. Refer to the assessment of each objective within this table.
CSO 1.7	Transition over the lifetime of the Plan towards the preparation of a Joint Integrated Spatial Plan incorporating both Naas and Sallins to provide a single coordinated development strategy which considers the economic, social and environmental sensitivities within the overall study area, thereby providing a cohesive overall land use strategy for the respective urban environments.									A potential overall positive effect is identified with regards the proposal to provide a single coordinated development strategy which considers the economic, social and environmental sensitivities within the overall study area.
CSO 1.8	Investigate in consultation with the NTA, Irish Water, Irish Rail, Waterways Ireland and other statutory agencies and stakeholders, options for the longer-term development of Naas and Sallins, and in particular the development of the Northwest Quadrant within the context of a masterplan.									The strategic and forward planning of the LAP area is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health in that the process would seek to meet and fulfil the needs of the existing and future population of Naas. This objective does not make direct provisions for development within the lifetime of the Plan, rather the investigation of the feasibility of the same. An overall neutral environmental effect is therefore identified for the purposes of this assessment.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
CSO 1.9	Preserve the lands identified as 'Strategic Reserve' on Map 11.1 Land Use Zoning Objectives, thereby controlling the level of piecemeal and haphazard development on these lands and safeguarding their strategic value in accommodating the orderly sequential expansion of the urban settlement beyond the current Plan period.									This objective relates to preservation of land for future development. No development is likely to occur within the plan period. An overall neutral environmental effect is therefore identified.
Residential Development										
Policy HC1	It is the policy of the Council to ensure that sufficient land is available at appropriate locations to satisfy the County Core Strategy growth allocation for Naas, to ensure Naas maintains its status as one of Kildare's Key Towns and that good quality housing is provided.									The provision of good quality housing will have a positive impact on Population & Human Health. However, at this stage of the development process it is not possible to determine potential impact on Biodiversity, Land & Soils, Water, Air, Noise & Climate, Heritage, Landscape & Visual or Material Assets.
HCO 1.1	Support new residential development and infill development that occurs in tandem with the delivery of supporting physical and social infrastructure.									It is not possible to ascertain the whether the proposed objective has the potential to result in negative impacts on the environment, as the type, scale and location of the development has not been defined. Refer to site-specific zoning assessment. A positive impact on population and human health is predicted however, through increased residential opportunities.
HCO 1.2	Support approved housing bodies and other sectoral agencies in the provision of a greater diversity of housing type and tenure, including social and affordable housing and exploring new models at low cost rental and affordable homeownership									It is not possible to ascertain the whether the proposed objective has the potential to result in negative impacts on the environment, as the type, scale and location of the development has not been defined. Refer to site-specific zoning assessment. A positive impact on population and human health is predicted however, through increased social and affordable residential opportunities.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
HCO 1.3	Encourage the appropriate redevelopment of brownfield and infill sites for residential uses within the footprint of the existing built-up area.									The development of brownfield and infill sites for residential uses within the footprint of the existing built up areas will have a positive impact on population and human health, as well as air quality and climate as it provides new housing opportunities, discourages urban sprawl, reduces traffic movements, enhances the public realm and encourages more sustainable transport methods. An increase in the population density in existing built up areas could however put a strain on material assets, however the recent upgrade to Osberstown WWTP should accommodate all development proposed under the plan. The redevelopment of brownfield sites has the potential to result in a positive impact on land and soils it involves the remediation of potentially contaminated land. It is not possible to ascertain if this objective will result in an impact on landscape and visual, as the type or scale of proposed infill development is not defined. High density development can result in a landscape and visual impact if they are too intrusive.
HCO 1.4	Manage the provision of one-off housing on lands zoned as I: Agricultural. Limited one-off housing may be permitted in this zone subject to compliance with Chapter 4, Rural Housing Policy of the County Development Plan 2017-2023 (as varied) or any subsequent development plan subject to compliance with all other normal siting and design considerations.									As outlined in Chapter 4, Rural Housing Policy of the County Development Plan 2017-2023, the provisions of the Rural Housing Policy will be *implemented through the management of the provision of one-off housing in order to protect the physical, environmental, natural and heritage resources of the county, in conjunction with providing for rural housing for those persons who comply with the "Local Need" provision of the Plan.* On this basis, a neutral impact on all environmental aspects is predicted.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
HCO 1.5	Promote the sustainable development of vacant residential and regeneration sites in Naas, through the application of the provisions of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 (as amended), Vacant Site Levy, on Residential Land and Regeneration Land.									Population & Human Health will be positively impacted as new residential development will meet growing demands for residential accommodation. Material Assets will be positively impacted due to the delivery of supporting physical & social infrastructure.
HCO 1.6	Continue to pursue potential funding avenues and apply for funding under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund and other available funds to realise the vision for Naas Town Centre.									Pursuing funds in order to realise the vision for Naas Town Centre will have a positive impact on Population & Human Health. At this stage of the development process it is not possible to determine the impact on Biodiversity, land & soils, water, air, noise & climate, heritage and landscape & visual and material assets. Further assessment will be carried out at a project level.
Residential Density, Mix and Design										
Policy HC2	It is the policy of the Council to ensure that all new residential development provides for a sustainable mix of housing types, sizes and tenures and that new development complements the existing residential mix.									Provision of a sustainable mix of housing types, sizes and tenures will have a positive impact on Population & Human Health. In addition to this, new developments complementing the existing residential mix will also positively impact Population & Human Health. For the purposes of this assessment an unknown effect is identified for Biodiversity, land & soils, water, air, noise & climate, heritage and landscape & visual and material assets.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
HCO 2.1	Require that a good mix of housing types and sizes is provided in all new residential areas and in appropriate brownfield/infill areas, to meet the needs of the population of Naas, including the provision of appropriate supported housing and longer term residential care solutions designed for older people and/or people with disabilities									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment, in general. A positive impact on population and human health is predicted through the provision of accessible housing options. It is not possible to ascertain whether the proposed developments will result in a negative impact on landscape and visual as their will locations and subsequent baseline environments will change, and so too will the size and density of the proposed developments. High density development can result in a landscape and visual impact if they are too intrusive
HCO 2.2	Seek to provide Traveller Specific Accommodation at appropriate locations close to key services, including education, community, health, recreation and public transport facilities in accordance with the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024.									Provision of Traveller Specific Accommodation at appropriate locations close to key services and public transport facilities will have a positive impact on Population & Human Health. It is not possible to ascertain whether this will have a positive or a negative impact on Biodiversity, land & soils, water, air, noise & climate, heritage and landscape & visual and material assets at this stage of the development. Refer to site specific zoning assessment. A positive effect on the population is identified in through increased opportunities for traveller accommodation.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
HCO 2.3	Require that residential schemes in close proximity to Naas' heavily trafficked roads and streets are designed and constructed to minimise noise disturbance. A suitably qualified acoustic specialist shall be engaged in the development design process, paying particular attention to the Kildare Noise Action Plan 2019-2023 (or any subsequent plan) and the EPA 'Environment and Wellbeing' Maps[3]. An Acoustic Design Statement, including proposals for post-construction noise monitoring, clearly demonstrating that significant adverse noise impacts will be avoided shall be submitted with development applications.									Designing heavily trafficked roads with noise minimisation measures will have a positive impact on both Population and noise with regards those residents who will be living in close proximity to these streets.
HCO 2.4	To apply a 10% social housing requirement, pursuant to Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to all sites that are zoned solely for residential use or for a mixture of residential and other uses (save where the development is exempt from the provisions of Part V).									It is not possible to ascertain whether the proposed objective has the potential to result in negative impacts on the environment, as the type, scale and location of the development has not been defined. Refer to site-specific zoning assessment. A positive impact on population and human health is predicted however, through increased social and affordable residential opportunities.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
HCO 2.5	Promote high levels of energy conservation, energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources in existing buildings, including retro fitting of energy efficiency in traditional buildings. All new buildings will be required to achieve the Nearly Zero-Energy Buildings (NZEB) standard in line with the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD).									A likely positive effect on air, noise and climate is identified as a result of the promotion of more sustainable energy sources and subsequent reduced dependence on, or use of, fossil fuels. A neutral effect on other environmental factors is identified.
HCO 2.6	Support the objectives set out in Kildare Age Friendly County Strategy 2019 –2021 and any subsequent strategy, regarding the implementation of Age Friendly principles in the planning, design and delivery of physical infrastructure, public realm works, business and commercial premises.									The implementation of age friendly principles in planning is likely to result in a positive effect on the population- particularly on the elderly population. A neutral effect on other environmental factors is identified.
HCO 2.7	To comply with the Special Policy Planning Requirements (SPPRs) for apartment standards and building heights issued under Section 28(1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).									A likely positive effect on the landscape and visual amenity of Naas is identified as a result of this objective. A neutral effect on other environmental factors is identified.
Social Infrastructure										
Policy HC3	It is the policy of the Council to facilitate and secure the provision of social infrastructure to support existing and new communities within the Naas Local Area Plan area, in a manner which provides flexibility to respond to varied and changing community needs.									The provision of social infrastructure to support existing and new communities within the Naas LAP area will have a positive impact on Population & Human Health. This provision will have a neutral impact on biodiversity, land & soils, water, air, noise & climate, heritage and landscape & visual and material assets.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
HCO 3.1	Encourage the development of new facilities and improvements to and expansion of existing facilities for educational, early learning, childcare and healthcare facilities, at appropriate locations in Naas.									It is not possible to ascertain whether the proposed objective will result in any impact on the environment. However, this objective will likely result in a positive impact on population and human health through enhanced provision of services
HCO 3.2	Require the provision of appropriately located and purpose-built early learning and childcare facilities to meet the pro-rata childcare needs of housing development during the plan period.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment, in general.
HCO 3.3	Support and co-operate with promoters or operators of public and private health care facilities, including hospitals, by facilitating and encouraging the provision of improved health care facilities in appropriate locations in Naas.									The provision of improved health care facilities in Naas is likely to result in a positive effect on population and human health.
HCO 3.4	Encourage the delivery of facilities and services for older people, at appropriate locations in Naas**.**									Increased facilities and services for older people will have a positive impact on the population and human health. A neutral impact on the environment in general is predicted.
HCO 3.5	Actively engage with the Department of Education and Skills in the identification and delivery of school sites to address the emerging demands.									Increased schooling facilities will have a positive impact on the population and human health. A neutral impact on the environment in general is predicted
Community, Sports and Recreational										
Policy HC4	It is the policy of the Council to facilitate and support a broad range of community, cultural and recreational facilities to serve the needs of the residents of the Plan area and its wider catchment.									Facilitation and support of community, cultural and recreational facilities will positively impact population & human health and will have a neutral impact on the environment.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
HCO 4.1	Support and facilitate the provision of appropriately located multi-functional community facilities to meet the needs of the growing population in Naas.									It is not possible to determine whether the proposed objective refers to development, and to what scale. As such it is not possible to ascertain whether the proposed objective will result in any impact on the environment. This objective has the potential to result in a positive impact on population and human health through enhanced provision of facilities.
HCO 4.2	Support the relocation of Naas Library through the redevelopment and rejuvenation of Naas Town Hall into a new library and cultural centre.									An overall neutral effect is identified as a result of the implementation of this objective- which relates to the redevelopment and rejuvenation of an existing building in the town centre. An uncertain effect on heritage is identified however, in that any proposed redevelopment should be cognisant of the architectural heritage of Naas Town Hall. A likely positive effect on population is identified as a result of the provision of new library and cultural centre services.
HCO 4.3	Support the delivery of an access to the lands zoned Strategic Open Space to accommodate a public parkland amenity in proximity to the Grand Canal.									Refer to site specific zoning assessment.
HCO 4.4	Support, promote and facilitate the development of cultural, arts and performance spaces in Naas									It is not possible to determine whether the proposed objective refers to development, and to what scale. As such it is not possible to ascertain whether the proposed objective will result in any impact on the environment. This objective will however likely result in a positive impact on population and human health through enhanced provision of facilities.
HCO 4.5	Facilitate sports and community groups in the acquisition and/or use of lands for sports and recreation purposes									As the proposed objective would not result in any development, a neutral impact on the environment is envisaged. A positive impact on population and human health is predicted through provision of new amenity opportunities.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
HCO 4.6	Facilitate and promote the development of a network of playgrounds, amenity spaces and recreational areas for children of all ages which are universally designed throughout the town and its environs									The development of a network of playgrounds, amenity spaces and recreational areas is likely to have a positive impact on population and human health; however, it is not possible to ascertain whether this development will have a positive or a negative impact on the environment, at this stage of the project.
HCO 4.7	Investigate the feasibility of the provision a small green waste composting site in the town for use by local community groups, as an action towards both sustainable waste management and biodiversity enhancement.									This objective is likely not to result in development during the lifetime of the plan. An overall neutral environmental effect is therefore identified.
HCO 4.8	Investigate the feasibility of providing a dog park within lands designated for Open Space and Amenity in conjunction with the Council's Parks Department**.**									This objective is likely not to result in development during the lifetime of the plan. An overall neutral environmental effect is therefore identified.
Walking and Cycling										
Policy MT 1	It is the policy of the Council to promote enhanced permeability for pedestrians and cyclists within Naas in order to improve access to the town centre, local schools, residential areas, recreational facilities, public transport services and other amenities.									Enhanced permeability for pedestrians and cyclists will result in a positive impact for population and human health. Air, noise and climate are also likely to be positively impacted by this objective, as it will result in reduced traffic levels and increased adoption of walking and cycling. It is not possible to determine the impact on biodiversity, land & soils, water, heritage, landscape & visual and material assets at this stage of the development.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
MTO 1.1	Support and promote the use of sustainable active transport modes in Naas and seek to implement a connected network of walking and cycling infrastructure in the town in conjunction with the National Transport Authority, other statutory agencies, and the relevant stakeholders. The final design details shall be subject to ecological assessment, where applicable, and undergo appropriate public consultation									Through maximising connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists, a positive impact on population and human health and air, noise and climate is anticipated through increased sustainable transport opportunities. It is assumed that the strategic links in existing areas here refers to pedestrian and cyclist links, which constitute minor development. A neutral impact on the environment is therefore anticipated.
MTO 1.2	Ensure all footpaths in Naas are accessible to all members of the community, including people with disabilities, the elderly and people with young children									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment, in general. A positive impact on population and human health is predicted through provision of a more accessible public realm
MTO 1.3	Continue to work with Waterways Ireland to progress the delivery of: (i) Naas to Sallins Greenway (ii) Naas to Corbally Harbour Greenway									A greenway is a strip of undeveloped land near an urban area, set aside for recreational use or environmental protection. As a result, the delivery of these greenways will positively impact biodiversity, air, noise and climate. The impact on population and human health is likely to be positive due to the provision of recreational use lands.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
MTO 1.4	To work with the National Transport Authority (NTA) to implement the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan proposals for Naas subject to detailed engineering design and any mitigation measures presented in the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) accompanying the NTA Plan									This objective further contributes to the Plan provisions relating to the enhancement and provision of public transport facilities. As the GDA Cycle Network Plan has already been subject to an independent SEA, and as sections of the proposed cycle network are already provided for in the Draft Plan, no significant negative impacts on the environment are anticipated.
MTO 1.5	Create new pedestrian and cycle links across the Grand Canal that enhance connectivity in the area and link residential areas, the town centre, community facilities and public spaces/amenities as proposed under the Naas Transport Strategy. The final design details shall be subject to ecological assessment and public consultation.									A positive impact on population and human health and air, noise and climate is likely as there will be reduced traffic levels and increased connectivity in the area, through increased pedestrian and cycle links. Biodiversity, land & soils, water, heritage, landscape & visual and material assets will be neutrally affected.
MTO 1.6	Ensure that all development within Naas allows for connectivity (pedestrian, cyclist and vehicular) to adjacent lands in accordance with the National Transport Authority's Permeability Best Practice Guide (2015) or any updated version of same.									Through maximising connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists, a positive impact on population and human health and air noise and climate is anticipated through increased sustainable transport opportunities.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
MTO 1.7	To provide adequate, secure and sheltered bicycle parking facilities subject to demand analysis, at appropriate locations at: (i) Town centre – such as Market Square, Poplar Square, South Main Street, close to Shopping Centre entrance and the Harbour (ii) Adjacent to heritage, community and amenity destinations									A positive impact on population and human health, and air noise and climate are predicted through the provision of sustainable transport facilities. Provision of bicycle parking constitutes development of a minor scale, a neutral impact on other aspects of the environment is therefore anticipated.
MTO 1.8	Promote the town centre as a pedestrian/cyclist friendly area and to investigate the feasibility of pedestrian priority at the section of Main Street between the Presbyterian Church to Poplar Square and to pedestrianise Poplar Square in line with the Dublin Road Naas Corridor Scheme.									The promotion of a modal shift from private vehicle use to sustainable forms of transport is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health, as well as air noise and climate. The promotion of these facilities is expected to have a neutral impact on other aspects of the environment.
MTO 1.9	Seek to improve and promote looped walks in conjunction with Slí na Sláinte and other relevant bodies recognising them as important health and recreation infrastructure within the town									A positive impact on population and human health as well as air noise and climate are predicted through the improvement and promotion of walkways. The improvement and promotion of these walkways is expected to have a neutral impact on other aspects of the environment.
MTO 1.10	Seek to retain the character of Rathasker Road, Craddockstown Road and other rural links on the outskirts of the town and the extent of their approach to the town centre to develop them as a connected series of walking routes in conjunction with Slí na Sláinte and other relevant bodies.									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on the environment, in general. The retention of the rural character of these areas means that there will be little or no potential for greenfield development and will ensure the maintenance of the natural environment.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
MTO 1.11	Provide a pedestrian crossing/connection at Jigginstown to facilitate walkers and cyclists using the Grand Canal Greenway and needing to cross the R445 safely.									This objective is likely not to result in development during the lifetime of the plan. An overall neutral environmental effect is therefore identified.
MTO 1.12	Investigate the feasibility of a greenway/cycleway link between the town of Naas and the village of Caragh. Any development proposals along the Caragh Road should provide the necessary setback required to facilitate such a development and are subject to appropriate environmental assessments.									This objective is likely not to result in development during the lifetime of the plan. An overall neutral environmental effect is therefore identified.
Public Transport										
Policy MT2	It is the policy of the Council to promote the sustainable development of Naas by supporting and guiding the relevant national agencies in delivering improvements to the public transport network and to public transport services.									By supporting and guising the delivery of improvements to the public transport network and services, population and human health will be impacted positively, as will air, noise and the climate. It is yet to be determined what impact this policy will have on other aspects of the environment as the location of these improvements is unknown.
MTO 2.1	Focus people intensive land uses around and close to existing and planned public transport and improve access to such services.									It is not possible to ascertain whether this objective relates to greenfield development, or development on already zoned or development lands. As such an 'unknown' impact is predicted. A positive impact on population and human health and air, noise and climate is likely to occur through the provision of residential or employment opportunities in close proximity to sustainable transport nodes.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
MTO 2.2	Secure the implementation of a bus interchange at Market Square/South Main Street, subject to the availability of funding and appropriate environmental assessment.									The provision of a bus interchange at Market Square is likely to result in a positive effect on the population, air and climate and on material assets as a result of enhanced public transport facilities. An uncertain effect on the landscape and visual amenity in Naas is identified- as bus interchanges have the potential to be significant in terms of size and scale. However, the proposed design is not known at this time. A potential neutral effect is identified with regards other environmental factors in that Market square is an already developed area.
MTO 2.3	Support and facilitate the implementation of the following bus priority measures, subject to the availability of funding and appropriate environmental assessment and where necessary to preserve the identified routes free from development: ▪ Sustainable Travel Bridge over the M7 linking Sallins and Naas; ▪ Morell Way bus gate to facilitate a new bus-only street; ▪ Left turn ban on to Main Street (from R445 towards Main Street); ▪ Bus priority entrance to Piper's Hill schools; ▪ Bus Priority Route link to Sallins Bypass through the Northwest Quadrant									Any new development- especially the proposed new bridge over the M7- has the potential to give rise to negative environmental effects. Refer to mitigation measures. The implementation of bus priority measures however is likely to result in a positive effect on the population, air and climate and material assets as a result of enhanced public transport facilities.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
MTO 2.4	Engage and co-operate with the Department of Transport, National Transport Authority (NTA), Irish Rail, Local Link and other stakeholders to improve the provision of public transport in Naas including the delivery of a sustainable bus-only link between Naas and Sallins Railway Station, a local bus route, additional bus stops and the provision of bus priority measures to ensure the improved movement of bus services through the town centre and local neighbourhoods.									The provision of public transport infrastructure constitutes development of a minor nature, and a generally neutral impact on the environment is predicted. A positive impact on population and human health as well as air, noise and climate are predicted through increased and variable modes of transport and a reduced dependency on private vehicles.
MTO 2.5	Support and promote in conjunction with the National Transport Authority and Irish Rail, the upgrade and expanded Park & Ride facility at the Sallins Railway Station and the electrification of the rail line to Sallins with Dart Services thus providing a 10-minute peak commuter rail frequency.									Any new development- especially the proposed new station and DART extension- has the potential to give rise to negative environmental effects. Refer to mitigation measures. The implementation of these measures however is likely to result in a positive effect on the population, air and climate and material assets as a result of enhanced public transport facilities.
MTO 2.6	Investigate the merits of a second station with a Park & Ride to the west of Sallins to serve the population of Naas and the wider region.									Any new development has the potential to give rise to negative environmental effects. Refer to mitigation measures. The implementation of these measures however is likely to result in a positive effect on the population, air and climate and material assets as a result of enhanced public transport facilities.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
MTO 2.7	Protect the lands zoned Q: Enterprise and Employment to the east of the Western Relief Road from haphazard development that would prejudice the future delivery of a bus priority route through the Northwest Quadrant. Proposals for development on lands zoned Q: Enterprise and Employment should protect the integrity of these lands and potential developers will be required to liaise with the Planning Authority and Roads and Transportation Department of Kildare County Council in advance of submitting development proposals.									Any new development has the potential to give rise to negative environmental effects. Refer to mitigation measures. The implementation of bus priority measures however is likely to result in a positive effect on the population, air and climate and material assets as a result of enhanced public transport facilities.
Road and Street Network										
Policy MT3	It is the policy of the Council to maintain, improve and extend the local road network in and around Naas to ensure a high standard of connectivity and safety for all road users.									Maintenance, improvements and extensions to the local road network will have a positive impact on the population and human health due to increased connectivity. Potential impacts on other environmental aspects are uncertain as the location of possible extensions is yet to be confirmed.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
MTO 3.1	(a) Maintain and improve, as required, the local road network to ensure a high standard of road quality and safety in accordance with the requirements of the relevant legislation. (b) Safeguard the development and carrying capacity of the national road infrastructure along the existing M7 in accordance with the Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (DoECLG, 2012).'									The maintenance and improvement of existing roads constitutes development of a minor nature and a neutral impact on the environment, in general is predicted. A positive impact on population and human health is predicted through enhanced road quality and safety.
MTO 3.2	Support the implementation of the following road schemes/projects (as detailed on Map 5.4), subject to the availability of funding, the relevant legislative process and appropriate environmental assessment and where necessary to preserve the identified routes free from development: (i) The Gallops Avenue. (ii) Upgrade of Murtagh's Corner junction. (iii) Millbridge Street. (iv) Roadway linking Aldi Distribution Centre to Millennium Link Road. (v) Town centre HGV restrictions. (vi) Upgrade signalised junctions to MOVA or SCOOT as appropriate									Any new development- especially proposed new roads schemes have the potential to give rise to negative environmental effects. Refer to mitigation measures. The implementation of these measures however is likely to result in a positive effect on the population and material assets as a result of enhanced transport facilities.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
MTO 3.3	Co-operate and liaise with the Department of Transport, the National Transport Authority (NTA) and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) in relation to securing appropriate improvements/extensions to the transport network within Naas.									This objective does not relate to development within the lifetime of the plan. An overall neutral environmental effect is therefore identified.
MTO 3.4	Investigate the development of a street network within the Northwest Quadrant by way of the Northwest Quadrant masterplan (as set out in Chapter 10) including improved accessibility over the canal and access to the town centre and Sallins Railway Station to facilitate increased permeability and connectivity, in accordance with the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets.									This objective does not relate to development within the lifetime of the plan. The proposed new access routes will become part of the final proposed masterplan and will be subject to an independent SEA. As such, a neutral impact on the environment is predicted during the lifetime of this plan.
MTO 3.5	Ensure that development proposals within the Core Regeneration Areas and Key Development Areas are subject to a Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA), to be carried out in accordance with the Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines (2014). The requirement for all other developments will be determined on a case by case basis.									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health as TIAs would work to reduce the impact of traffic in these areas, while ensuring compliance with local and national transport policies and objectives.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
MTO 3.6	Reduce the harmful effects of traffic noise by ensuring noise mitigation measures are implemented into new developments in proximity to motorway routes, national routes, regional routes and significant urban streets. Developers shall engage a suitably qualified acoustic specialist to prepare an Acoustic Design Statement for all new developments with the potential to impact sensitive noise receptors. The Statement shall have regard to the thresholds set out in the Kildare Noise Action Plan 2019-2023 (or any subsequent plan).									Designing heavily trafficked roads with noise minimisation measures will have a positive impact on Population and noise.
MTO 3.7	To ensure a 91-metre building line setback from the motorway and associated junctions from the nearest roadside edge to protect against transportation noise and to ensure the future protection of the motorway network. Under certain circumstances ancillary development may be considered within the setback zone in recognition of local conditions and the nature of the proposed activity.									Designing heavily trafficked roads with noise minimisation measures will have a positive impact on Population and noise.
MTO 3.8	Examine the feasibility of realigning/raising the Newbridge Road (R445) at the point of crossing the canal at Jigginstown to be of a sufficient height so as not to hinder the future passage of boats and barges									This objective, centres around examining feasibility, therefore it does not involve development within the lifetime of the plan. A neutral impact on the environment is therefore anticipated.
Parking										

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
Policy MT4	It is the policy of the Council to manage the provision of car parking to provide for the needs of residents, business and visitors to the town centre of Naas									Management of car parking in the town will positively impact population and human health, as this provision will help to fulfil the needs of residents, business and visitors. Limiting the provision of parking has the potential to positively impact air, noise and climate due to possible discouragement private car use. The policy is expected to have a neutral impact on other aspects of the environment.
MTO 4.1	Apply the parking standards in the Kildare County Development Plan, and relevant Section 28 Guidelines, to all applications for planning permission in Naas. Dispensations will only be considered in exceptional circumstances and having regard to location, proximity to key public transport routes, heritage and urban design context.									This is existing policy, and therefore represents the baseline situation. A neutral environmental impact is envisaged.
MTO 4.2	Support and facilitate the implementation of the preferred car parking management measures, as illustrated on Map 5.4, as identified in the Naas/Sallins Transport Strategy.									A positive effect on population and material assets is predicted form the implementation of car parking management measures.
MTO 4.3	Ensure that all new proposed developments make provisions for the use of electric vehicles through a significant increase in the provision of clearly and exclusively designated electric car charging points on public and private land in partnership with ESB and other relevant stakeholders and landowners.									A likely positive effect on population, air noise and climate and material assets is identified as a result of the proposed provisions for electric vehicles and subsequent potential reduction in diesel or petrol vehicles.
Enterprise and Economic Development										

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
Policy ED 1	It is the policy of the Council to support the development of Naas as the enterprise and employment hub for County Kildare and the region, increase employment located within the town, reduce commuting and ensure new employment development contributes towards reducing carbon output									Increasing the number of jobs located within the town will have a direct positive impact on population and human health. The reduction of commuting and ensuring new employment development contributes towards reducing carbon output will have a positive impact on air, noise and climate. This policy will neutrally impact biodiversity, land and soils, water, heritage, landscape and visual and material assets.
EDO 1.1	Encourage economic development and employment growth in Naas in accordance with its designation as a Key Town, while adhering to the overall Economic Development Strategy of the Plan.									A likely positive effect on population is identified as a result of economic development and employment growth initiatives in Naas.
EDO 1.2	Promote enterprise and employment development in the Northwest Quadrant, focusing on high-tech manufacturing, research and development, ICT, food science and production, large scale offices, public administration, banking, tourism and bloodstock, within a high-quality campus/park type development									For lands that are already zoned for enterprise and employment, a neutral impact on the environment, and a positive impact on population and human health, is anticipated. However, if the lands are not zoned for enterprise and employment, the impact of this objective is uncertain. In this case, further investigations will be necessary at a later stage of the development.
EDO 1.3	Support the development of Mid-East Region Innovation Think Space (MERITS) and support the creation of economic linkages between all scales of local businesses through this enterprise and incubation hub.									This objective is likely to have a neutral impact on the environment, in general. A positive impact on population and human health is envisaged, particularly for local business owners, through enhanced economic linkages.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
EDO 1.4	Facilitate the regeneration and redevelopment of the lands to the east of the Dublin Road roundabout, in particular the Key Development Area at Junction 9 (Maudlins) (the former Donnelly Mirrors and Cemex Concrete sites), through a joint approach for the two landholdings through the preparation of a comprehensive masterplan comprising of an overall high quality design in recognition of its location as a key gateway site. Consultation with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) is required in the preparation of any masterplan for these lands and adherence to the Design Framework set out in Chapter 10.									Refer to site-specific zoning assessment.
EDO 1.5	Encourage the development of employment areas in a comprehensive and sequential manner which uses existing infrastructure effectively and efficiently, ensuring they are designed to the highest architectural and landscaping standards, with natural site features, such as watercourses, trees and hedgerows are retained and enhanced as an integral part of the scheme.									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health and material assets in that it will ensure that there will be no strain on utilities in the area as a result of employment-based development.
EDO 1.6	Engage with IDA Ireland and the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment in seeking to attract Foreign Direct Investment into the Northwest Quadrant and elsewhere in the town, in line with the Mid-East Region's Enterprise Plan.									This objective will result in a positive impact on population and human health due to the provision of further employment opportunities. A neutral impact on the environment in general is anticipated.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
EDO 1.7	Ensure new enterprise and employment uses provide Workplace Travel Plans /Mobility Management Plans to reduce dependency on private modes of travel consistent with the principles set out in the National Transport Authority guidance: 'Achieving Effective Workplace Travel Plans'									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health as well as air, noise and climate through the provision and encouragement of sustainable transport in the LAP area.
EDO 1.8	Encourage the provision of remote working hubs and incentivise employment creation on lands zoned 'A: Town Centre' as a key driver of regeneration, including through a review of the Development Contribution Scheme and the application of the Commercial Incentive Grant Scheme (2021) or any successor to same.									An overall neutral environmental effect is likely as a result of this objective. A positive effect on the population is likely however, as a result of the provision of alternative working facilities.
EDO 1.9	Support and encourage the provision of ground floor live-work units and/or co-working spaces as part of mixed-use and residential developments in appropriate locations, as a means of enlivening streets and to provide flexible accommodation for small businesses and remote working opportunities.									A likely positive effect on population is identified as a result of the potential provision of ground floor live-work units and co-working spaces through increased opportunities for small businesses in Naas. A likely positive effect on the landscape and visual amenity in Naas is also identified in that the initiative is set to enliven the streets and potentially rejuvenate previously derelict or poor quality units.
EDO 1.10	Facilitate home-working and other innovative forms of working which reduce the need to travel but are subordinate to the main residential use of the dwelling and do not result in a disamenity in an area.									An overall neutral environmental effect is likely as a result of this objective. A positive effect on the population is likely however, as a result of the provision of alternative working facilities. A likely positive effect on air quality, noise and climate is also identified in that home-working would reduce the level of community to/from Naas.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
EDO 1.11	Ensure that the development of employment lands do not undermine the carrying and operational capacity of the N7 motorway network, by requiring that Traffic and Transport Assessments are submitted for larger developments with the potential to impact on the network									A potential positive effect on material assets is likely to occur as a result of securing the carrying and operational capacity of the N7. An overall neutral effect on other environmental factors is identified.
EDO 1.12	Facilitate the location of Data Centre development on land designated P: Data Centre/Warehouse at Caragh Road South and Newhall/Jigginstown for the identified land use only subject to appropriate environmental and transport impact assessments									Refer to site-specific zoning assessment
Tourism										
Policy ED 2	It is the policy of the Council to support and facilitate the development of the tourism infrastructure in Naas with emphasis on utilising and harnessing, in an appropriate and sustainable manner, the potential of the town's natural and built heritage assets.									Increased tourism attractions and activities will have a positive impact on population due to increased revenue entering and circulating within Naas. The impact on the environment should be positive due to the emphasis on sustainability.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
EDO 2.1	Support and facilitate the development of an integrated network of greenways and heritage trails, including along the Corbally and Naas branches of the Grand Canal.									This objective has the potential to result in a negative impact on biodiversity. As outlined by the National Parks and Wildlife Services (NPWS), '*walkways and cycle-way plans can, if insensitively designed, lead to habitat loss or fragmentation in sensitive areas, such as riparian zones, or result in disturbance to sensitive species such as otters and bats, through light pollution or increased human access to breeding or resting places*.' Refer to Table 8.1 for mitigation measures. This objective will likely result in a positive impact on population and human health through provision of recreational and tourism opportunities. It is unknown if the proposed heritage trails will result in any negative impact on the heritage of the local area.
EDO 2.2	Encourage the development of tourism activities such as water-based activities, cultural and agri-tourism, equine tourism and food markets in Naas.									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health through provision and enhancement of the amenity value of the area. As the waterways and other forms of proposed activities are not fully defined at this time, it is not possible to fully ascertain the impacts of the same on water quality and biodiversity- aquatic biodiversity in particular.
EDO 2.3	Facilitate the provision of standardised signage and interpretation for tourism facilities and tourist attractions throughout the town.									This objective is likely to result in an overall neutral impact on the environment- the erection of signage constitutes minor development. A positive impact on population and human health is envisaged through the enhanced identification and encouragement of use of tourism facilities and attractions throughout the town.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
EDO 2.4	Support the development of new tourist facilities or the upgrading / extension of existing tourist facilities.									It is assumed, by the use of the term sustainable development here, that any proposed extensions would be subject to any relevant environmental assessments required and would have regard to any environmental constraints. It is also assumed that this objective does not relate to any greenfield development. As a result, an overall neutral impact on the environment is envisaged. A positive impact on population and human health is likely to occur, through enhanced tourism facilities in the area.
EDO 2.5	Encourage the development of Millbank Lodge as a tourist amenity facility providing complementary uses to the Strategic Open Space lands and the proposed Naas to Sallins Greenway, such as bike hire/café.									The development of Millbank Lodge as a tourist amenity is likely to result in a positive effect on the population as a result of enhanced tourism and employment opportunities in Naas. An overall neutral effect is identified on other environmental factors in that development will likely be minimal, and at an already existing premises.
EDO 2.6	Encourage appropriate development proposals for St David's Castle, Jigginstown Castle, Leinster Mills and the Canal Harbour and investigate the tourism, cultural and amenity potential for these sites.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment, in general. A positive impact on population and human health is predicted through enhancement of tourism opportunities.
EDO 2.7	Support the re-use of the Eir building on Abbey Street for a mix of cultural, community, leisure and/or tourism uses.									As Abbey Street makes up part of the ACA of Naas, it is not possible to fully ascertain whether there will be any impact on heritage as a result of this objective. A positive impact on population and human health is predicted through new cultural, leisure and tourism opportunities.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
EDO 2.8	Support Naas' status as a 'purple flag' night-time economy and as a high-quality night-time destination.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment, in general. A positive impact on population and human health is predicted through increased tourism and recreational opportunities. It is not possible to ascertain whether this objective will result in a negative impact on nigh time noise levels in the town.
EDO 2.9	Support the diversification and intensification of employment opportunities in the equine and agriculture industries in Naas and further develop linkages between the equine and tourism industries.									The diversification and intensification of employment opportunities will have a positive impact on population and human health. A neutral impact on the environment is predicted through increased employment in agriculture and equine industries and developed linkages between the equine and tourism industries.
EDO 2.10	Work in conjunction with 'Into Kildare' to develop a local museum/tourist information centre within the town centre.									A local museum or tourist information centre would positively impact both local and tourist populations. There would be a neutral impact of this objective on the environment.
Retail										
Policy ED 3	It is the policy of the Council to support the retail function of Naas as Level 2 Major Town Centre and to consolidate existing retail development and to develop/regenerate opportunity sites/areas within the town centre.									Supporting further retail functions of Naas and consolidating existing retail development in Naas will positively impact population and human health. Development and regeneration of sites and areas within the town centre will also impact positively on population and human health. There will be a neutral impact on the environment due to this objective

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
EDO 3.1	Ensure the type, quantum and location of future retail floorspace provision in Naas is consistent with the requirements and recommendations of the County Development Plan, relevant regional policy frameworks and national planning guidelines.									This objective relates to compliance with existing policy and is therefore representative of the baseline scenario. An overall neutral environmental effect is therefore identified.
EDO 3.2	Protect and promote the vitality and viability of the Core Retail Area, through the application of a sequential approach to retail development, in accordance with the Retail Planning Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DECLG, 2012).									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment, in general. A positive impact on population and human health is envisaged through the provision and maintenance of a centralised retail core.
EDO 3.3	Support and facilitate the development of retail, retail services and niche retailing in the town centre area, including new/infill development and redevelopment of an appropriate scale.									The provision of new retail services in Naas is likely to result in a positive effect on the population. A likely positive effect is also identified with regards landscape and visual amenity where redevelopment occurs. An overall likely neutral effect on other environmental factors is identified in that
EDO 3.4	Support and facilitate the development of retail-led tourism associated with the natural and built heritage assets of Naas.									This objective will not result in development over the lifetime of the plan and as such, and overall neutral environmental effect is predicted. A positive effect on population is likely to occur as a result of increased tourism and associated economic investment.
EDO 3.5	Facilitate and encourage the appropriate redevelopment or re-use of the Corban's Lane Shopping Centre site for a mix of town centre uses in accordance with Chapter 10, Urban Development and Regeneration Strategy.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general through increased retail opportunity. A positive impact on population and human health is predicted, as reuse and redevelopment of the shopping centre will result in increased facilities and services for the population of Naas.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
EDO 3.6	Manage the proliferation of certain uses of development of undesirable uses such as fast-food outlets, amusement arcades, off-licences, bookmakers, and of other non-retail uses in the interest of protecting the vibrancy, residential amenity and public realm of Naas Town Centre.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general with a positive impact on population and human health.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
EDO 3.7	Encourage and facilitate the re-use and regeneration of vacant / derelict land and buildings for retail and other town centre uses, with due cognisance of the character, heritage and design requirements for the Architectural Conservation Area (ACA).									The re-development and regeneration the town will have a positive impact on population and human health, as well as air quality and climate as it discourages urban sprawl, reduces traffic movements, enhances the public realm and encourages more sustainable transport methods. The predicted impact on heritage here will also likely be neutral in considering the Councils commitment to have cognisance of the character, heritage and design requirements of the Architectural Conservation Area (ACA). The redevelopment of brownfield sites has the potential to result in a positive impact on land and soils it involves the remediation of potentially contaminated land. A high population density in Naas town centre could however put a strain on material assets, however the recent upgrade to Osberstown WWTP should accommodate all development proposed under the plan. High density housing can also result in a landscape and visual impact if residential units are too intrusive- the scale or density of development is not known. Refer to Table 8.1 for mitigation measures.
EDO 3.8	Support the continued development of a high quality 'Farmers Market' within the town.									This objective will not result in development over the lifetime of the plan and as such, and overall neutral environmental effect is predicted. A positive effect on population is likely to occur as a result of increased tourism and associated economic investment.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
EDO 3.9	Ensure that new shop front and signage design contributes positively to and enhances the streetscape and is in accordance with the guidance set out in the County Kildare Shopfront Guidelines (July 2013) and Kildare County Council Policy on Signage (April 2013).									A likely positive effect on landscape and visual amenity is identified as a result of the objective to ensure new shop front and signage design contributes positively and enhances the streetscape in Naas.
Green Infrastructure										
Policy NE1	It is the policy of the Council to protect, reinforce and strengthen the Green Infrastructure network in Naas and to strengthen links to the wider regional network.									At this stage of the process it is difficult to determine how this policy will affect population and human health, biodiversity, land and soils, water, air, noise and climate, heritage, landscape and visual and material assets.
NE 1.1	Protect identified key green infrastructure and 'stepping-stone' habitats (according to their value), enhance where possible and integrate existing and new green infrastructure as an essential component of new developments and prohibit development that would fragment the green infrastructure network. Site specific ecology surveys should be carried out to inform proposed development and assess and mitigate potential impacts.									Measures relating to the protection and conservation of biodiversity- including habitats, species, green infrastructure, stepping-stones etc. are likely to result in a positive effect on biodiversity, land and soil, water, air quality, noise and climate and landscape and visual.
NE 1.2	Ensure that any proposal for development within or adjacent to the Grand Canal (pNHA) is located and designed to minimise its impact on the biodiversity, geological, water and landscape value of the pNHA and, where possible, to integrate these important attributes into all such development schemes.									Measures relating to the protection and conservation of biodiversity- including habitats, species, green infrastructure, stepping-stones etc. are likely to result in a positive effect on biodiversity, land and soil, water, air quality, noise and climate and landscape and visual.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
NE 1.3	Protect and enhance the built, natural and recreational potential of the Grand Canal Corridor within Naas and to encourage and promote sustainable access to and enjoyment of the Grand Canal.									While the protection and enhancement of the Grand Canal corridor is likely to result in a positive environmental effect, increased human interaction with places of natural sensitivity could also negatively affect the same- with regards maintenance of species, littering, pollution etc. An uncertain effect on biodiversity, water, land and soil and air, noise and climate is therefore identified.
NE 1.4	Maintain a suitable buffer zone along the Grand Canal and other watercourses protecting them from development. The extent and composition of the buffer zone (up to 30 metres) shall be determined in consultation with a qualified ecologist and will be informed by *Planning for Watercourses in the Urban Environment (*IFI, 2020).									Measures relating to the protection and conservation of biodiversity- including habitats, species, green infrastructure, stepping-stones etc. are likely to result in a positive effect on biodiversity, land and soil, water, air quality, noise and climate and landscape and visual.
NE 1.5	Protect the Fairgreen Lakes off the Ballymore Road and to consult with Inland Fisheries Ireland prior to undertaking or authorising any works or development in proximity to the lakes.									Measures relating to the protection and conservation of biodiversity- including habitats, species, green infrastructure, stepping-stones etc. are likely to result in a positive effect on biodiversity, land and soil, water, air quality, noise and climate and landscape and visual.
NE 1.6	Identify, protect and enhance, in co-operation with the relevant statutory agencies and other relevant groups active in Naas, sites of local biodiversity importance (Local Biodiversity Areas), not otherwise protected by legislation.									Measures relating to the protection and conservation of biodiversity- including habitats, species, green infrastructure, stepping-stones etc. are likely to result in a positive effect on biodiversity, land and soil, water, air quality, noise and climate and landscape and visual.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
NE 2.1	Increase tree planting and pollinator friendly planting, in accordance with the recommendations of the All Ireland Pollinator Plan throughout Naas and in open spaces in new developments in order to enhance local biodiversity, visual amenity and surface water management.									Measures relating to the protection and conservation of biodiversity- including habitats, species, green infrastructure, stepping-stones etc. are likely to result in a positive effect on biodiversity, land and soil, water, air quality, noise and climate and landscape and visual.
NE 2.2	Protect trees and woodlands of particular amenity value, identified in the Naas Green Infrastructure Map (Map 7.1), from damage and/or degradation.									Measures relating to the protection and conservation of biodiversity- including habitats, species, green infrastructure, stepping-stones etc. are likely to result in a positive effect on biodiversity, land and soil, water, air quality, noise and climate and landscape and visual.
NE 3.1	Encourage the use of SuDS within public and private developments and within the public realm to minimise and limit the extent of hard surfacing and paving, in order to reduce the potential impact of existing and predicted flooding risks.									The use of SuDs within private and public developments is likely to result in an overall positive environmental effect.
NE 3.2	Enhance and promote biodiversity and amenity and to ensure the protection of environmentally sensitive sites and habitats, including where flood risk management measures are planned.									Measures relating to the protection and conservation of biodiversity- including habitats, species, green infrastructure, stepping-stones etc. are likely to result in a positive effect on biodiversity, land and soil, water, air quality, noise and climate and landscape and visual.
NE 4.1	Enhance and protect the existing green infrastructure open spaces and recreation areas, and facilitate the development of new green infrastructure corridors, through the provision of additional open and amenity areas									Measures relating to the protection and conservation of biodiversity- including habitats, species, green infrastructure, stepping-stones etc. are likely to result in a positive effect on biodiversity, land and soil, water, air quality, noise and climate and landscape and visual.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
NE 4.2	Progress the development of a series of green routes/linear corridors that connect amenity and open space areas and the hinterland with new and established areas, with due regard for biodiversity constraints.									Progressing development of green routes or linear corridors will positively impact population and human health as there will be greater access and connectivity between amenities and open spaces and the hinterland with new and established areas. This is predicted to positively impact air, noise and climate, as this may reduce the reliance on traffic and encourage more sustainable modes of transport.
NE 4.3	Seek to develop habitat patches/ 'stepping stones' within the landscape, to maximise proper connectivity between urban and peri-urban parks and the surrounding rural landscape									This objective has the potential to result in a positive impact on landscape and visual through reduced development opportunities in the LAP area. This in turn is likely to result in a positive impact on air noise and climate. Reduced development opportunity in the LAP area has the potential to result in a negative impact on population and human health, however this objective could also be considered to have the potential to result in a positive impact on population and human health, through increased recreational and amenity areas. A positive impact on biodiversity in anticipated through provision of habitat in the LAP area.
NE 4.4	Promote a network of paths and cycle tracks to enhance accessibility to the Green Infrastructure network, while ensuring that the design and operation of the routes responds to the ecological protection needs of each site.									A positive impact on population and human health is predicted through increased sustainable transport opportunities. This in turn is likely to result in a positive impact on air, noise and climate. This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment, in general.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
Policy NE2	It is the policy of the Council to protect, strengthen and create additional features to the Green Infrastructure network through the planning application process.									A positive impact on population and human health is predicted through increased sustainable transport opportunities. This in turn is likely to result in a positive impact on air, noise and climate. This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment, in general.
NE 5.1	Ensure that new development proposals protect and enhance the identified habitats in the Green Infrastructure g Map (Map 7.1). Site specific ecology surveys should be carried out to inform proposed developments and assess and mitigate potential impacts.									Measures relating to the protection and conservation of biodiversity- including habitats, species, green infrastructure, stepping-stones etc. are likely to result in a positive effect on biodiversity, land and soil, water, air quality, noise and climate and landscape and visual.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
NE 5.2	Require proposals for development to demonstrate how they integrate/respond to Green Infrastructure and contribute to the development and protection of overall Green Infrastructure assets.									Green infrastructure is a broad concept, and includes natural features, such as parks and hedgerows as well as man-made features, such as cycle paths. It is not possible to ascertain the type of green infrastructure being proposed here. Most natural green infrastructure features are likely to result in a positive impact on biodiversity and water, through species and habitat provision, while often man-made features such as greenways can result in a negative impact on existing biodiversity or surface water quality through increased human interaction. Either type of green infrastructure- man made or natural is likely to result in a positive impact on air quality, noise and climate. The provision of natural features will benefit air quality through the provision of additional trees and greenery, and the provision of man-made features such as cycle track will result in increased sustainable transport opportunities in the LAP area.
NE 5.3	Encourage the use of Green Roofs such as residential, industrial, civic, commercial and leisure buildings.									The use of green roofs is likely to result in an overall positive effect on the environment.
NE 5.4	Ensure new development proposals have regard to the future function and variety of open spaces with a view to making provision for new areas of biodiversity, tree planting and / or pollinator friendly planting.									The provision of open spaces is likely to result in an overall positive effect population and human health, biodiversity, landscape and visual.
Waste Heat										

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
Policy WH1	It is the policy of the Council to promote the development of waste heat technologies and the utilisation and sharing of waste heat in new or extended industrial and commercial developments, where the processes associated with the primary operation onsite generates waste heat.									A likely positive effect on air and climate and on material assets is identified with regards the promotion of renewable energy use.
WH 1.1	Support developments which deliver energy efficiency and the recovery of energy that would otherwise be wasted through the use of district heating systems, particularly in the Northwest Quadrant and sites designated specifically for Data Centres, ensuring such developments will not negatively impact upon the surrounding landscape, environment, biodiversity or local amenities									An unknown environmental effect is identified in that the location, size, scale or nature of the developments referred are unknown at this time.
WH 1.2	Ensure that all significant development proposals, on the sites, designated for Data Centres carry out an Energy Analysis and explore the potential for the development of low carbon district heating networks.									A likely positive effect on air and climate and on material assets is identified with regards the promotion of renewable energy use.
Protected Structures										
Policy BH1	It is the policy of the Council to preserve and enhance the buildings identified on the Record of Protected Structures and to carefully consider any proposals for development that would affect the special value of such structures, including their historic curtilage, both directly and indirectly									Preservation and enhancement of buildings on the Record of Protected Structures will positively impact the heritage of Naas. It is predicted that this policy will impact the population and human health, biodiversity, land and soils, water, air, noise and climate, landscape and visual and material assets neutrally.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
BH 1.1	Ensure the protection and conservation of all protected structures (or parts of structures), including the curtilage and attendant grounds of structures contained in the Record of Protected Structures as listed in the Kildare County Development Plan.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general, and a positive impact on heritage through increased conservation and protection efforts.
BH 1.2	Support the sensitive conservation of protected structures, their curtilage and attendant grounds, and to operate flexibility with regard to the use of these buildings to facilitate their ongoing use, subject to good conservation principles									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general, and a positive impact on heritage through increased conservation and protection efforts.
BH 1.3	Raise awareness of the unique built heritage of Naas by facilitating conservation interpretation and management projects, such as 'Open House Tours'.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general, and a positive impact on heritage through increased conservation and protection efforts.
BH 1.4	Proactively address dereliction, endangerment, neglect and vacancy in the town centre through the use of the Council's legal process and through the promotion of appropriate uses and the sensitive conservation of historic buildings.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general, and a positive impact on heritage through increased conservation and protection efforts and landscape and visual through improvements to the public realm. A positive impact on population and human health is predicted through provision of new commercial or residential opportunity in the town centre.
Architectural Conservation Area										

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
Policy BH2	It is the policy of the Council to protect the character of the Architectural Conservation Area and to carefully consider any proposals for development that would affect the special value of the ACA, while having regard to the guidance contained in the ACA Statement of Character which provides information to support property owners located within the ACA.									Protection of Architectural Conservation Areas will positively impact heritage in Naas. The publication of a Statement of Character will further promote conservation the heritage of Naas. This enhancement of the ACAs will positively impact the landscape and visual aspect of Naas.
BH 2.1	Ensure that new development, extensions and renovation works within or adjacent to Naas ACA is sympathetic to the distinctive character of the area and enhances the special character and visual setting of the ACA including vistas, streetscapes, building line, fenestration patterns and architectural features.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general, and a positive impact on heritage through increased conservation and protection efforts and landscape and visual through maintenance of the existing character of the ACA.
BH 2.2	Have regard to the Naas ACA Statement of Character and Kildare Shopfront Guidelines (2013) in the consideration of any shopfront or commercial proposals within the ACA. All proposals (contemporary or traditional) must be of a high quality of design and finish, contributing positively to the established pattern, scale, materials and proportions of buildings.									This is existing policy, and therefore represents the baseline situation. A neutral Environmental impact is envisaged.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
BH 2.3	Support the retention, repair and re-use of materials which characterise the vernacular architecture of the ACA including stone, slate, decorative render, timber windows and doors									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general, and a positive impact on heritage through increased conservation and protection efforts and landscape and visual through maintenance of the existing character of the town and ACA. A positive impact on material assets is predicted as the retention, repair and re-use of materials will contribute positively towards the waste management objectives of the Council.
BH 2.4	Conserve and enhance the unique characteristics of the laneways of Naas, their place, scale, material elements and form and promote their overall enhancement within the context of a Public Realm Strategy.									Conservation and enhancement of the laneways of Naas will positively impact the population and human health of Naas as well as the heritage and landscape and visual of the town.
BH 2.5	Protect and conserve important heritage items such as, gates, street furniture, post boxes and other significant historic features of interest									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health, heritage and landscape and visual through an enhanced public realm, as well as increased conservation and protection efforts.
BH 2.6	Encourage the protection, retention, appreciation and appropriate revitalisation of the vernacular and industrial heritage of Naas.									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health, heritage and landscape and visual through an enhanced public realm, as well as increased conservation and protection efforts
BH 2.7	Promote the use of planned maintenance programmes and the preparation of conservation management plans of historic buildings within the ACA e.g. St David's Castle.									Planned maintenance programmes will positively impact the heritage of Naas, while the preparation of conservation management plans will aid in protection of the heritage of Naas. Protection of local heritage will ensure that the landscape and visual of Naas is positively impacted.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
BH 2.8	Reduce and prevent visual and urban clutter, where appropriate, within the ACA including: • Utility structures; • Traffic Management Structures; • Obsolete/unnecessary lighting, electrics, cables, ducts; • Signage (including sign protruding from the façade) at ground and upper floor levels; • Internally affixed stickers; • Internally illuminated signage traffic management structures.									Visually intrusive elements and unnecessary clutter on existing shopfront/facades/commercial premises negatively impact the heritage, landscape and visual, population and human health. Removal of these elements will have a positive impact on aforementioned SEA environmental objectives of Naas.
Protected Views										
Policy BH3	It is the policy of the Council to ensure that the proposed location, siting and design of buildings and structures, protect the special character of protected views.									Protection of the special character of identified scenic routes and protected views will result in a direct positive impact on landscape and visual and an indirect positive impact on population and human health, through enjoyment of the landscape and visual.
BH 3.1	Protect the visual amenity and character of protected views in Naas as identified in this Plan and the Kildare County Development Plan.									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on landscape and visual and population and human health through maintenance of the character and amenity value of the LAP area.
BH 3.2	Require a Visual Impact Assessment of proposals/planning applications for development that may impact on the special character and visual amenity of protected views as part of the development management process.									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on landscape and visual and population and human health through maintenance of the character and amenity value of the LAP area.
Architectural Heritage										

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
Policy BH 4	It is the policy of the Council to safeguard the archaeological heritage in Naas and avoid negative impacts on sites, monuments, features or objects of significant historical or archaeological interest.									This policy will ensure that heritage in the area is positively impacted, as well as population and human health. The landscape and visual of the area should be impacted positively as sites, monuments, features or objects of significant historical or archaeological significance are protected. Biodiversity, land and soils, water, air, noise and climate and material assets are predicted to be impacted neutrally.
BH 4.1	Protect and preserve in situ (or upon agreement preservation by record) items of archaeological interest provided for on the Sites and Monuments Record (www.archaeology.ie) from inappropriate development that would adversely affect and/or detract from the interpretation and setting of these sites.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general, and a positive impact on heritage through increased conservation and protection efforts and landscape and visual through maintenance of the existing character of the town centre and ACA.
BH 4.2	Protect the historic core of Naas and retain where possible the existing street layout, historic building lines, traditional plot widths and medieval walls where these derive from medieval origins.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general, and a positive impact on heritage through increased conservation and protection efforts and landscape and visual through maintenance of the existing character of the town centre and ACA.
BH 4.3	Progress in conjunction with the OPW the preservation and development of Jigginstown Castle (National Monument) as an attraction and training facility and make it and the surrounding area accessible to the public as a tourist/training/open space attraction and to support the preparation of a Conservation Plan for Jigginstown Castle.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general, and a positive impact on heritage through increased conservation and protection efforts. A positive impact on population and human health is predicted through increased tourism and commercial opportunities.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
BH 4.4	Ensure proposals contribute to the protection and preservation of the archaeological value of sites including underwater sites associated with the Grand Canal.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general, and a positive impact on heritage through increased conservation and protection efforts.
BH 4.5	Provide for the protection of historic burial grounds within Naas, in co-operation with agencies such as the Office of Public Works and the National Monuments Section of the Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht.									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general, and a positive impact on heritage through increased conservation and protection efforts.
BH 4.6	Seek the implementation of heritage-led regeneration including that of the public realm, in Naas's historic core, through funding sources such as the Historic Towns Initiative and the Urban Regeneration Development Fund									This objective is likely to result in a neutral impact on the environment in general, and a positive impact on heritage through increased conservation and protection efforts. A positive impact on population and human health as well as landscape and visual is anticipated through the implementation of heritage led regeneration plans for the town centre.
Water Supply & Wastewater										
Policy I1	It is the policy of the Council to work in conjunction with Irish Water to protect existing water and wastewater infrastructure in Naas, to maximise the potential of existing capacity and to facilitate the timely delivery of new water services infrastructure to facilitate future growth.									Protection of existing water and wastewater infrastructure will positively impact both the population and human health, water quality and material assets of Naas.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
IO 1.1	Work in conjunction with Irish Water to promote the development and maintenance of water supply and wastewater services to meet the future needs of Naas.									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health, material assets and water through the sustainable development of water and wastewater treatment infrastructure in the LAP area.
IO 1.2	Seek to ensure that development proposals comply with the standards and requirements of Irish Water in relation to water and wastewater infrastructure									This is existing policy, and therefore represents the baseline situation. A neutral Environmental impact is envisaged.
IO 1.3	Support Irish Water to reduce leakage, minimising demand for capital investment									Reduced pipe leakage will result in a more resilient water supply and a positive effect on material assets.
Surface Water & Groundwater										
Policy I2	It is the policy of the Council to maintain and enhance the existing surface water drainage systems in Naas and to protect surface and ground water quality in accordance with the Water Framework Directive									This policy of maintaining and enhancing existing surface water drainage systems will have appositive impact on water and population and human health.
IO 2.1	Carry out an audit of an existing surface water infrastructure to identify improvement works as required									The enhancement of surface water infrastructure works is, self-evidently, likely to result in a positive impact on water and material assets.
IO 2.2	Ensure that all new development maintain surface water discharge at greenfield run-off rate, including an allowance for climate change									The enhancement of surface water infrastructure works is, self-evidently, likely to result in a positive impact on water and material assets.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
IO 2.3	Incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) and other nature-based surface water drainage solutions as part of all plans and development proposals in Naas. Priority shall be given to SuDS that incorporate green infrastructure and promote biodiversity including green roofs, walls and rain gardens. Proposals for development in the Key Development Areas, Core Regeneration Areas and Masterplan areas must consider the potential for SuDS to control surface water outfall and protect water quality, with underground retention solutions only being considered when all other options have been exhausted									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on the environment, in general. SuDS can be designed to improve the biodiversity and provide the opportunity for habitat enhancement of an area, as well as improving water quality and controlling water quantity. They also reduce the possibility of flooding in an area and contribute to the successful overall running of utilities in an area.
IO 2.4	Maintain, improve and enhance the environmental and ecological quality of surface waters and groundwater in Naas in conjunction with the Environmental Protection Agency and in accordance with the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on the environment in general through the protection and conservation of natural resources
IO 2.5	Require applicants, where necessary, to demonstrate that proposals will not negatively impact on any groundwater or surface water body and be compliant with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and measures to protect and improve our water bodies set down in the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018 – 2021 and future cycles of this Plan.									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on the environment in general thought the protection and conservation of natural resources.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
IO 2.6	Ensure that development along urban watercourses comply with, Planning for Watercourses in the Urban Environment (IFI, 2020), including the maintenance of a minimum riparian zone of 35 metres for river channels greater that 10 metres in width, and 20 metres for rivers channels less than 10 metres in width. Development within this zone will only be considered for water compatible developments.									Maintenance of a riparian zone along urban watercourses is likely to result in an overall positive environmental effect.
Flood Risk Management										
Policy I3	It is the policy of the Council to manage flood risk in Naas in conjunction with the OPW and in accordance with the requirements of the Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009) and circular PL02/2014 (August 2014).									This policy which aims to manage flood risk will positively impact the population and human health and water.
IO 3.1	Ensure all development proposals within the areas where Justification Tests have been carried out as part of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and where residual flood risk remains as outlined on SFRA map (Map Ref. 9.1), are the subject of site specific flood risk assessment appropriate to the nature and scale of the development being proposed.									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health by reducing the flood-risk of new development in the LAP area. This will also seek to prevent any strain on the existing drainage network.
IO 3.2	Progress and co-operate with the OPW in delivering the Flood Relief Scheme for Naas.									This is existing policy, and therefore represents the baseline situation. A neutral Environmental impact is envisaged

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
IO 3.3	Maintain all existing overland flow routes.									This is the existing scenario and as such, an overall neutral environmental effect is identified.
IO 3.4	All development proposals should apply the use of the sequential approach in terms of the site layout and design and, in satisfying the Justification Test (where required), the proposal will demonstrate that appropriate mitigation and management measures are put in place. The development proposals should ensure that no encroachment onto, or loss of, the flood plain, only water compatible development such as Open Space would be permitted for the lands which are identified as being at risk of flooding within that site.									This will have a beneficial effect on water due to the provision of appropriate mitigation and management measures.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
IO 3.5	Following the completion of the flood mapping stage of the River Liffey and Dublin Flood Risk Management Plan a review of the flood extents will be undertaken and if required Kildare County Council will carry out an update to the SFRA and an amendment of the Plan. The updated SFRA would be prepared in accordance with the requirements of The Planning System and Flood Risk Assessment Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009). The SFRA would enable Kildare County Council to carry out a review of strategic land-use planning decisions with respect to flood risk and to update flood risk policies if required.									This will have a beneficial effect on water due to the preparation of an updated SFRA in accordance with guidelines.
Energy & Communications										
Policy I4	It is the policy of the Council to promote and facilitate the development and renewal of energy and communications networks in Naas, while protecting the amenities of the town.									Development and renewal of energy and communication networks in Naas, while protecting the amenities of the town will positively impact the population and human health and material assets. At this stage of development, it is not possible to discern the impact this policy will have on the environment.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
IO 4.1	Support the statutory providers of national grid infrastructure by safeguarding existing infrastructure and strategic corridors from encroachment by development that might compromise the operation, maintenance and provision of energy networks.									While the provision of energy networks has the potential to result in a positive impact on population and human health, there is also the potential for a negative impact in that the safeguarding of strategic corridors might hinder the progression of other forms of development such as residential or commercial. Thus an 'uncertain' impact is predicted. This objective has the potential to result in a positive impact on material assets through the provision of additional energy capacity in the LAP area.
IO 4.2	Support and facilitate the provision of telecommunications infrastructure in Naas, subject to safety and amenity requirements									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health and material assets through provision of required services.
IO 4.3	Seek the undergrounding of all electricity, telephone and television cables in the town including the town centre and in residential and amenity areas									A positive impact on population and human health is envisaged as after the installation is done there are only minor limitations regarding land use This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on landscape and visual in that all existing overhead cables would be removed from the LAP area and placed underground- which would be less visually intrusive. A neutral impact on other environmental aspects is expected as the undergrounding will take place in previously developed areas.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
IO 4.4	Discourage a proliferation of above-ground utility boxes in the town and to seek screening measures and discreet locations in conjunction with the provision of such structures									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health, landscape and visual as well as heritage in that it will reduce the street clutter in the town centre and improve the urban realm.
IO 4.5	Promote and encourage the use of renewable energy technologies for small, medium and large developments of existing and proposed building stock, such as district heating, micro generation (photovoltaic, micro-wind, micro hydro and micro combined heat and power) and other renewable energy technologies.									The promotion and encouragement of renewable energy infrastructure is likely to result in an overall positive impact on the environment, in general, as it would play a key role in the Council's climate change mitigation plan. As the type or location of the specific renewable energy infrastructure has not been defined, it is not possible to ascertain whether there will be a negative impact on landscape and visual. Wind farms, for example, have the potential to have a negative impact on landscape and visual.
Pollution and Environmental Services										
Policy I5	It is the policy of the Council to protect environmental quality in Naas through the implementation of European, national and regional policy and legislation relating to air quality, greenhouse gases, climate change, light pollution, noise pollution and waste management.									It has been predicted that this policy will have a positive impact on air, noise and climate. The policy aims to protect environmental quality, through implementation of policy and legislation relating to air quality, greenhouse gases, climate change, light pollution and waste management.
IO 5.1	Maintain recycling facilities and secure the provision of additional facilities, as required, including in conjunction with new developments									The size, scale or location of the proposed new recycling facilities is not defined and as such it is not possible to ascertain whether this objective will result in a negative impact on the environment.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
IO 5.2	Avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and on the environment as a whole through promoting the preservation of best ambient air quality with sustainable development									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on the environment in general through maintenance of a good air quality ambient environment.
IO 5.3	Support local schools, town and community groups such as Naas Tidy Towns through education and awareness programmes and where available, through the provision of grant aid									Support of these groups through education and awareness programmes and the provision of grant aid will have a positive impact on population and human health.
IO 5.4	Support the take-up and use of ultra-low emissions vehicles and encourage through the development management process the provision of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, where appropriate									The promotion of alternative energy use particularly in the transport sector is likely to result in a positive effect on air, climate and material assets.
IO 5.5	Support the development of a green waste composting site in Naas for the sustainable disposal of green waste biodiversity enhancement.									The development of a green waste composting facility in Naas is likely to result in a positive effect on Biodiversity, Land and Soil and Material Assets. However, the size, scale and location of this development is unknown at this time and an uncertain effect is therefore identified.
Canal Quarter										
Policy CQ 1	It is the policy of the council to protect and enhance the amenity of the lands located within the Canal Quarter through sensitive interventions to improve the existing amenity and to encourage and promote appropriate development and regeneration of this area in a sustainable manner.									The enhancement of amenity will likely have a beneficial effect on population and human health.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
CQ 1.1	Provide for the alignment of the boulevard from the Northwest Quadrant to the Canal with bus priority and a bus terminus/mobility hub at the Canal Bank.									The provision of a pedestrian bridge in the harbour area will have a beneficial impact on population and human health as well as air quality, noise and climate. There is the potential for negative impacts on other environmental aspects.
CQ 1.2	Commission a feasibility, design and cost appraisal study for a pedestrian/cyclist bridge over the canal to connect the Harbour area with the Canal Bank area subject to project specific environmental assessments.									The provision of a pedestrian bridge in the harbour area will have a beneficial impact on population and human health as well as air quality, noise and climate. Other aspects are as yet unknown.
CQ 1.3	Complete design and Part 8 approvals for the Canal Greenway from the Harbour to Sallins and south to Jigginstown and pursue funding for the development of the greenway to Corbally Harbour.									The provision of a greenway area will have a beneficial impact on population and human health as well as air quality, noise and climate. There is the potential for negative impacts on other environmental aspects.
CQ 1.4	Ensure as part of any future development proposal for the Canal Bank that there is provision for a public car park at the northern end of the site – ideally, underground or multi-storey and screened by buildings and integrated into future design layout subject to project specific environmental assessments									The provision of a car park will have a beneficial impact on population and human health and material assets. There is the potential for negative impacts on other environmental aspects.
CQ 1.5	Commission the detailed design of a ‘shared space’ road layout for this area.									The development of detailed design will have a neutral impact on the environment.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
CQ 1.6	Maintain the riparian corridors within the 'Canal Bank' area - including the Rathasker stream corridor, free from development, except where strategic infrastructure may be required to provide access (in which case, a solution with minimal impact will be sought).									This will likely have a positive impact on biodiversity. A neutral impact on all other environmental topics is predicted.
CQ 1.7	Investigate and consider, as part of a future development layout and architectural design solution of the Canal Quarter, the possibility of revealing the portion of the stream that has been culverted at the Harbour-Basin Street Site.									This is likely to have a beneficial impact on human health and population, heritage and landscape and visual. All other elements are neutral.
CQ 1.8	Provide a public plaza/square in the immediate vicinity of the Harbour's south and east sides, with an animated active frontage along its south and east sides.									The provision of a public plaza/square is likely to have a beneficial impact on human health and population, heritage and landscape and visual. All other elements are neutral.
CQ 1.9	Continue to support and encourage local festivals, events and markets (seasonal/farmers) in the vicinity of the Harbour Area.									The provision of a local festivals, events and markets is likely to have a beneficial impact on human health and population. All other elements are neutral.
CQ 1.10	Explore, in conjunction with Waterways Ireland, the feasibility of re-establishing a water feed to the canal to assist with navigation to encourage its use for recreational water sports.									The re-establishment of water feed to the canal and the encouragement of recreational use is likely to have a beneficial impact on human health and population. However, there is the potential for a negative impact on water and biodiversity. All other elements are neutral.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
CQ 1.11	Redesign and rationalise the proliferation of white bollards, chain links and seating at the Harbour, with the possibility of reconfiguring this area as part of the public realm design of public spaces.									The provision of a seating in the harbour ares is likely to have a beneficial impact on human health and population. All other elements are neutral.
CQ 1.12	Consider the possibility of limiting vehicular access to the Harbour with the exception of emergency vehicle access and for the purposes of organising festivals/events.									Limiting vehicular access is likely to have a beneficial impact on human health and population and air, noise and climate. All other elements are neutral.
CQ 1.13	Consider an artistic lighting plan/feature to transform the area as a 'Harbour of Lights' as a means of animating the area and encouraging evening and night-time use.									The provision of artistic lighting is likely to have a beneficial impact on human health and population. All other elements are neutral.
CQ 1.14	Promote the Rathasker Stream as a key architectural and environmental feature of interest within any redevelopment proposal of the Healy Site.									The promotion of the Rathasker Stream as a key architectural and environmental feature is likely to have a beneficial impact on human health and population, heritage and landscape and visual. All other elements are neutral.
CQ 1.15	Prepare a public realm plan to review and examine the configuration of spaces, hard and soft landscaping, paving materials and the provision of street furniture around the Harbour Area. The laneways on either side of Market House should include in any public realm design.									The preparation of a public realm plan of the Harbour is likely to have a beneficial impact on human health and population, heritage and landscape and visual. All other elements are neutral.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
CQ 1.16	Prepare a traffic and transport assessment to inform the future desired vehicular ingress and egress to the Healy Site from New Row.									The preparation of a traffic and transport assessment results in a neutral impact on all aspects.
Northwest Quadrant										
Policy NWQ 1	It is the policy of the council to ensure that the lands located within the Northwest Quadrant (NWQ) are developed in a sustainable manner and the future development strategy should recognise the strategic location of the lands proximate to the existing town centre and the unique opportunities presented by the unique environmental and landscape features									The type, nature and scale of development in the northwest quadrant is not yet known. An uncertain environmental effect is therefore identified for the purposes of this assessments.

NWQ 1.1	To require the preparation of a masterplan (to be developed in conjunction with relevant environmental/flood risk/transport assessments) for the NWQ giving full consideration to the type and intensity of development relative to future transport options and in particular public transport. The masterplan shall be subject to the considerations and specifications outlined in the Urban Development Strategy detailed in Chapter 10, to ensure that the future development of the Northwest Quadrant takes place in a co-ordinated and integrated manner. a) No development shall take place on the lands identified within the Northwest Quadrant (zoned Strategic Reserve or New Residential) until such time as a masterplan is prepared and integrated into the Naas Local Area Plan by way of a statutory amendment to the Local Area Plan, pursuant to Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). b) No masterplan shall be completed until the OPW Flood Study has been finalised for the lands in the Northwest Quadrant. c) The masterplan shall include (but not be restricted to): (i) A phasing infrastructure programme including physical, social, transport and economic infrastructure. (ii) Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment for the masterplan lands. (iii) Transport Impact Assessment. (iv) Water and wastewater network requirements including assessments regarding the capacity of receiving environments.									This objective relates to the preparation of a masterplan for development in the northwest corner, and not to the development itself. An overall neutral environmental effect is therefore identified until such time that a masterplan is prepared. Refer to the site-specific zoning assessment for an assessment of changes in land use in this area.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
	(v) Associated Environmental Assessments and appropriate climate proofing measures (d) Individual applications for smaller sections of the Northwest Quadrant masterplan lands shall not be considered by the Planning Authority or An Bord Pleanála until the masterplan is integrated into the Local Area Plan in accordance with (a) above									
Urban Regeneration and Urban Development										
Policy URD 1	It is the policy of the Council to promote the implementation of the Regeneration and Urban Development Strategy to ensure that planned growth for the town occurs in a sustainable and sequential manner while prioritising a low carbon, compact, consolidated and connected pattern of development in order to realise a vibrant and regenerated town centre; a prosperous, enterprising, dynamic and green economy; supported by an inclusive and age friendly community.									It has been predicted that this policy will result in a positive impact on the population and human health, as the town is developed into a vibrant and regenerated town centre. The emphasis on sustainable development, prioritising low carbon development suggests that the environment will be impacted in a positive manner.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
URD 1.1	Promote the town centre as the priority location for commercial, civic, social and cultural development and to promote new infill and backland development that consolidates and regenerates the existing urban core									The re-development and regeneration the town will have a positive impact on population and human health, as well as air, climate and noise as it discourages urban sprawl, reduces traffic movements, enhances the public realm and encourages more sustainable transport methods. It is not possible to fully ascertain the potential impact on heritage, as a large portion of the town is designated as an Architectural Conservation Area. Development in this area, even re-development or re-generation could negatively impact on sites or buildings of historical or architectural significance. The redevelopment of brownfield sites has the potential to result in a positive impact on land and soils it involves the remediation of potentially contaminated land. A high population density in Naas town centre could however put a strain on material assets, however the recent upgrade to Osberstown WWTP should accommodate all development proposed under the plan. High density housing can also result in a landscape and visual impact if residential units are too intrusive- the scale or density of development is not known. Refer to Table 8.1 for mitigation measures.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
URD 1.2	Ensure that regeneration and new development enhances the character of the townscape and the quality of the public realm. Such development shall also be in keeping with the relevant Urban Design Principles									Ensuring that the quality of the public realm is enhanced will result in a positive impact on the population and human health. The Landscape and visual and heritage will all be positively impacted through enhancement of the character if the townscape, through use of relevant Urban Design Principles.
URD 1.3	Encourage full utilisation of buildings and sites, in particular use of upper floors and backlands where appropriate, with due cognisance to quality of urban design, integration and linkages									The re-development and regeneration of the town will have a positive impact on population and human health, as well as air quality and climate as it discourages urban sprawl, reduces traffic movements, enhances the public realm and encourages more sustainable transport methods. It is not possible to fully ascertain the potential impact on heritage, as a large portion of the town is designated as an Architectural Conservation Area. Development in this area, even re-development or re-generation could negatively impact on sites or buildings of historical or architectural significance. A high population density in Naas town centre could however put a strain on material assets, however the recent upgrade to Osberstown WWTP should accommodate all development proposed under the plan. High density housing can also result in a landscape and visual impact if residential units are too intrusive- the scale or density of development is not known. Refer to Table 8.1 for mitigation measures.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
URD 1.4	Require that new development facilitates a connected network of streets and spaces which prioritise pedestrians and cyclists and provides for the possibility of connections to future development on adjacent lands									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health as well as air, noise and climate through the prioritisation and encouragement of sustainable transport initiatives.
URD 1.5	Support and facilitate the implementation of the Urban Development and Regeneration Strategy by actively seeking funding from relevant agencies and Government sources including the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) to secure financial support for all regeneration and urban development projects in Naas									The seeking of funding from relevant agencies and government sources is expected to have a neutral impact on all environmental aspects.
URD 1.6	Actively engage with the community, landowners, developers and other agencies to secure resources for the enhancement, renewal and regeneration of Naas town centre									This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health in that it will foster a sense of community, provide local residents and businesses with commercial and recreational opportunities and result in an enhanced public space.
URD 1.7	All development proposals within designated Core Regeneration Areas, Key Development Areas and Northwest Quadrant must as far as practicable comply with the relevant development objectives and design frameworks set out in this Plan									At this stage of development, it is not possible to ascertain the impact this objective would have.
URD 1.8	Actively seek the regeneration of St David's Castle, the Canal Harbour and Abbey Street areas as key visitor and community destinations within Naas Town Centre									The regeneration of key heritage buildings and areas in Naas town centre will positively impact the heritage and landscape and visual of Naas, while also positively impacting the population and human health of Naas.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
URD 1.9	Promote and facilitate the re-use of the existing Naas Library (once vacated) by the occupation of an active community use that will complement the vision for the Canal Harbour									Increased active community facilities would positively impact the population and human health. The impact on the environment in general would be neutral.
URD 1.10	Prepare a masterplan for the Canal Quarter in co-operation with relevant stakeholders and actively secure its implementation through phased development and timely delivery of necessary physical, social and community infrastructure during the lifetime of this Plan and beyond									This objective relates to the preparation of a masterplan for development in the northwest corner, and not to the development itself. An overall neutral environmental effect is therefore identified until such time that a masterplan is prepared. Refer to the site-specific zoning assessment for an assessment of changes in land use in this area.
URD 1.11	Prepare a Public Realm Strategy for Naas, such a strategy shall focus on the identified Core Regeneration Areas and seek to implement its provisions on a phased basis over the life of the Plan and beyond.									This objective relates to the preparation of a town renewal plan for Naas, and not the redevelopment itself. An overall neutral environmental effect is therefore identified until such time that a plan is prepared.

	Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
		Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
URD 1.12	Carry out preliminary traffic modelling and to produce an Access Strategy for lands zoned Commercial at the Junction 9 (Maudlins) Key Development Area in consultation with relevant stakeholders including Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and the National Transport Authority (NTA) .These will identify the quantum of development that can be facilitated at the location complementary to safeguarding the strategic function and safety of the national road network, in accordance with the provisions of official policy outlined in the Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (DoECLG, 2012). The study will also identify any improvements required to the local transport network to accommodate the extent of development proposed.								This objective is likely to result in a positive impact on population and human health. The public realm has a significant impact on how a town functions and on its attractiveness as a place in which to live and work, or as a destination for tourism and investment.
URD 1.13	Require that any application for development within the Junction 9 (Maudlins) Key Development Area (KDA) be accompanied by a shared/agreed vision for the KDA and by a comprehensive Traffic and Transport Assessment.									The requirement for a traffic and transport assessment for any development within the Junction 9 KDA is likely to result in a positive effect on population, air, noise and climate and on material assets, through the implementation of traffic management measures, where required.
URD 1.14	Require the completion of the Gallops Avenue (MTO 3.2) in advance of or in tandem with the development of the new residential lands, C (16) to the west of Naas Racecourse.									The assessment of MTO 3.2 is considered above.

Table 8.3 Site Specific Zoning Assessment

Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
	Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
To the south of the Local Area Plan area from 'NE5: Integrated Leisure Development' to 'F: Open Space_ Amenity.' With reduction in zoned area. To the west of the LAP from 'F: Open Space_ Amenity. To L: Leisure & Amenity'									A number of the proposed changes in land-use zonings relate to changes of a similar nature-e.g. Industrial to Commercial/Enterprise. An overall neutral environmental effect is therefore identified, for the purposes of this assessment.
To the south of the Local Area Plan area from 'NE9: Agriculture' to 'F: Open Space_ Amenity.' To the south of the Local Area Plan area from 'I: Agriculture' to 'F: Open Space_ Amenity.' To the south-east of the Local Area Plan area from 'I: Agriculture' to 'F: Open Space_ Amenity To the west of the LAP from 'I: Agricultural to F: Open Space_ Amenity.' To the north of the LAP from 'I: Agriculture' to F2: Strategic Open Space.									As the change of zoning from agricultural to open space is a low intensive purpose to another low intensive purpose there will be no significant change to either the environment or population.

Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
	Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
Amend the LAP boundary to exclude: 'NE7: Small, Medium Enterprise/Industry' to the south of the LAP 'NE6: Community & Educational' to the south of the LAP 'NE9: Agricultural' to the south of the LAP Amend the LAP boundary to exclude: 'NE9: Agricultural' to the south-east of the LAP. 'NE9: Agricultural' to the south-east of the LAP. Amend the LAP boundary to exclude: 'NE9: Agricultural' to the south-east of the LAP. Amend the LAP boundary to reduce section: ''H: Industry & Warehousing to the east of the LAP. Amend the LAP boundary to exclude: 'NE9: Agricultural' to the south-east of the LAP.									The de-zoning of land for development as part of the Naas LAP will likely give rise to an overall positive environment effect in that potential for future development on these lands is limited. While a neutral impact on population and human health is predicted.

Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
	Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
To the south-west of the Local Area Plan area from 'C: New Residential' to 'B: Existing_ Infill Residential.' To the south of the Local Area Plan area from 'E: Community & Educational' to 'C: New Residential Phase 2' To the west of the LAP from 'Q: Enterprise and Employment to C: New Residential.' To the north-west of the LAP from 'Q: Enterprise and Employment to H: Industry & Warehousing' To the north-west of the LAP from 'Q: Enterprise and Employment to K: Commercial_ Residential' To the north-west of the LAP from 'Q: Enterprise and Employment to E: Community_ Education.' To the north of the LAP from 'Q: Office_ Enterprise_ Employment to E: Community_ Education' To the east of the LAP from 'H: Industry & Warehousing to B: Existing_ Infill Residential'									A number of the proposed changes in land-use zonings relate to changes of a similar nature-e.g. Industrial to Commercial/Enterprise. An overall neutral environmental effect is therefore identified, for the purposes of this assessment.

Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
	Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
To the south of the Local Area Plan area from 'I: Agriculture' to 'E: Community_ Education' To the south-east of the Local Area Plan area from 'I: Agriculture' to 'E: Community_ Education'									The provision of development on previously zoned agricultural lands has the potential to negatively impact the existing environment, however there should be a positive impact on the population and human health.
Amend the LAP boundary to include: ''P: Data Centre_ Warehouse' to the south-east of the LAP Amend the LAP boundary to include: ''P: Data Centre_ Warehouse' to the east of the LAP. To the east of the LAP include 'H: Industry & Warehousing' To the east of the LAP include 'E: Community_ Education' To the east of the LAP include 'B: Existing_ Infill Residential.'									Where land which was previously not zoned for development has been zoned under the Naas LAP 2021-2027, an overall negative environmental effect is predicted- particularly where that land-use zoning has the potential to give rise to development. A positive impact is predicted for population and human health with the introduction of further employment opportunities, an increase in educational facilities and further residential areas.

Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
	Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
Amend the LAP boundary to include: ‘‘F: Open Space_ Amenity’ to the south-east of the LAP. To the east of the LAP include ‘G: Green Belt’ To the east of the LAP include ‘I: Agriculture’ Amend the LAP boundary to include: ‘‘G: Green Belt’ to the north-west of the LAP. Amend the LAP boundary to include: ‘‘F: Open Space_ Amenity’ to the north-west of the LAP. ‘‘F: Open Space_ Amenity’ to the north-west of the LAP. Amend the LAP boundary to include: ‘‘I: Agricultural’ to the north-west of the LAP.									Increasing the zoning footprint of the LAP area to include areas for agriculture, open space, amenity and leisure will result in a neutral impact on the population and the environment, assuming that the land was previously used for these purposes.
To the south-east of the Local Area Plan area from ‘I: Agriculture’ to ‘B: Existing_ Infill Residential.’ ‘I: Agriculture’ to ‘B: Existing_ Infill Residential.’ ‘I: Agriculture’ to ‘B: Existing_ Infill Residential.’									This change in zoning from agricultural to residential has the potential to result in a negative impact on the environment. The addition of residential lands will have a positive impact on the population and human health.

Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
	Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
To the east of the LAP from 'F: Open Space_ Amenity to H: Industry & Warehousing' To the centre of the LAP from 'F: Open Space_ Amenity to R: Retail_ Commercial. To the west of the LAP from 'L: Leisure & Amenity to B: Existing_ Infill Residential'									This land zoning change could result in a negative impact on the environment, due to increased development of the land. The overall impact of the change on the population and human health is predicted to be uncertain, as there will be increased land available for Industry/Retail & Residential purposes, but less land available for open space and amenity.
To the north-east of the LAP from 'I: Agriculture to Q: Office_ Enterprise_ Employment'									Changing the zoning of this area from agricultural lands to enterprise & employment land will have a positive impact on the population, as further employment opportunities are facilitated. However, this change in zoning has the potential to negatively impact the other environmental aspects. Refer to Table 8.1 for mitigation measures.
To the north-east of the LAP from 'E: Community_ Education to Q: Office_ Enterprise_ Employment' To the north-east of the LAP from 'C: New Residential to Q: Office_ Enterprise_ Employment' To the north-east of the LAP from 'G: Urban_ Village to Q: Office_ Enterprise_ Employment'									These changes in zoning should not have a strong impact on either the population or the environment.

Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
	Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
To the east of the LAP from 'I: Agriculture' to SR: Strategic Reserve' To the north-east of the LAP from 'I: Agriculture' to SR: Strategic Reserve' To the north-east of the LAP from 'W: White Lands to SR: Strategic Reserve' To the east of the LAP from 'I: Agriculture to SR: Strategic Reserve' To the east of the LAP from 'W: White Lands to SR: Strategic Reserve' To the centre of the LAP from 'M: Future Park/ Green Belt to SR: Strategic Reserve' To the centre of the LAP from 'W: White Lands to SR: Strategic Reserve' To the centre of the LAP from 'W: White Lands to SR: Strategic Reserve'									As no development shall take place on these lands until a masterplan is prepared and integrated into the Local Area Plan by way of a Statutory Amendment under Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) which shall be finalised on completion of the OPW Flood Study for Naas. It is uncertain as to what impact the of this zoning will have on the overall environment.

Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
	Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
To the north-east of the LAP from 'C: New Residential to SR: Strategic Reserve' To the north-east of the LAP from 'G: Urban_Village to SR: Strategic Reserve' To the north of the LAP from 'Q: Office_Enterprise_Employment to SR: Strategic Reserve' To the east of the LAP from 'E: Community_ Education to SR: Strategic Reserve'									As no development shall take place on these lands until a masterplan is prepared and integrated into the Local Area Plan by way of a Statutory Amendment under Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) which shall be finalised on completion of the OPW Flood Study for Naas. It is uncertain as to what impact the of this zoning will have on the overall environment.
To the north of the LAP from 'Q: Office_Enterprise_Employment to F: Open Space_Amenity' To the west of the LAP from 'C: New Residential to F: Open Space_Amenity.' To the north-west of the LAP from 'H: Industry & Warehousing 'to F: Open Space_ Amenity'									The change of land zoning from residential and employment areas to open space and amenity will benefit the population as space is freed up for leisure, however, there will be reduced land for employment opportunities and residences. Therefore, the overall impact of the zonal change is uncertain. This change in zone is predicted to have a strong positive impact on the environment.

Aims/Commitments	SEA Environmental Objectives								Commentary
	Population & Human Health	Biodiversity	Land & Soils	Water	Air, Noise & Climate	Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets	
To the north of the LAP from 'M: Future Park/ Green Belt to F: Open Space_Amenity' from 'M: Future Park/ Green Belt to F: Open Space_Amenity' from 'M: Future Park/ Green Belt to F: Open Space_Amenity'									Overall, this change in zoning should not have a significant impact on the population or environment of Naas.
To the north of the LAP from 'M: Future Park/ Green Belt to I: Agriculture' from 'M: Future Park/ Green Belt to I: Agriculture' from 'M: Future Park/ Green Belt to I: Agriculture'									As this zoning change is from a low intensive purpose to another low intensive purpose there will be no significant change to either the environment or population.

8.4 Summary of Potential Environmental Effects

8.4.1 Population and Human Health

The potential impacts for Population and Human Health are predominantly positive with regards the provision of residential, economic and sustainable transport opportunities in the LAP area.

It is proposed to consolidate the town centre through the regeneration and redevelopment of vacant and under-utilised sites. This will likely result in a positive impact on population and human health, as it discourages urban sprawl, reduces traffic movements, enhances the public realm and encourages more sustainable transport methods.

Policies and objectives relating to improvements to the public realm and accessibility of the town centre will also positively impact the population of Naas.

It is proposed to provide a new residential development Key Development Area at Devoy quarter, along with lands zoned for new residential development and the Core Regeneration Area sites in the town centre. This will seek to ensure that the longer-term development of Naas is provided for.

The promotion of enterprise and employment development in the Northwest Quadrant will also result in a positive impact on the population on Naas, through increased job opportunities.

Positive impacts will also occur where new transport infrastructure is provided for, or existing infrastructure is upgraded through the provision of improved access through the LAP area. This is particularly true in considering new sustainable transport infrastructure/opportunities.

8.4.2 Biodiversity

The land use zonings and objectives of the Draft LAP will primarily result in a neutral or positive impact on Biodiversity. Development will be largely consolidated within existing zoned or developed lands, with a large portion of development within the existing urban centre of the LAP area.

Uncertainties exist where the precise nature and extent of development is unknown. This is particularly relevant to the various green infrastructure objectives- where it is difficult to ascertain if the proposals relate to natural features, such as parks and hedgerows, or man-made features, such as cycle paths. Most natural green infrastructure features are likely to result in a positive impact on biodiversity, through species and habitat provision, while often man-made features such as greenways can result in a negative impact on the existing biodiversity through increased human interaction.

There is the potential for negative impacts to occur where greenfield lands have been zoned for development- such as the land at the north-east of the plan area, which has the potential, even with the provision of mitigation, to impact on habitats and species. Similarly, potential negative effects on biodiversity are identified where large-scale infrastructure is proposed such as the Sustainable Travel Bridge over the M7, new road schemes or the expanded DART line and new train station, west of Sallins.

8.4.3 Land and Soils

The majority of potential impacts for Land and Soils are neutral or positive as development will primarily be consolidated within existing zoned or developed lands.

Uncertainties will occur where the precise nature and extent of proposed new development is unknown.

There is the potential for negative impact to occur where greenfield lands have been zoned for development- such as the land at the north-east of the plan area, as well as where new roads are proposed.

8.4.4 Water

The land use zonings and objectives of the Draft LAP will primarily result in a neutral impact on Water as development will largely take place with existing zoned or developed lands.

There is the potential for negative impacts to occur where greenfield lands have been zoned for development- such as the land at the north-east of the plan area. Similarly, potential negative effects on water are identified where large-scale infrastructure is proposed such as the Sustainable Travel Bridge over the M7, new road schemes or the expanded DART line and new train station, west of Sallins.

A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has been carried out in support of the LAP. The SFRA has recommended a number of flood risk management objectives for specific areas, ensuring planning applications, where applicable, will require a FRA of appropriate detail. The level of detail within the FRA will depend on the risks identified and the proposed land use.

8.4.5 Air, Noise and Climate

The potential impacts on Air, Noise and Climate are predominantly positive or neutral as the proposals to consolidate the town centre will likely result in a reduction in traffic movements.

The plan also promotes sustainable travel modes while making provisions for improved pedestrian and cycle routes in, and around the town centre. Such measures will have a positive effect on air, noise and climate.

This Draft Plan comprises a range of climate change adaptation objectives relating to the promotion of renewable energies, sustainable transport, energy reduction etc. These objectives will likely result in a positive impact on air quality and climate change mitigation.

Uncertainties will occur where the precise nature and extent of proposed new development is unknown. There is the potential for negative impacts to occur where new roads objectives are proposed.

Proposed new road schemes are likely to result in a negative air quality, noise and climate impacts due to both the materials used in construction, but also by means of the encouragement of private vehicle use.

8.4.6 Heritage

The land use zonings and objectives of the Draft LAP will primarily result in a positive or neutral impact on Heritage as development will largely take place with existing zoned or developed lands

Where urban regeneration or redevelopment is proposed in the town centre, it is not possible to fully ascertain if this is likely to result in a negative impact on heritage, as much of the town comprises an ACA. There are certain implications for development within an ACA - protection generally relates to the external appearance of structures and features of the streetscape. Generally, any works that may have a potential impact on the exterior would require planning permission, such as changes to the original roofing material, windows, boundary walls etc. The aim of ACA designation is not to prevent development, rather to guide sensitive, good quality development, which will enhance both the historical character of the area and the amenity of those who enjoy it.

Other uncertainties will occur where the precise nature and extent of proposed new development is unknown and where the discovery of heritage features cannot be ruled out.

The plan does however place a significant emphasis on the retention, protection and enhancement of existing heritage features within the LAP area.

There is the potential for negative impacts to occur where greenfield lands have been zoned for development- such as the land at southwest of the plan area, as this has the potential to impact on archaeology.

8.4.7 Landscape and Visual

The majority of potential impacts for Landscape and Visual are neutral.

A number of positive impacts on the townscape of Naas will likely result from the range of regeneration and urban realm proposals included in the Draft Plan.

Uncertainties exist where the precise nature, extent or scale of proposed development is unknown.

There is the potential for negative impacts to occur where greenfield lands have been zoned for development- such as the land at such as the land at southwest of the plan area, or where new roads objectives are proposed. This is particularly relevant with regards the proposed new road schemes.

8.4.8 Material Assets

In general, the potential impacts on Material Assets are largely considered as positive or neutral. This is because development will occur in a manner that is balanced and self-sustaining occurring in tandem with physical and social infrastructure.

The proposed consolidation of development in the town centre of Naas has however the potential to result in a negative impact on material assets. A high population density could put a strain on material assets, and it should be ensured that there is sufficient water and wastewater capacity to facilitate any residential development. However, the recent upgrade to Osberstown WWTP should accommodate all development proposed under the plan.

8.5 Interactive and Cumulative Effects

8.5.1 Interactive Effects

The SEA Directive requires the ER to include information on the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, fauna, flora, population, human health, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.

The presence of significant interactive effects between environmental factors is identified on **Table 8.4** below.

Table 8.4: Interactive Effects

	Biodiversity	Population and Human	Land and Soil	Water	Air, Noise, Climate	Heritage	Landscape &Visual	Material Assets
Biodiversity								
Population and Human Health	No							
Land and Soil	Yes	Yes						
Water	Yes	Yes	Yes					
Air, Noise, Climate	Yes	Yes	No	No				
Heritage	No	No	Yes	No	No			
Landscape &Visual	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes		
Material Assets	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

8.5.2 Cumulative Effects

Cumulative effects are one of the types of effects which have been considered by the assessment of the alternatives. Cumulative effects can be described as the addition of many small impacts to create one larger, more significant, impact.

Potential inter-Plan cumulative effects arise when the effects of the implementation of one plan occur in combination with those of other plans, programmes, developments, etc. Other policies, plans and programmes, as outlined in Section 3.2 have therefore been considered for their potential to give rise to potential cumulative effects with the Naas LAP.

Examples include:

- Land use policy, plans and programmes (e.g. the Kildare County Development Plan);
- Energy/Climate policy, plans and programmes (e.g.
- Water services, waste management, transport and energy infrastructure plans (Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021);
- Environmental protection and management plans (e.g. River Basin Management Plan, emerging Marine Spatial Plan and Flood Risk Management Plans).

Potential cumulative effects include:

- Contribution towards sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management – various provisions for which are provided for in the aforementioned plans
- Need for and use of services, infrastructure and other development (to service development, including tourism), including those related to water services, transport, access or accommodation, that are planned for and consented through the statutory framework – and associated potential adverse environmental effects on various environmental components including biodiversity and flora and fauna, the status of waters, human health, soil, emissions, cultural heritage and landscape
- Contribution towards climate adaptation and mitigation through measures such as those relating to walking and cycling, charging infrastructure, facilitating use of public transport, flood risk management and resilience
- Contribution towards travel related greenhouse gas and other emissions to air as a result of increases in tourist numbers
- Contribution towards the protection and management of biodiversity and flora and fauna (in designated sites, including European Sites and Wildlife Sites, and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats) through visitor management strategies, as relevant and appropriate.

These plans and programmes are subject to their own environmental assessment requirements as relevant. Some of these potential cumulative effects are mitigated by measures which are integrated into the Plans/Programmes while some will be mitigated by measures arising out of separate consent procedures.

9 Mitigation Measures and Monitoring

9.1 Mitigation

Mitigation measures are measures envisaged and designed to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse impacts on the environment of implementing the LAP. All mitigation measures have been developed and agreed with KCC as part of the SEA iterative process.

The primary mitigation measure is to ensure the sustainable and appropriate development of the plan area without compromising the integrity of the natural and built environment.

It is recommended that all legislation, policies and guidelines outlined in this Environmental Report and are adhered to. In addition, future legislation, policies and guidelines should also be fully integrated into the LAP and Environmental Report. In addition, many impacts will be more adequately identified and mitigated at project and EIA level. In general terms, all proposals for development will be required to have due regard to environmental considerations outlined in this Environmental Report and associated AA Screening.

In this section the mitigation measures are discussed under each environmental parameter heading. Refer to **Table 9.1** for proposed mitigation measures, and recommendations of the SEA.

Table 9.1: Mitigation measures

Aspect	Mitigation measures	Relevant Objectives	
		County Development Plan Objectives	Draft LAP Objectives
Biodiversity	To afford the highest level of protection to all designated European sites and species in accordance with the relevant legislation	NH1, NH2, NH3, NH4, NH5, NH6, NH7, NH8, NH9, NH10, NH11. NH12, NH13, NH14, NH15, NH16 NHO1, NHO2, NHO3, NHO4, NHO5, NHO6, NHO7, NHO8, NHO9, NHO10	NE1, NE1.1, NE1.2, NE1.3, NE1.4, NE1.5, NE1.6, NE2.1, NE2.2, NE3.1, NE3.2, NE4.1, NE4.2, NE4.3, NE4.4, NE5.1, NE5.2, NE5.3

Aspect	Mitigation measures	Relevant Objectives	
		County Development Plan Objectives	Draft LAP Objectives
	To require all planning applications for development that may have (or cannot rule out) likely significant effects on European Sites in view of the site's Conservation Objectives, either in isolation or in combination with other plans or projects, to submit a Natura Impact Statement in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive and the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended)	NH4, NH5, NH6, NHO 6	MTO 1.4
	To recognise and afford appropriate protection to any existing, new, or modified SPAs or SACs that are identified during the lifetime of the LAP		-
	To implement Article 6(3) and where necessary 6(4) of the Habitats Directive and to ensure that Appropriate Assessment is carried out in relation to works, plans and projects likely to impact on European sites (SACs and SPAs), whether directly or indirectly or in combination with any other plan(s) or project(s)	NH6	-
	To have regard to Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2009 or any updated version.		-
	To actively promote the conservation and protection of areas designated as an NHA (including proposed sites) and to only consider proposals for development within or affecting an NHA where it can be clearly demonstrated that the proposed development will not have a significant adverse effect on the NHA or pNHA;	NH7, NH8, NH9, NH10	NE1.2
	To identify and afford appropriate protection to any new, proposed or modified NHAs identified during the lifetime of this plan.		-
	To ensure the protection and conservation of areas, sites, species and ecological networks/corridors of biodiversity value outside of designated sites throughout the country and to require an ecological assessment to accompany development proposals likely to impact on such areas or species.	TN12, NH11, NH12	MTO1.1, MTO1.5, NE1, NE1.1, NE1.2, NE1.3, NE1.4, NE1.5, NE1.6, NE2.1, NE2.2, NE3.1, NE3.2, NE4.1, NE4.2, NE4.3, NE4.4, NE5.1, NE5.2, NE5.3

Aspect	Mitigation measures	Relevant Objectives	
		County Development Plan Objectives	**Draft LAP Objectives**
	To implement the EIA Directive, ensuring that all elements/stages or components of the project are included in one overall assessment and all reasonable alternatives are taken into consideration in choosing the option with the least environmental impact.	NH1, NH2, NH3, NH4, NH5, NH6, NH7, NH8, NH9, NH10, NH11. NH12, NH13, NH14, NH15, NH16 NHO1, NHO2, NHO3, NHO4, NHO5, NHO6, NHO7, NHO8, NHO9, NHO10	-
	To have regard to "Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessments (2013)' when considering proposals for which an EIA is required;		-
	To protect and promote the sustainable management of the natural heritage, flora and fauna of the county through the promotion of biodiversity, the conservation of natural habitats and the enhancement of new and existing habitats		NE1, NE1.1, NE1.2, NE1.3, NE1.4, NE1.5, NE1.6, NE2.1, NE2.2, NE3.1, NE3.2, NE4.1, NE4.2, NE4.3, NE4.4, NE5.1, NE5.2, NE5.3
	To promote the conservation of biodiversity through the protection of sites of biodiversity importance and wildlife corridors, both within and between the designated sites and the wider Plan area;		
	To ensure that development proposals support and enhance the connectivity and integrity of habitats in the plan area by incorporating natural features into the design of development proposals.		
	To raise awareness of the threat of alien invasive species and take all necessary steps to prevent the spread of non-native invasive species and noxious weeds in the plan area, including requiring landowners, developers and boat operators to adhere to best practice guidance in relation to their control;	NH13. NH14, NH15, NHO7, NHO8	-
	To implement the requirements of EU Regulations 1143/2014 on the Prevention and Management of the Introduction and Spread of Invasive Alien Species.	NH15	-
	The development of new infrastructure should be subject to site options assessment and environmental assessment, where required.	NH1, NH2, NH3, NH4, NH5, NH6, NH7, NH8, NH9, NH10, NH11. NH12, NH13, NH14, NH15, NH16 NHO1, NHO2, NHO3, NHO4, NHO5, NHO6,	MTO 1.12, MTO2.2, MTO2.3, MTO3.2, NWQ1.1

Aspect	Mitigation measures	Relevant Objectives	
		County Development Plan Objectives	**Draft LAP Objectives**
		NHO7, NHO8, NHO9, NHO10	
Population and Human Health	Ensure that access to adequate health and education facilities to meet the demand of the current and projected populace are included in development plans.	LE1, LEO1, LEO2, LEO3, C1, C2, C3, EF1, EF2, EF3, EF4, EF5, EFO1, EFO2, EFO3, EFO4, EFO5, EFO6, EFO7 HS1, HS2, HS3, HS4, HS5, HSO1, HSO2, HSO3, HSO4, HSO5	HC3, HCO3.1, HCO3.2, HCO3.3, HCO3.4
	To consult with and have regard to the technical advice of the Health and Safety Authority and assessing planning applications where the Major Accidents Directive and any associated regulations are relevant	ECD 17	-
	Encourage the further development of regional sustainable and public transport infrastructure including rail and bus corridors.	MT1, MT2, MT3, MT4, MT6, MT7, MT8, MT9, MT11, MT12, MT15, MTO1, MTO3, MT04 PT1, PT2, PT3, PT4, PT5, PT6, PT7, PT8, PT9, PT10, PT11, PT12, PT13 PTO1, PTO2, PTO3, PTO4, PTO5, PTO6, PTO8 WC1, WC2, WC4, WC5, WC6, WC7, WC8, WC9, WC10, WC14 WCO1, WCO2, WCO3, WCO4, WCO5, WCO6, WCO7, WCO8, WCO9	MT2, MTO2.1, MTO2.2, MTO2.3, MTO2.4, MTO2.5, MT3, MTO3.1, MTO3.2, MTO3.3, MTO3.4, MTO3.5, MTO3.6, MTO3.7, MTO3.8, EDO1.7

Aspect	Mitigation measures	Relevant Objectives	
		County Development Plan Objectives	**Draft LAP Objectives**
Land and Soil	To ensure that contaminated soil is disposed of in accordance with the Waste Management Regulations (S.I.821 of 2007)	WM8	I5, IO5.1, IO5.5
	Perform a survey of obsolete urban renewal areas and facilitate and promote the reuse and regeneration of brownfield sites, derelict land and buildings in and around urban centres.	EO18, EO19, EO20, EO21, EO22, EO23	HCO1.4, CSO1.2, EDO3.7,
	To recognise the importance of Geological Heritage Sites and to protect the character and integrity of these sites	NH16, NHO9, NHO 10	-
	To work with the GSI and relevant stakeholders to undertake a review of Geological Heritage Sites in the county during the lifetime of this Plan.	NHO9, NHO 10	-
Water Resources	To work with all relevant stakeholders to protect and manage inland waters, river corridors and their floodplains, turloughs, lakes, fens and other water bodies from degradation and damage, and to recognise and promote them as natural assets and key elements in the green infrastructure network in the county;	WQ1, WQ2, WQ3, WQ4, WQ5, WQ6	I1, IO1.1, IO1.2, IO1.3, I2, IO2.1, IO2.2, IO2.3, IO2.4, IO2.5, IO2.6, I3, IO3.1, IO3.2, IO3.3
	To facilitate the implementation of the relevant River Basin Management Plan for ground, surface, estuarine, coastal and transitional waters in the plan area as part of the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive;		I1, IO1.1, IO1.2, IO1.3, I2, IO2.1, IO2.2, IO2.3, IO2.4, IO2.5, IO2.6, I3, IO3.1, IO3.2, IO3.3
	To protect groundwater resources in accordance with the statutory requirements and specific measures as set out in the relevant River Basin Management Plan		I2, IO2.1, IO2.2, IO2.3, IO2.4, IO2.5, IO2.6
	To consider proposals for development where it can be clearly demonstrated that the development will meet the requirements of the relevant River Basin Management Plan.		IO2.5
	To ensure that developments that would have an unacceptable impact on water resources, including surface water and groundwater quality and quantity, designated sources protection areas, estuarine, coastal transitional waters, river corridors and associated wetlands will not be permitted;		IO2.5, IO2.6

Aspect	Mitigation measures	Relevant Objectives	
		County Development Plan Objectives	Draft LAP Objectives
	In areas of potable groundwater resources or over vulnerable aquifer areas, development proposals will only be considered if the applicant can clearly demonstrate that the proposed development will not pose a risk to the quality of the underlying groundwater;		IO2.5, IO2.6
	Prevent the alteration of natural drainage systems and in the case of development works require the provision of acceptable mitigation measures in order to minimise the risk of flooding and negative impacts on water quality.		I3, IO3.1, IO3.2, IO3.3
	Comply with the objectives and policies of the Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessment Management Study.		I3, IO3.1, IO3.2, IO3.3
	Promote SUDS principles for all drainage including the integration of storm water attenuation facilities for new developments and existing catchment areas.		IO2.3, NE3.1
	Ensure that any new development does not present an inappropriate risk of flooding or does not cause or exacerbate such a risk at other locations.		I3, IO3.1, IO3.2, IO3.3
	Comply with the DoECLG/OPW guidance on development and flood risk through the control of development in any flood plain so that new and existing developments are not exposed to increased risk of flooding and that any loss of flood storage is compensated for elsewhere in the river catchment.		I3, IO3.1, IO3.2, IO3.3
Air Noise and Climate	Ensure that the objectives and policies of EU Air Quality legislation are incorporated into plans and programmes upon implementation into Irish law.	VM2 PC1	I5
	Promote the reduction of emissions of Greenhouse Gases and facilitate measures which seek to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases to ensure Ireland's compliance with our Emission Targets.	VM2 PC1 ER1, ER2, ER3, ER4, ER5, ER6, ER7, ER8, ERO1 WE1, WE2, WE3, WE4, WE5, WEO1 HD1, HD2, HD3, HD4	I5, IO5.2, IO5.4

Aspect	Mitigation measures	Relevant Objectives	
		County Development Plan Objectives	**Draft LAP Objectives**
		SE1, SE2, SE3, SE4 BE1, BE2, BE3 EW1, EW2 EB1, EB2, EB3, EBO1 GT1	
	Facilitate sustainable transport modes and the use of walking, cycling and public transport.	MT1, MT2, MT3, MT4, MT6, MT7, MT8, MT9, MT11, MT12, MT15, MTO1, MTO3, MT04 PT1, PT2, PT3, PT4, PT5, PT6, PT7, PT8, PT9, PT10, PT11, PT12, PT13 PTO1, PTO2, PTO3, PTO4, PTO5, PTO6, PTO8 WC1, WC2, WC4, WC5, WC6, WC7, WC8, WC9, WC10, WC14 WCO1, WCO2, WCO3, WCO4, WCO5, WCO6, WCO7, WCO8, WCO9	MT1, MTO1.1, MTO1.2, MTO1.3, MTO1.4, MTO1.5, MTO1.6, MTO1.7, MTO1.8, MTO1.9, MTO1.10, MTO1.11, MTO1.12 MT2, MTO2.1, MTO2.2, MTO2.3, MTO2.4, MTO2.5
	Consideration of existing noise policy in County Kildare for example noise mapping and noise action plans produced by the Local Authority.	PC1, PC2, PC3, PC6, PC7, PC8, PC10	HCO2.3, MTO3.6
	Consideration of likely noise impacts/effects associated with new developments. This includes being cognisant of proximity to sensitive receptors when siting new developments and consideration of existing noise sources when zoning lands for residential development.	PC1, PC2, PC3, PC4, PC5, PC6, PC7, PC8, PC9, PC10	I5, HCO 2.3, MTO3.6, MTO 3.7,
	To support the implementation of the Climate Change policy documents and legislation outlined in the ER.	CS16	I4.5, I5

Aspect	Mitigation measures	Relevant Objectives	
		County Development Plan Objectives	Draft LAP Objectives
	To ensure that developments do not give rise to negative effects on air quality, during both construction and operation	WM2, PC10	I5, I5.2
Heritage	To ensure the protection of the architectural heritage through the identification of Protected Structures, the designation of Architectural Conservation Areas, the safeguarding historic gardens, and the recognition of structures and elements that contribute positively to vernacular and industrial heritage	PS1, PS2, PS3, PS4, PS5, PS6, PS7, PS8, PS9, PS10, PS11, PS12, PS13, PS14, PS15, PS16, PS17, PS18, PS19, PS20, PS21 PSO1, PSO2, PSO3, PSO4, PSO5, PSO6, PSO7, PSO8 ACO1, ACO2, ACO3, ACO4 CH01, CH02 VS1, VA2, VA3, VA4, VA5, VA6, VA7, VA8 VAO1, VAO2 ACA1, ACA2, ACA3, ACA4, ACA5 ACAO1, ACAO2, ACAO3, AH1, AH2, AH3, AH4, AH5, AH6, AH7, AH8, AH9, AH10, AH11, AH12 AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4, AO5 HF1 HFO1, HFO1	BH1, BH1.1, BH1.2, BH1.3, BH1.4, BH2, BH2.1, BH2.2, BH2.3, BH2.4, BH2.5, BH2.6, BH2.7, BH2.8, BH3, BH3.1, BH3.2, BH4, BH5, BH5.1, NH5.2, BH5.3, BH5.3, BH5.4, BH5.5, BH5.6
	To protect, as set out in the Record of Protected Structures, all structures, which are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social, or technical interest	PS1, PS2, PS3, PS4, PS5, PS6, PS7, PS8, PS9, PS10, PS11, PS12, PS13, PS14, PS15, PS16, PS17, PS18, PS19, PS20, PS21 PSO1, PSO2, PSO3, PSO4, PSO5, PSO6, PSO7, PSO8	BH1, BH1.1, BH1.2

Aspect	Mitigation measures	Relevant Objectives	
		County Development Plan Objectives	**Draft LAP Objectives**
	To review the Record of Protected Structures periodically and add structures of special interest as appropriate, including significant elements of industrial, maritime or vernacular heritage and any twentieth century structures of merit.	PS1, PS2, PS3, PS4, PS5, PS6, PS7, PS8, PS9, PS10, PS11, PS12, PS13, PS14, PS15, PS16, PS17, PS18, PS19, PS20, PS21 PSO1, PSO2, PSO3, PSO4, PSO5, PSO6, PSO7, PSO8	-
	To ensure that new developments within or adjacent to an ACA respect the established character context of the area and contribute positively to the ACA in terms of design, scale, setting and material finishes;	ACA1, ACA2, ACA3, ACA4, ACA5 ACAO1, ACAO2, ACAO3	BH2, BH2.1, BH2.2, BH2.3, BH2.4, BH2.5, BH2.6, BH2.7, BH2.8
	To protect existing buildings, structures, groups of structures, sites, landscapes and features such as street furniture and paving, which are considered to be intrinsic elements of the special character of the ACA, from demolition or removal and non-sympathetic alterations;		
	To ensure that all new signage, lighting, advertising and utilities to buildings within an ACA are designed, constructed and located in a manner that does not detract from is complementary to the character of the ACA;		
	To safeguard sites, features and objects of archaeological interest generally;	PS1, PS2, PS3, PS4, PS5, PS6, PS7, PS8, PS9, PS10, PS11, PS12, PS13, PS14, PS15, PS16, PS17, PS18, PS19, PS20, PS21 PSO1, PSO2, PSO3, PSO4, PSO5, PSO6, PSO7, PSO8 ACO1, ACO2, ACO3, ACO4 CH01, CH02 VS1, VA2, VA3, VA4, VA5, VA6, VA7, VA8 VAO1, VAO2 ACA1, ACA2, ACA3, ACA4, ACA5	BH4

Aspect	Mitigation measures	Relevant Objectives	
		County Development Plan Objectives	**Draft LAP Objectives**
		ACAO1, ACAO2, ACAO3, AH1, AH2, AH3, AH4, AH5, AH6, AH7, AH8, AH9, AH10, AH11, AH12 AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4, AO5 HF1 HFO1, HFO1	
	To secure the preservation (i.e. preservation in situ or in exceptional cases preservation by record) of all archaeological monuments included in the Record of Monuments and Places as established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994, and of sites, features and objects of archaeological and historical interest generally;	AH1, AH2, AH3, AH4, AH5, AH6, AH7, AH8, AH9,	MTO1.11, BH4, BH5, BH5.1, NH5.2, BH5.3, BH5.3, BH5.4, BH5.5
	To have regard to the government publication Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage 1999 in relation to protecting sites, features and objects of archaeological interest		-
	To protect and preserve archaeological sites discovered since the publication of the Record of Monuments and Places.		MTO1.11, BH4, BH5, BH5.1, NH5.2, BH5.3, BH5.3, BH5.4, BH5.5
	To protect the Zones of Archaeological Potential located within both urban and rural areas as identified in the Record of Monuments and Places.		
	To have regard to archaeological concerns when considering proposed service schemes located in close proximity to Recorded Monuments and Places and the Zones of Archaeological Potential.		
Landscape and Visual	Ensure that all new plans and programmes incorporate the findings of the County Landscape Character Assessments.	LA1, LA2, LA3, LA4, LA5, LA6, LA7 LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4, LO5, LO6, LO7, LO8, LO9, LO10, LO11 LU1, LU2, LU3, LU4, LU5 TA1, TA2, TA3, TA4	URD1.2, URD1.3, URD1.4, EDO3.2, EDO3.3, EDO3.4, EDO3.5, EDO3.6, EDO3.7, EDO3.8, EDO3.9, BH1, BH1.1, BH1.2, BH1.3, BH1.4, BH2, BH2.1, BH2.2, BH2.3, BH2.4, BH2.4, BH2.5, BH2.6, BH2.7, BH2.8 BH3, BH3.1, BH3.2, BH3.3
	To require that all proposed developments in Heritage Landscapes demonstrate that every effort has been made to reduce visual impact. This must be demonstrated for all aspects of the proposal- from site selection through to details of siting and design. All other relevant provisions of the development plan must be complied with.		

Aspect	Mitigation measures	Relevant Objectives	
		County Development Plan Objectives	**Draft LAP Objectives**
	Protect and Enhance the streetscape of Naas' Main Street through the appropriate control of alterations to existing buildings and the development of new structures; in particular building and roof lines and heights which diverge from the established form will require to be justified.	WC1, WC2, WC3, WC4, WC5, WC6, WC7, WC8, WC9 CU1, CU2, CU3, CU4, SR1, SR2	BH4 BH5, BH5.1, BH5.2, BH5.3
	To protect sensitive areas from inappropriate development while providing for development and change that will benefit the rural community		
	To ensure that proposed developments take into consideration their effects on views from the public road towards scenic features or areas and are designed and located to minimise their impact		
	To ensure that appropriate standards of location, siting, design, finishing, and landscaping are achieved.		
Material Assets	Promote the implementation of the Waste Management Plan together with any future National or Regional Waste Management Plans. Additionally, ensure national policies and regulations regarding waste are adhered to.	WM1, WM3	I5
	Encourage waste prevention, minimisation, reuse, recycling and recovery as methods of managing waste.	WM1, WM2, WM3, WM4, WM5, WM6, WM7, WM9, WM10, WM11, VM15	HCO 4.7, I5, IO5.5, WH1, WH1.1
	Promote the development of sufficient energy resources to meet the needs of the plan area and promote the use of renewable energies to meet those needs.	ER1, ER2, ER5, ER6, ERO1	I4, IO4.1, HCO2.5, WH1, WH1.1, WH1.2, IO4.5,
	Protect the hydrological environment from adverse effects of the wastewater discharges by ensuring that there is suitable wastewater treatment to meet demands before discharge to the environment.	WW1, WW2, WW3, WW4, WW5, WW6, WW7, WW8, WW9, WW10, WW11, WW12, WW13	I1, IO1.1, IO1.2, IO1.3
	Promote the development of sustainable transportation infrastructure where considered feasible.	MT1, MT2, MT3, MT4, MT6, MT7, MT8, MT9, MT11, MT12, MT15, PT1, PT2, PT3, PT4, PT5, PT6, PT7, PT8, PT9, PT10, PT11, PT12, PT13	MT1, MTO1.1, MTO1.2, MTO1.3, MTO1.4, MTO1.5, MTO1.6, MTO1.7, MTO1.8, MTO1.9, MTO1.10, MTO1.11, MTO1.12 MT2, MTO2.1, MTO2.2, MTO2.3, MTO2.4, MTO2.5

Aspect	Mitigation measures	Relevant Objectives	
		County Development Plan Objectives	**Draft LAP Objectives**
		PTO1, PTO2, PTO3, PTO4, PTO5, PTO6, PTO8 WC1, WC2, WC4, WC5, WC6, WC7, WC8, WC9, WC10, WC14 WCO1, WCO2, WCO3, WCO4, WCO5, WCO6, WCO7, WCO8, WCO9	

9.2 Monitoring

Article 10 of the SEA Directive requires that monitoring should be carried out in order to identify at an early stage any unforeseen adverse impacts associated with the implementation of the plan or programme.

A monitoring programme is developed based on the indicators selected to track progress towards achieving strategic environmental objectives and reaching targets, enabling positive and negative impacts on the environment to be measured. As previously described, the environmental indicators have been developed to show changes that would be attributable to implementation of the LAP.

The SEA carried out has ensured that any potential significant environmental impacts have been identified and given due consideration.

KCC is responsible for collating existing relevant monitored data, the preparation of preliminary and final monitoring evaluation reports, the publication of these reports and, if necessary, the carrying out of corrective action.

Refer to **Table 9.2** for the proposed monitoring measures.

Table 9.2: Monitoring programme for the LAP

Objectives	Targets	Indicators	Monitoring Source	Monitoring Frequency and Responsibility
SEO 1 Biodiversity				
SEO 1.1 Protect, conserve, enhance where possible and avoid loss of diversity and integrity of the broad range of habitats, species and wildlife corridors. **SEO 1.2** To support achievement of the conservation objectives of European Sites (SACs and SPAs) and other sites of nature conservation. **SEO 1.3** Conserve and protect other sites of nature conservation including NHAs, pNHAs,National Parks, Nature Reserves, Wildfowl Sanctuaries as well as protected species outside these areas as covered by the Wildlife Act. **SEO 1.4** To minimise and, where possible, eliminate threats to biodiversity including invasive species.	**SET 1.1** Siting of development of infrastructure installation on non-sensitive sites. **SET 1.2** Maintenance of favourable conservation status for all habitats and species protected under the Habitat Directive. **SET 1.3** No loss of protected habitats and species during the lifetime of the Plan. **SET 1.4** No significant ecological networks or parts thereof which provide functional connectivity for SAC/SPAs to be lost without remediation resulting from development provided for by the LAP**.**	**SEI 1.1** Number and extent of Designated Sites. **SEI 1.2** Achievement of favourable conservation status of designated sites. **SEI 1.3** Population and range of Designated Species. **SEI 1.4** Achievement of the Objectives of Biodiversity Plans and County Development Plans.	1. Monitoring of the effects of capital investment project development required under separate processes (EIA, AA) 2. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht report of the implementation of the measures contained in the Habitats Directive - as required by Article 17 of the Directive 3. The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland Report (Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht) **4.** Monitoring related to other relevant Local Area Plans and County/City Development Plans 5. EPA State of the Environment Report	1. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of EIA/ AA 2. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht- every 6 years 3. Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Every 6 years. 4. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of the lower level plans 5. EPA. Every 4 years.
SEO 2 Population and Human Health				

Objectives	Targets	Indicators	Monitoring Source	Monitoring Frequency and Responsibility
SEO 2.1 Protect, enhance and improve people's quality of life through energy provision. **SEO 2.2** Protect human health from hazards or nuisances arising from incompatible development. **SEO 2.3** Provide all of the energy services required to sustainably meet future housing demands. **SEO 2.4** To minimise the proximity of development to concentrations of population and to mitigate potential effect of development in order to reduce actual and perceived environmental effects.	**SET 2.1** Minimise population exposure to high levels of noise, vibration and air pollution. **SET 2.2** No significant deterioration in human health as a result of environmental factors. **SET 2.3** No spatial concentrations of health problems arising from environmental factors. **SET 2.4** Maintenance of gas supply to meet the energy needs of the population, while commencing a shift towards renewable energy use.	**SEI 2.1** Census population data; **SEI 2.2** % increase in housing (number and type). **SEI 2.3** Changes in trends in perceived health status.	1. Monitoring of the effects of capital investment project development required under separate processes (EIA, AA) **2.** CSO Population and Gas Consumption Data **3.** Monitoring related to other relevant Local Area Plans and County/City Development Plans or RSESs	1. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of EIA/ AA 2. CSO, results published every new Census year (6 years) 3. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of the lower level plans
SEO 3 Land & Soil				
SEO 3.1 Conserve, protect and avoid loss of diversity and integrity of designated habitats, geological features, species or their sustaining resources in designated ecological sites.	**SET 3.1** Prevent pollution of soil through adoption of appropriate environmental protection procedures during construction, installation and maintenance works on site.	**SEI 3.1** Incidences of soil contamination. **SEI 3.2** Rates of re-use/recycling of construction waste. **SEI 3.3** Rates of brownfield site and contaminated land reuse and development.	1. Monitoring of the effects of capital investment project development required under separate processes (EIA, AA) **2.** CORINE mapping resurvey **3.** EPA State of the Environment Report.	1. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of EIA/ AA 2. European Community (EC). Varies. 3. EPA, every 4 years. 4. EPA, varies

Objectives	Targets	Indicators	Monitoring Source	Monitoring Frequency and Responsibility
	SET 3.2 No incidences of soil contamination. **SET 3.3** Ensure appropriate management of existing contaminated soil in accordance with the requirements of current waste legislation.	**SEI 3.4** Rates of greenfield development.	4. EPA National Waste Statistics **5.** Monitoring related to relevant Local Area Plans and County/City Development Plans or RSES's	5. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of the lower level plans
SEO 4 Water				
SEO 4.1 Maintain or improve the quality of surface water and groundwater (including estuarine) to status objectives as set out in the WaterFramework Directive (WFD). **SEO 4.2** Support achievement of the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and implementation of the National River Basin Management Plan'	**SET 4.1** Support the achievement of "good" ecological and chemical status/potential of waterbodies by 2015 in accordance with the Water Framework Directive. **SET 4.5** Not to cause deterioration in the status of any surface or ground water or affect the ability of any surface or ground water to maintain or achieve 'good' status.	**SEI 4.1** Compliance of surface and ground waters with national and international standards. **SEI 4.2** Achievement of the Objectives of the River Basin Management Plan.	**1.** Monitoring of the effects of capital investment project development required under separate processes (EIA, AA) 2. EPA Water Quality Status for surface and ground water 3. EPA Risk Status for surface and ground water **4.** EPA water quality monitoring	1. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of EIA/ AA 2. EPA, varies 3. EPA, varies 4. EPA, continuous
SEO 5 Air & Noise				
SEO 5.1 To support the protection of ambient environment through the implementation of European, national and regional policy and legislation relating to air quality, greenhouse gases, climate change, light pollution noise	**SET 5.1** Maintain ambient air quality. **SET 5.2** Minimise air and noise emissions during construction and operation of new developments.	**SEI 5.1** Air quality indicators- National and region-specific emission data. **SEI 5.2** Compliance with national standards.	1. Monitoring of the effects of capital investment project development required under separate processes (EIA, AA) 2. EPA Air Quality Monitoring 3. EPA State of the Environment Report	1. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of EIA/ AA 2. EPA, continuous 3. EPA, every 4 years 4. EPA, annually 5. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of the lower level plans

Objectives	Targets	Indicators	Monitoring Source	Monitoring Frequency and Responsibility
pollution and waste management.			4. EPA Air Quality in Ireland Report **5.** Monitoring related to other relevant Local Area Plans and County/City Development Plans or RSESs – such as noise action plans	
SEO 6 Climate and Resilience				
SEO 6.1 Comply with relevant national climate change targets e.g. Ireland's Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015, the and EU 2030 and 2050 Emissions and Renewable Energy Targets and the Paris Agreement Targets. **SEO 6.2** To support implementation of the National Climate Action Plan 2019	**SET 6.1** Achieve a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. **SET 6.2** Increase the amount of gas from renewable sources that is introduced to the network. **SET 6.3** Growth in the level of fuel switching from high-carbon fuels to gas, in both heating and transport. **SET 6.4** Promote minimisation of greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere. **SET 6.5** To achieve a 30% reduction on GHG emission levels (compared with 2005 levels) by 2050.	**SEI 6.1** Levels of greenhouse gas emissions. **SEI 6.2** Number of energy/renewable energy production facilities. **SEI 6.3** Rates of energy/renewable energy consumption. **SEI 6.4** Groundwater levels	1. Monitoring of the effects of capital investment project development required under separate processes (EIA, AA) 2. EPA State of the Environment Report **3.** Monitoring related to other relevant Local Area Plans and County/City Development Plans or RSESs 4. EPA climate change projections 5. EPA Greenhouse Gas emissions data 6. Monitoring related to Climate Adaptation or Mitigation plans 7. Monitoring of groundwater levels by GSI under the GWCimate project	1. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of EIA/ AA 2. EPA, every 4 years 3. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of the lower level plans 4. EPA, varies 5. EPA, varies 6. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of these plans 7. GSI, continuous

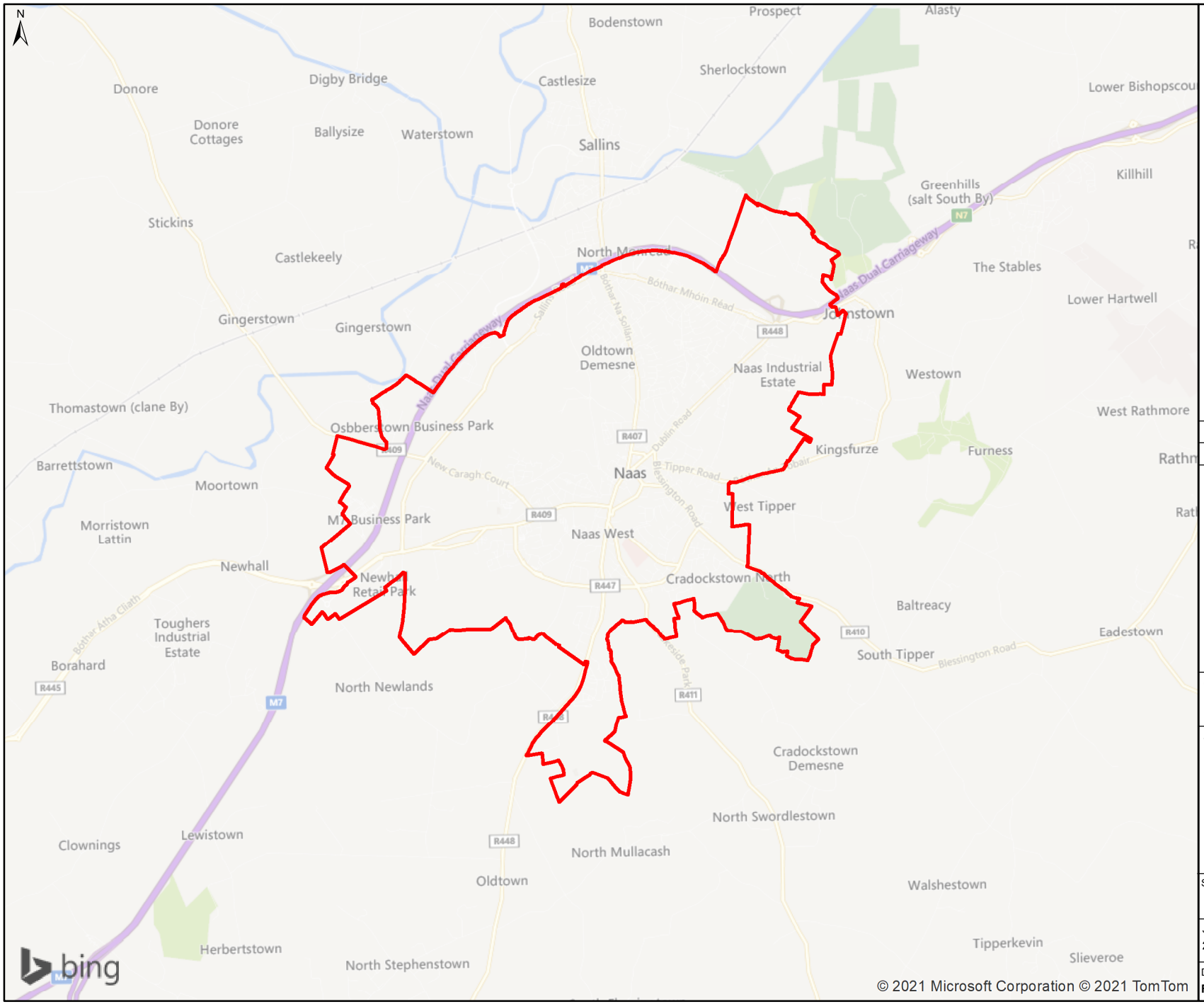
Objectives	Targets	Indicators	Monitoring Source	Monitoring Frequency and Responsibility
SEO 7 Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage				
SEO 7.1 Promote the protection and conservation of archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage, specifically those buildings identified on the Record of Protected Structures, and Recorded Monuments in Ireland.	**SET 7.1** Maintenance and enhancement of archaeological heritage- including entries to the Record of Monuments and Places and unknown archaeology- and the context of the above within the surrounding landscape where relevant. **SET 7.2** Maintenance and enhancement of entries to the Record of Protected Structures and/or their context within the surrounding landscape where relevant.	**SEI 7.1** Achieving the objectives of development plans regarding heritage protection. **SEI 7.2** full or partial loss to entries to the RPSs/NIAHs	1. Monitoring of the effects of capital investment project development required under separate processes (EIA, AA) 2. Monitoring related to other relevant Local Area Plans and County/City Development Plans or RSESs	1. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of EIA/ AA 2. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of the lower level plans
SEO 8 Landscape and Visual				
SEO 8.1 Ensure no significant disruption of historic/cultural landscapes and features. **SEO 8.2** Ensure no significant visual impact from developments/installations. **SEO 8.3** Ensure no significant disruption of high landscape values.	**SET 8.1** No avoidable significant impacts on the landscape resulting from development provided for by the LAP. **SET 8.2** Ensure development and infrastructure installations are sensitive to its surroundings. **SET 8.3** Ensure no significant disruption of historic/cultural landscapes and features.	**SEI 8.1** Range and extent of Amenity Landscapes. **SEI 8.2** Rates of development within designated landscapes. **SEI 8.3** Rates of urban expansion. **SEI 8.4** % change of land use from rural to urban.	1. Monitoring of the effects of capital investment project development required under separate processes (EIA, AA). 2. Monitoring related to other relevant Local Area Plans and County/City Development Plans or RSESs. 3. CORINE mapping resurvey	3. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of EIA/ AA 4. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of the lower level plans 5. European Communities (EC), varies

Objectives	Targets	Indicators	Monitoring Source	Monitoring Frequency and Responsibility
SEO 8.4 To support achievement of the objectives of the National Landscape Strategy				
SEO 9 Material Assets				
SEO 9.1 Make best use of existing infrastructure and phase the significant future growth of Ireland in line with the capacity and delivery of the sustainable development of new physical infrastructure. **SEO 9.2** Promote use of renewable energy sources and support energy conservation initiatives including the development of low carbon business practices and buildings. **SEO 9.3** Minimise effects upon the existing and planned infrastructure.	**SET 9.1** High levels of energy demand growth are accommodated. **SET 9.2** Secure and competitive supplied of gas and are maintained. **SET 9.3** Increase in renewable energy developments. **SET 9.4** To achieve a 30% reduction on GHG emission levels (compared with 2005 levels) by 2050. **SET 9.5** Improve efficiencies of energy infrastructure.	**SEI 9.1** Location/level of infrastructure. **SEI 9.2** Achievement of development plan objectives. **SEI 9.3** No. of renewable energy developments granted planning permission.	1. Monitoring of the effects of capital investment project development required under separate processes (EIA, AA). 2. Monitoring related to other relevant Local Area Plans and County/City Development Plans or RSESs. **3.** CSO Population and Gas Consumption Data	1. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of EIA/ AA 2. In accordance with the monitoring provisions of the lower level plans 3. CSO, every 6 years

Appendix A

Figures

A4



Legend

Naas LAP Boundary

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are sourced from Kildare County Council

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.375 0.75 1.5

ARUP

50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client

Kildare County Council

Job Title

Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Extent of the Plan (LAP Boundary)

Scale at A4

1:60,000

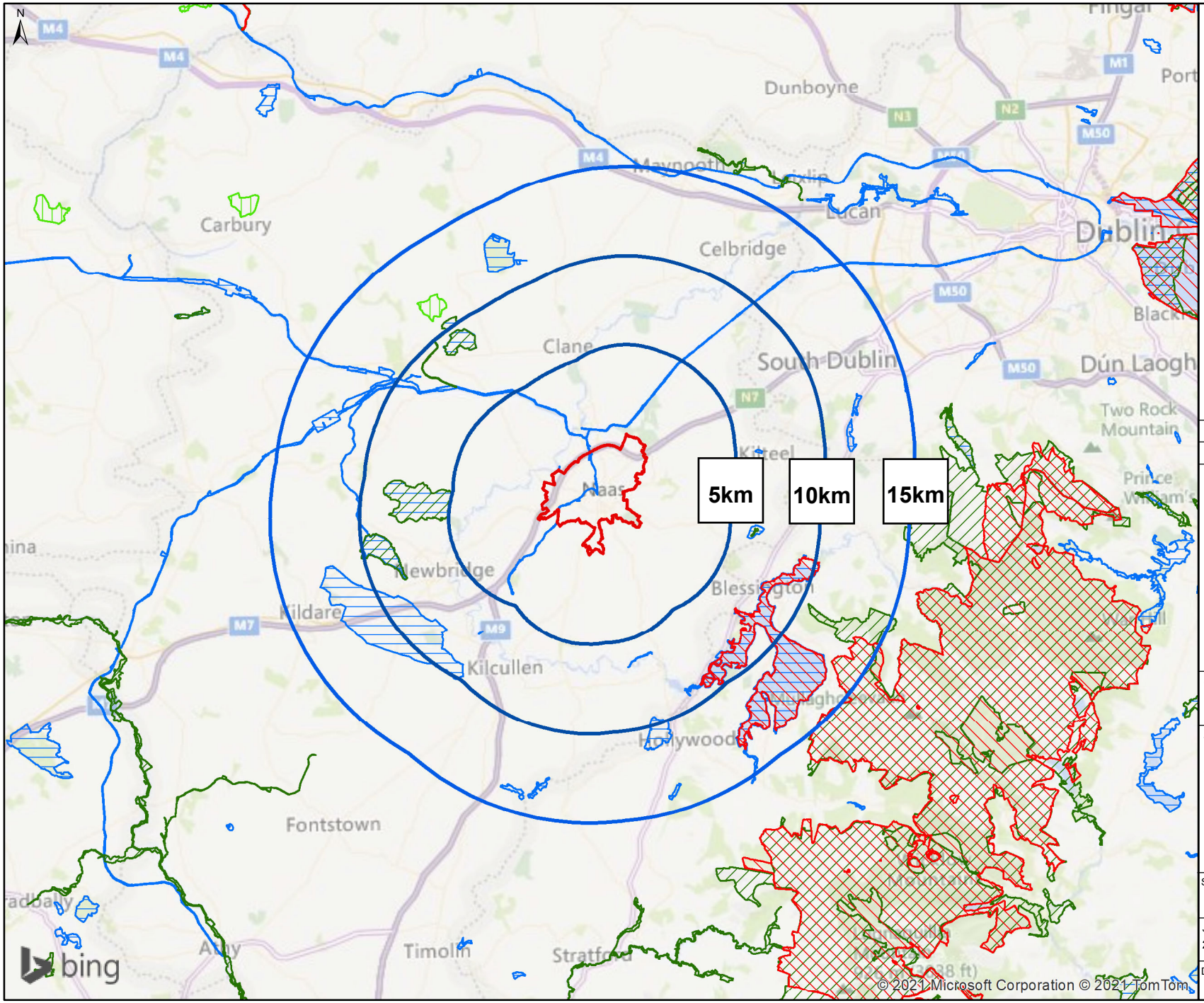
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 2.1	**I1**

20/10/2017 14:42:09

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_Boundary.mxd

A4



Legend

- Buffer
- Special Protection Areas
- Special Areas of Conservation
- Proposed National Heritage Areas
- National Heritage Areas

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are available at the National Parks and Wildlife Services Map Viewer http://webgis.npws.ie/npwsviewer/

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 1.75 3.5 7

ARUP
50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client
Kildare County Council

Job Title
Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Ecological Designated Sites (including Natura 2000 sites)

Scale at A4
1:300,000

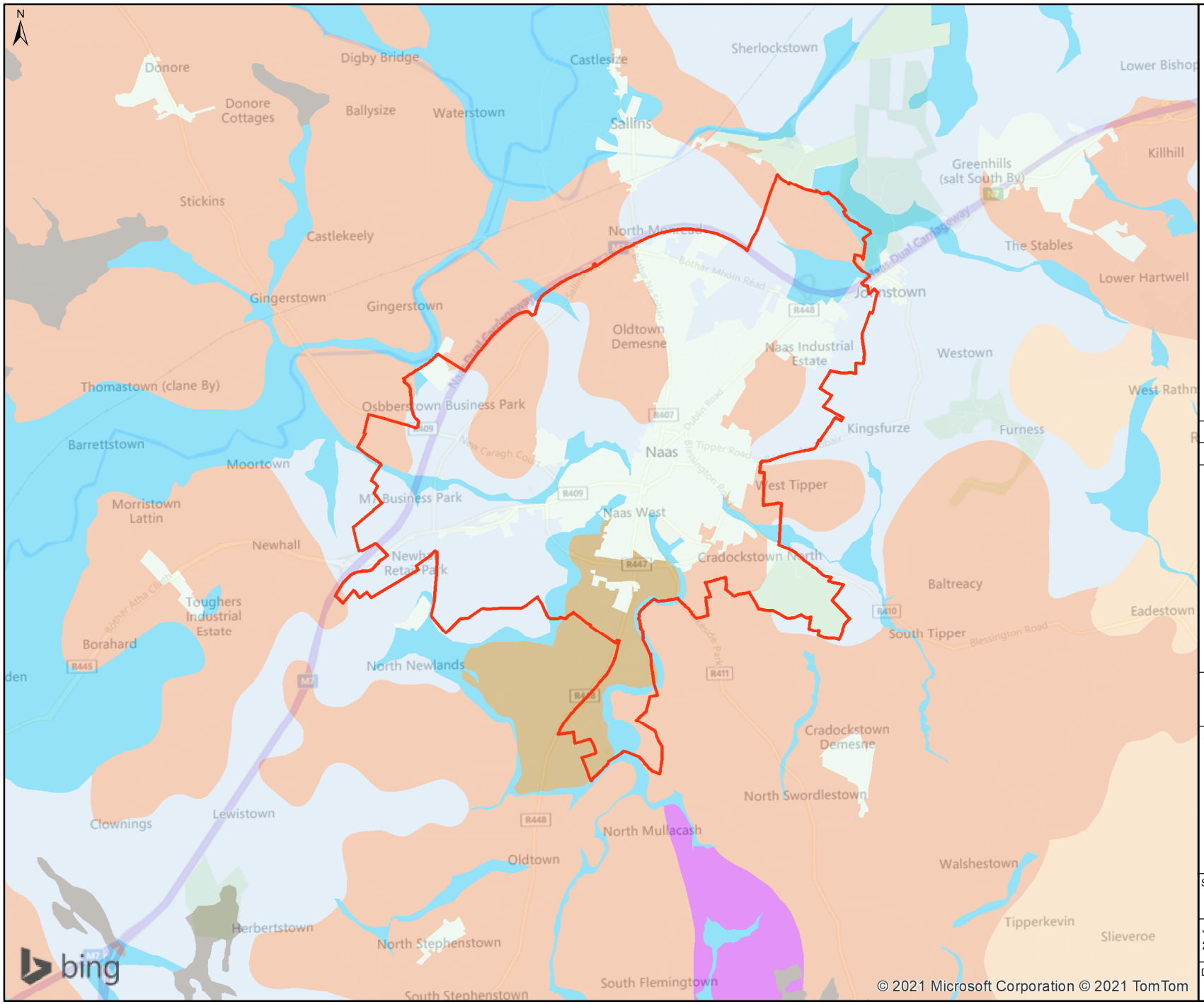
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.1	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:17:55

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_Ecology.mxd

A4



Legend

- Naas LAP Boundary

ISIS NationalSoils

- 05LAK - Lake
- 05RIV - River
- 0650a - Mylerstown
- 0700d - Straffan
- 1000c - Elton
- 1000x - Elton
- 1100e - Ballylanders
- 1100l - Kennycourt
- 1150c - Faoldroim
- 1xx - Peat
- Urban

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are available at the Environmental Protection Agency. http://gis.epa.ie/GetData/Download

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.45 0.9 1.8

ARUP
50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client
Kildare County Council

Job Title
Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Soils

Scale at A4
1:60,000

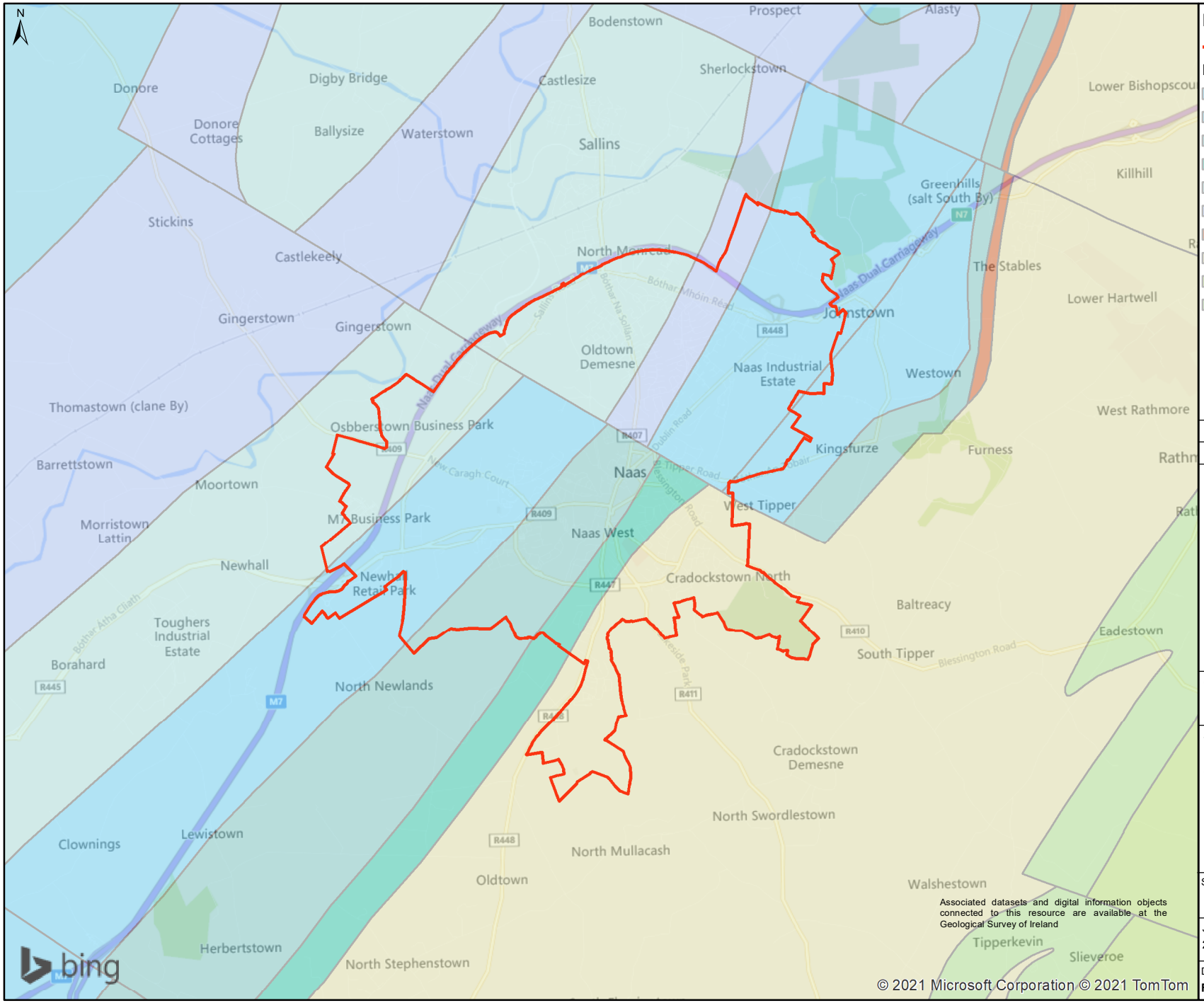
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.2	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:13:09

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_Soils.mxd

A4



Legend

- Naas LAP Boundary

Bedrock Rock Units 1:100k

- Ballysteen Formation
- Boston Hill Formation
- Feighcullen Formation
- Quinagh Formation
- Rickardstown Formation
- Waulsortian Limestones
- Old Red Sandstone
- Carrighill Formation
- Glen Ding Formation
- Tipperkevin Formation

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.375 0.75 1.5

ARUP

50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client
Kildare County Council

Job Title
Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Geology

Scale at A4
1:60,000

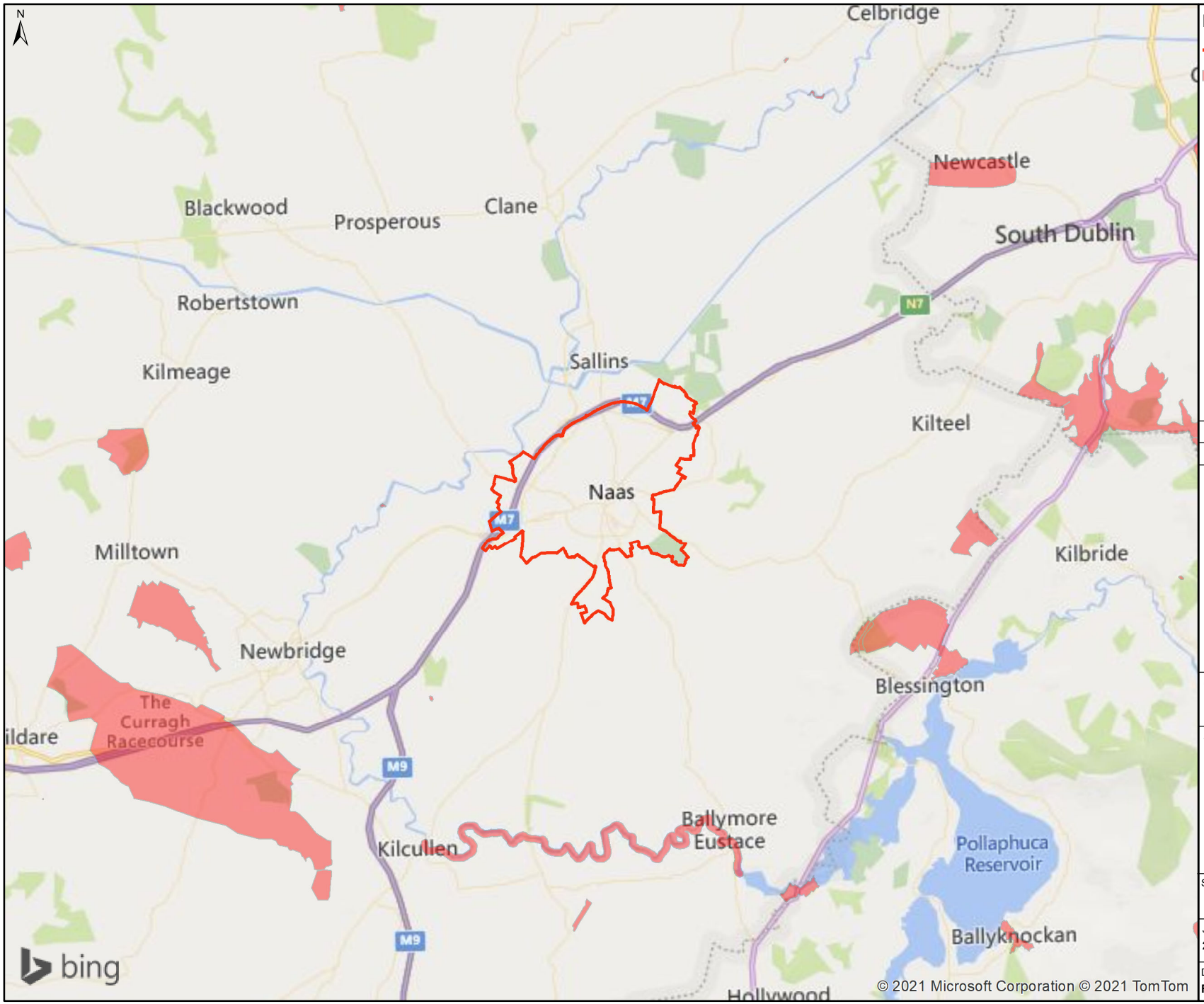
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.3	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_Geology.mxd

A4



Legend

- Naas LAP Boundary
- Geological Heritage Site

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are available at the Geological Survey of Ireland https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.75 1.5 3

ARUP
50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client
Kildare County Council

Job Title
Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Geological Heritage

Scale at A4
1:150,000

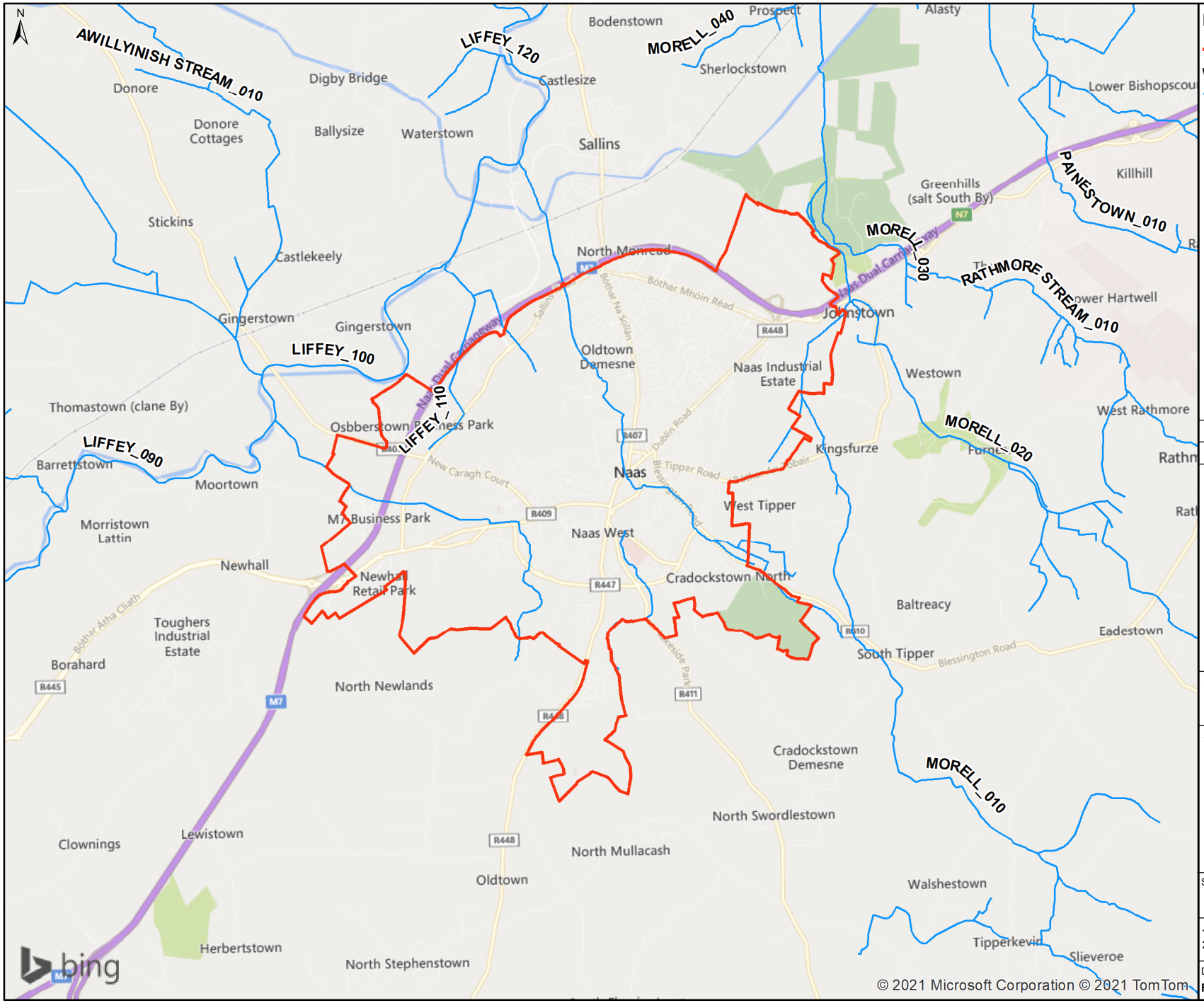
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.4	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_GeologicalHeritage1.mxd

A4



Legend

Naas LAP Boundary

WFD River Waterbodies

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are available at the Environmental Protection Agency of Ireland http://gis.epa.ie/GetData/Download

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.375 0.75 1.5

ARUP

50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client
Kildare County Council

Job Title
Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Surface Water Features

Scale at A4
1:60,000

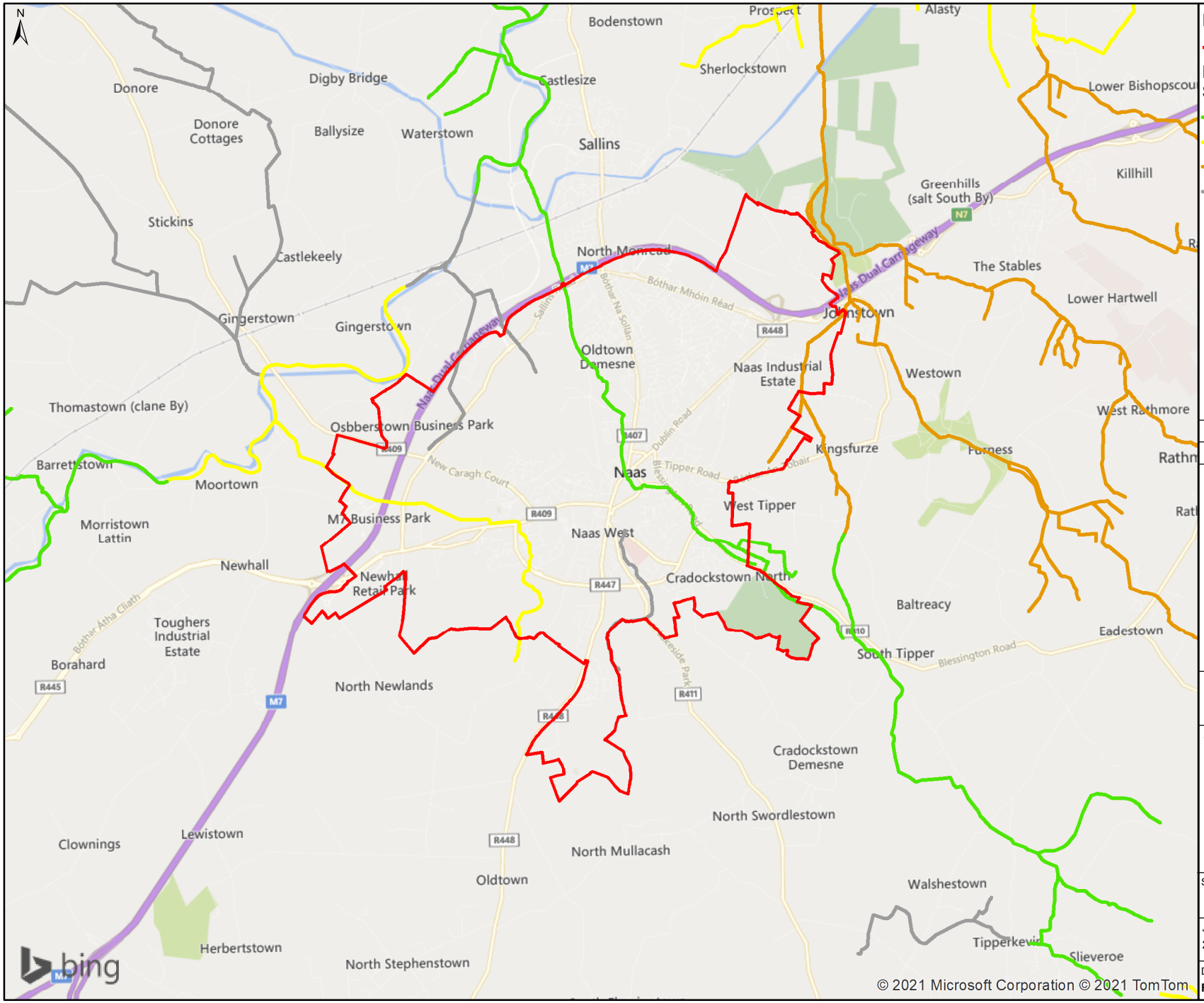
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.5	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_SurfaceWaterFeatures.mxd

A4



Legend

- Naas LAP Boundary

River Waterbody WFD Status

- Good
- Moderate
- Poor
- Unassigned

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are available at the Environmental Protection Agency of Ireland http://gis.epa.ie/GetData/Download

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.375 0.75 1.5

ARUP

50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client
Kildare County Council

Job Title
Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Water Framework Directive Status for Lakes and Rivers

Scale at A4
1:60,000

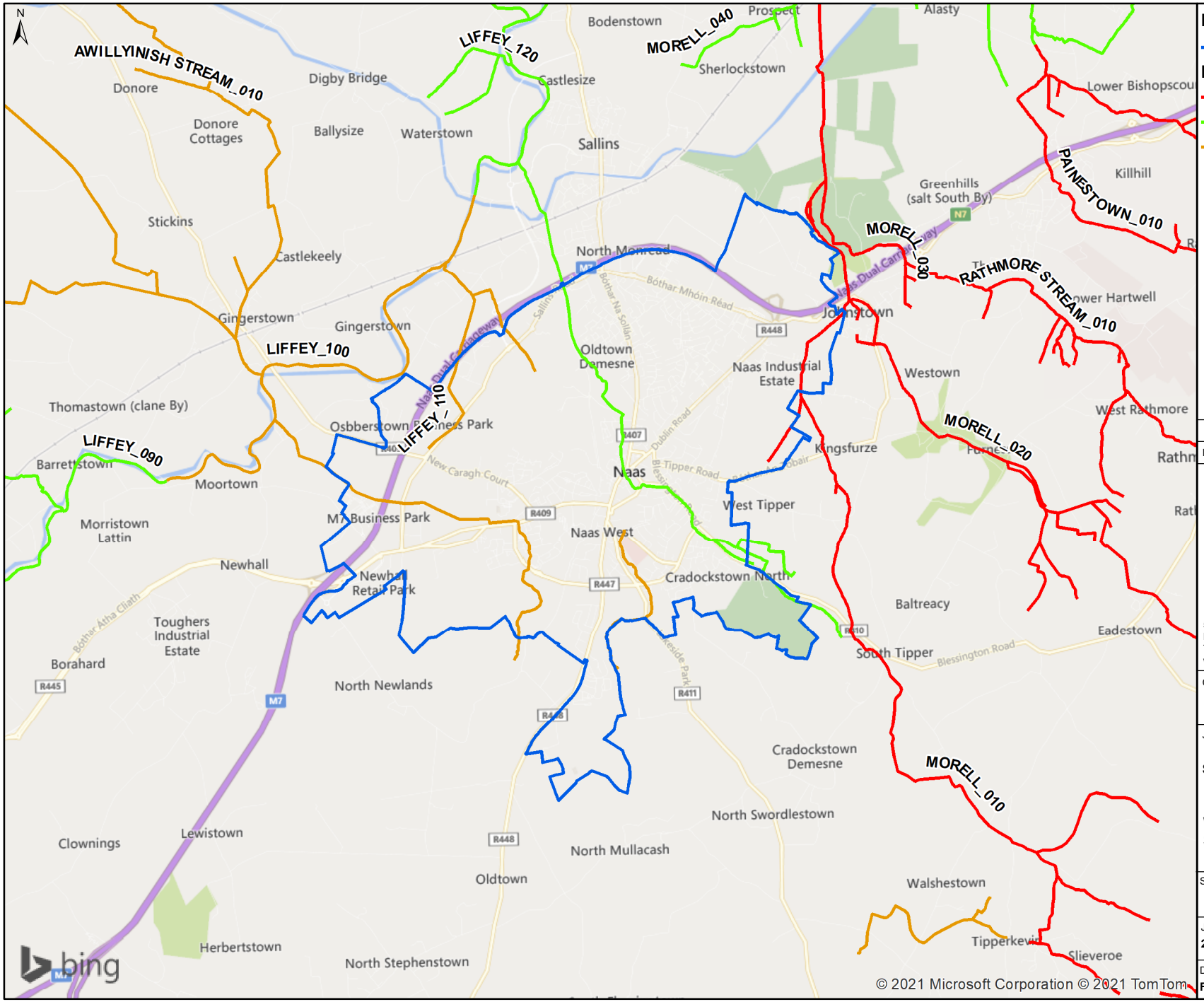
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.6	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_WFD_Status_Lakes&Rivers.mxd

A4



Legend

Naas LAP Boundary

River Waterbodies Risk

At risk

Not at risk

Review

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are available at the Environmental Protection Agency of Ireland http://gis.epa.ie/GetData/Download

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.375 0.75 1.5

ARUP

50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client

Kildare County Council

Job Title

Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Water Framework Directive Risk Status for Surface Waterbodies

Scale at A4

1:60,000

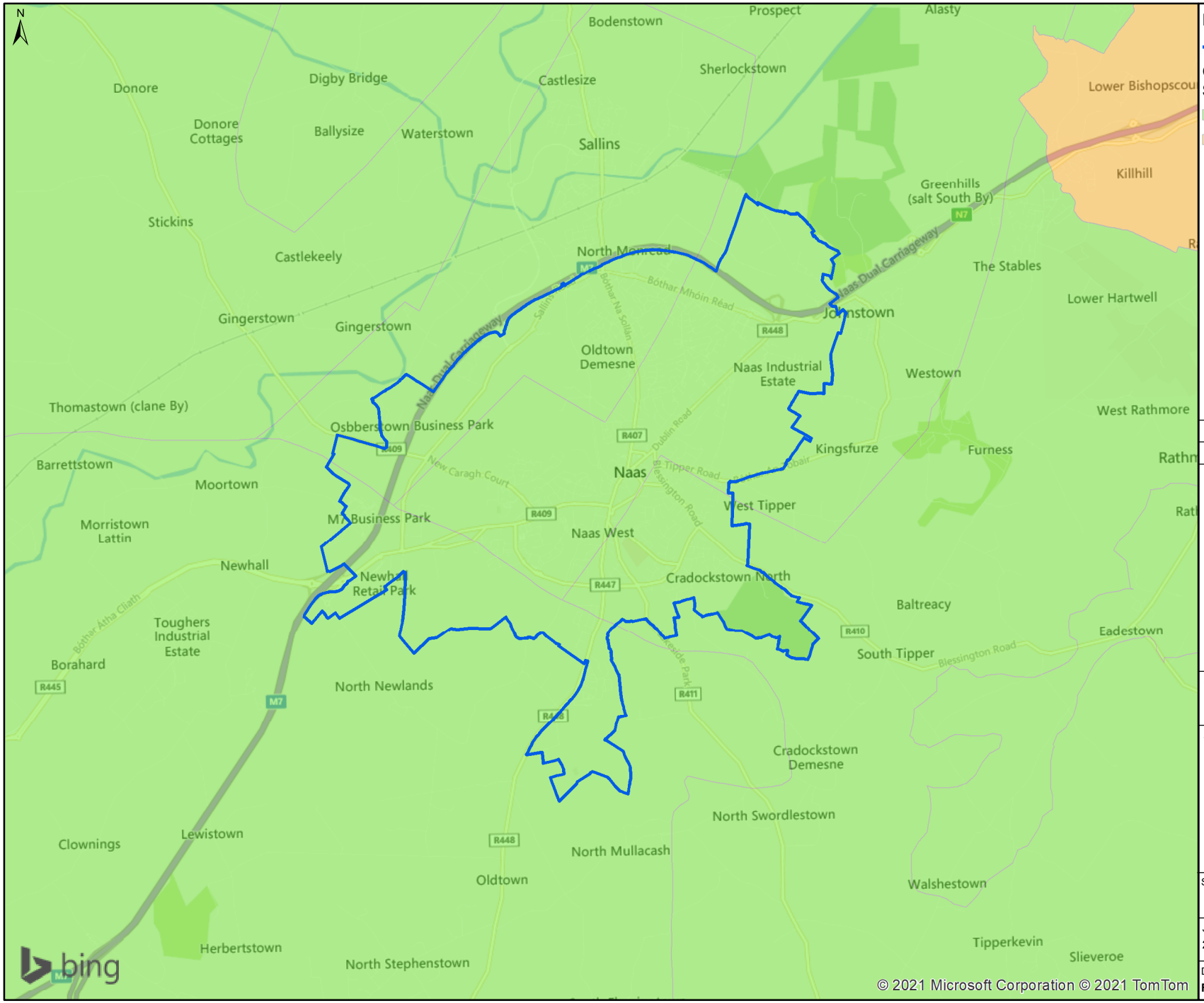
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.7	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_WFD_RiskStatus.mxd

A4



Legend

Naas LAP Boundary

Groundwaterbodies Status

Good

Poor (GW)

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are available at the Geological Survey of Ireland https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.375 0.75 1.5

ARUP

50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client

Kildare County Council

Job Title

Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Water Framework Directive Groundwater Status

Scale at A4

1:60,000

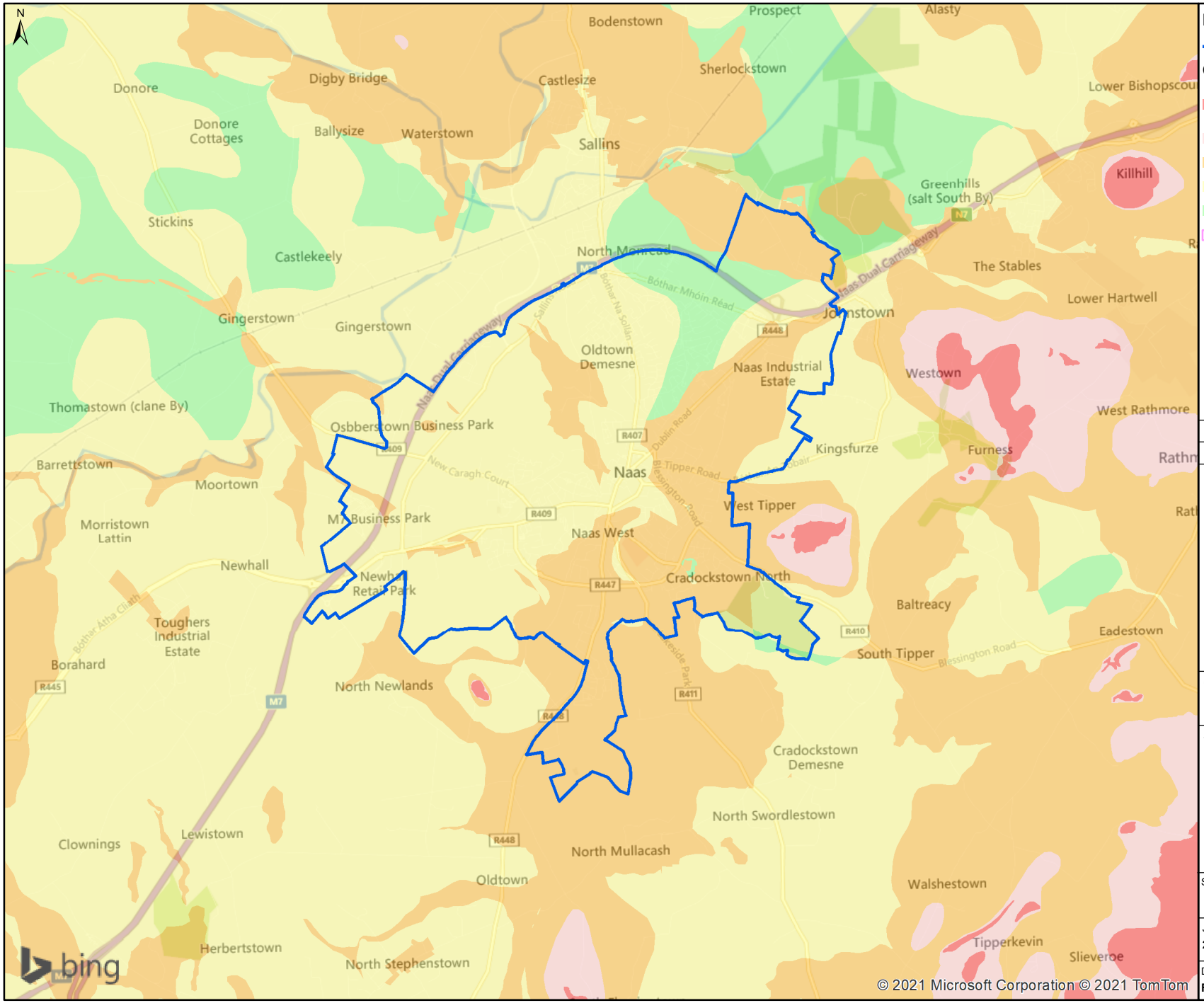
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.8	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_Groundwater_Status.mxd

A4



Legend

- Naas LAP Boundary

Groundwater Vulnerability

- Rock at or near Surface or Karst
- Extreme
- High
- Moderate
- Low
- Water

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are available at the Geological Survey of Ireland https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.375 0.75 1.5

ARUP
50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client
Kildare County Council

Job Title
Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Groundwater Vulnerability

Scale at A4
1:60,000

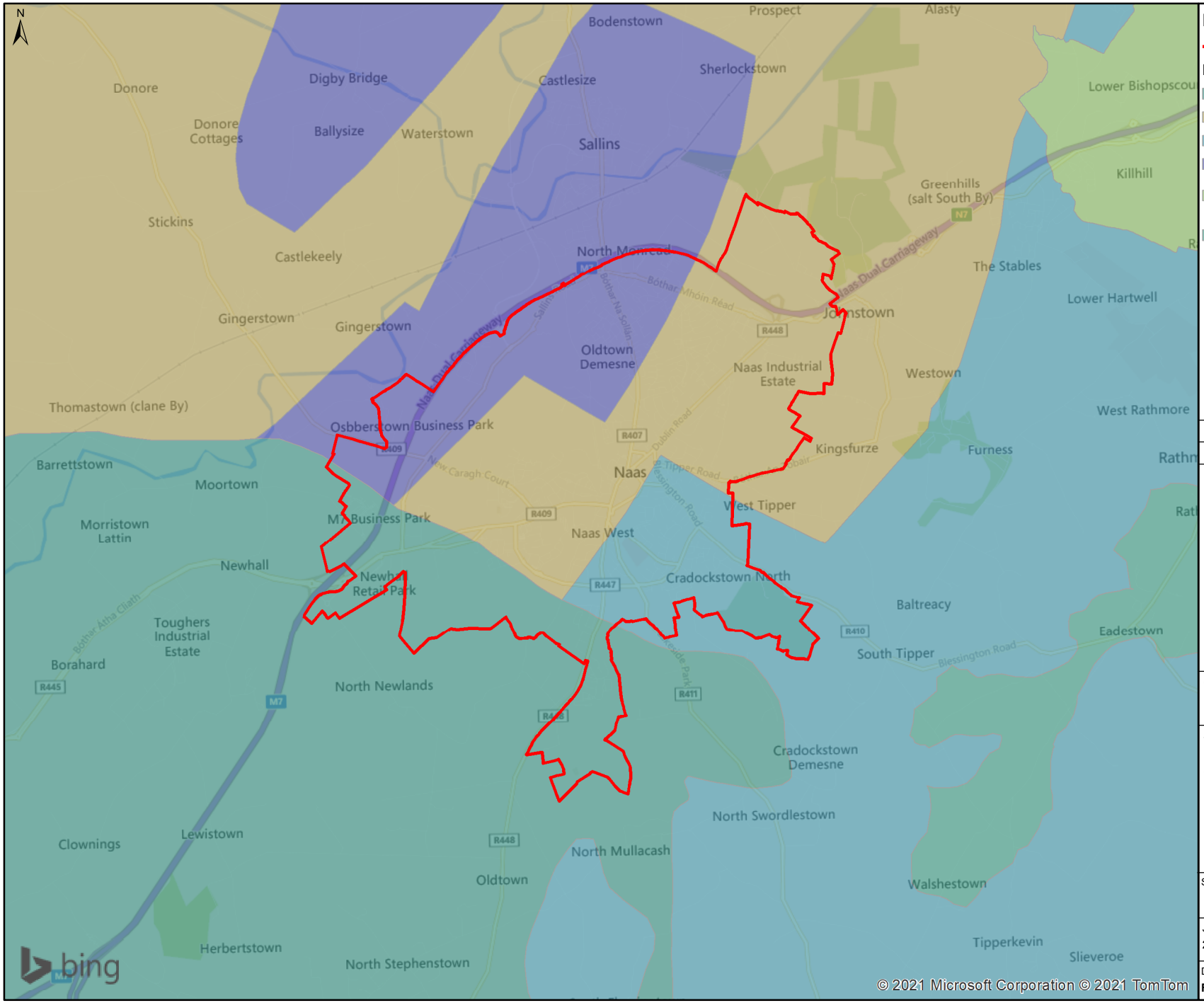
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.9	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_GroundwaterVulnerability.mxd

A4



Legend

Naas LAP Boundary

NAME

- Curragh S&G
- Dublin
- Kilcullen
- Naas
- PDM Ltd (part of Saint Gobain)
- West Blessington Gravels GWB

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are available at the Geological Survey of Ireland https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.375 0.75 1.5

ARUP

50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client
Kildare County Council

Job Title
Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Drinking Water

Scale at A4
1:60,000

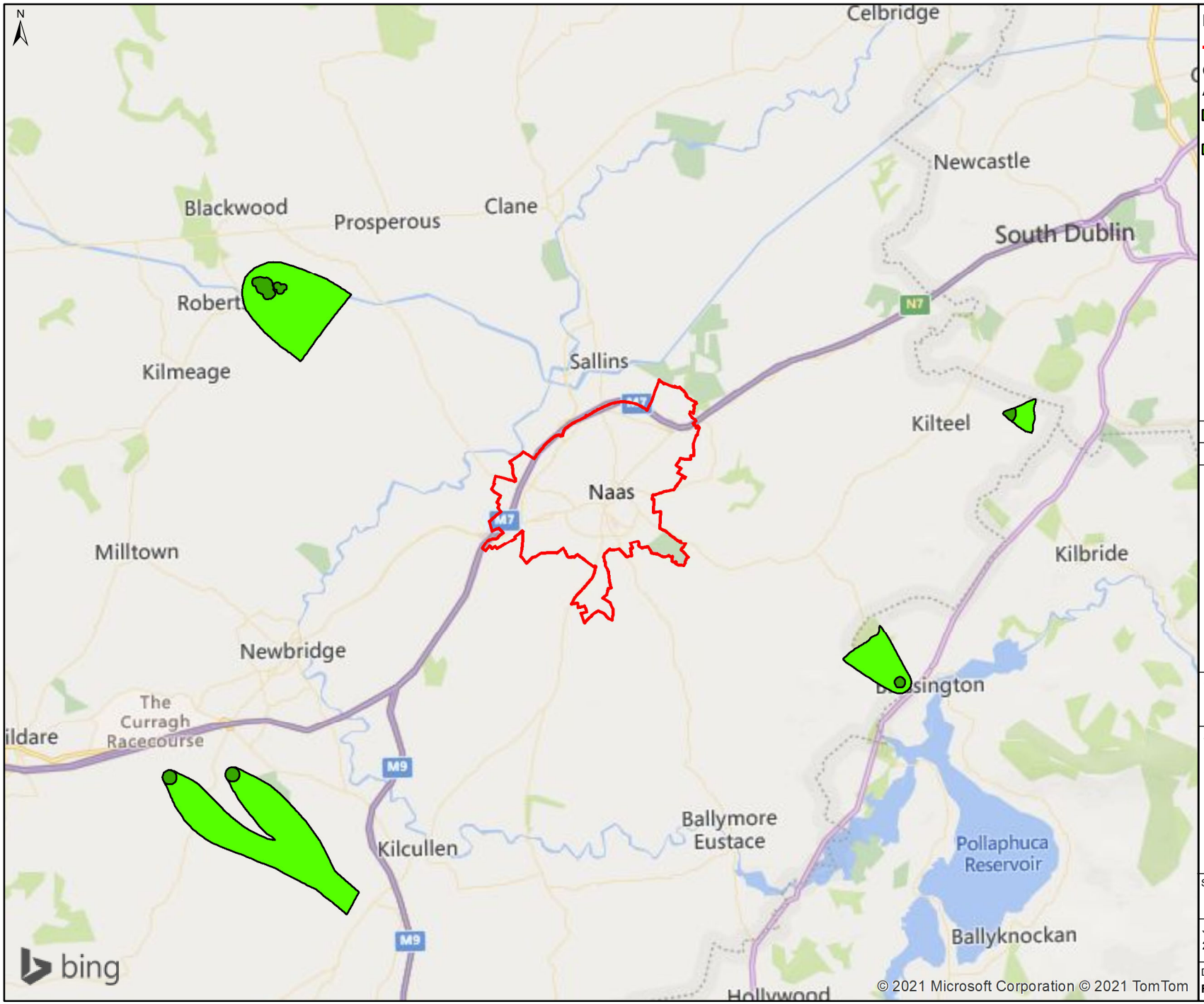
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.10	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_Groundwater_DrinkingWater.mxd

A4



Legend

Naas LAP Boundary

Groundwater Source Protection Areas

SI-Inner Protection Area

SO-Outer Protection Area

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are available at the Geological Survey of Ireland https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.75 1.5 3

ARUP

50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client

Kildare County Council

Job Title

Naas Local Area Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment

Groundwater Features and Source Protection Zones

Scale at A4

1:150,000

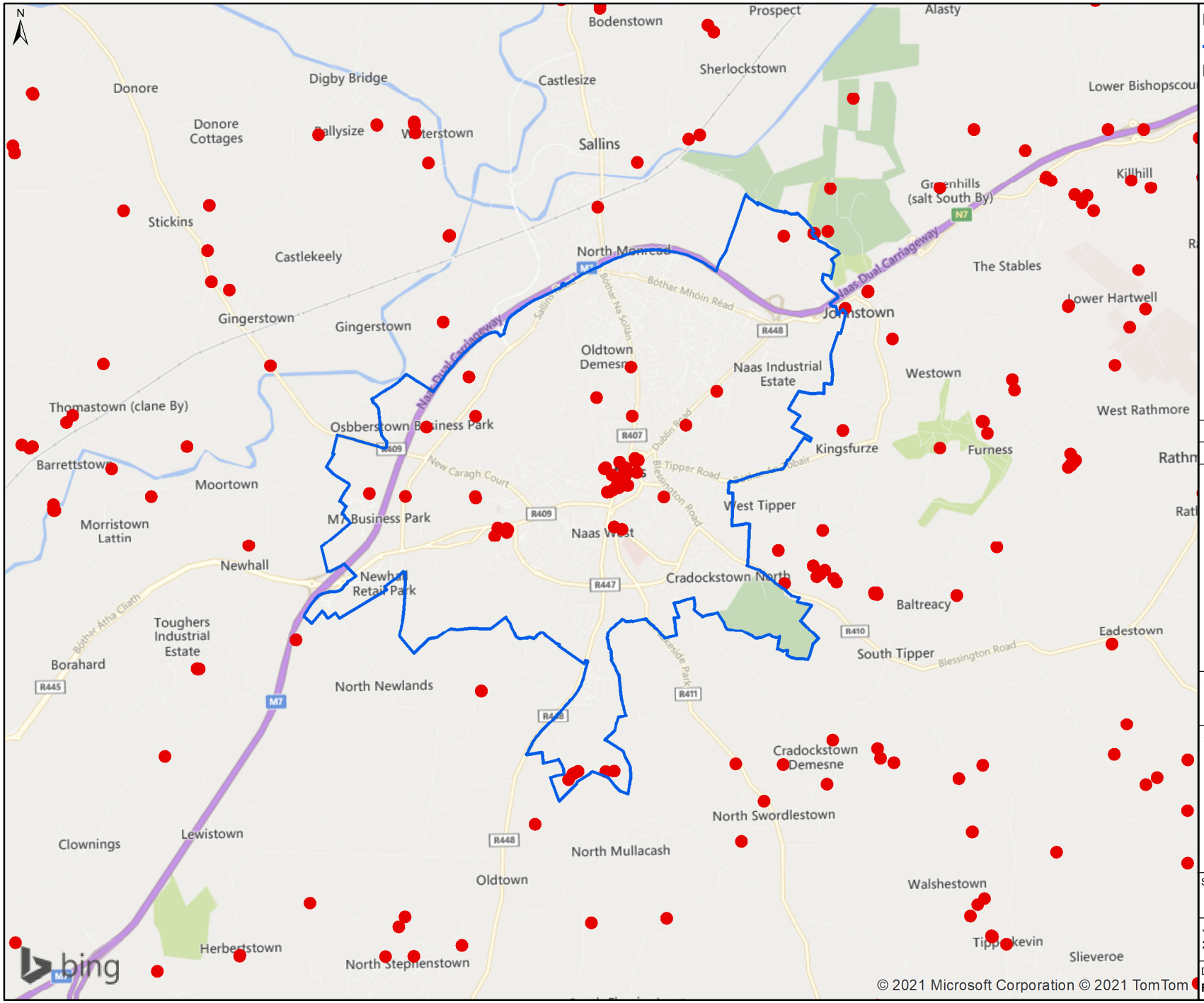
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.11	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_Groundwater_SourceProtectionZone.mxd

A4



Legend

Naas LAP Boundary

Recorded Monument

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are available at https://data.gov.ie/dataset/national-monuments-service-

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.375 0.75 1.5

ARUP

50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client
Kildare County Council

Job Title
Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Recorded Monuments

Scale at A4
1:60,000

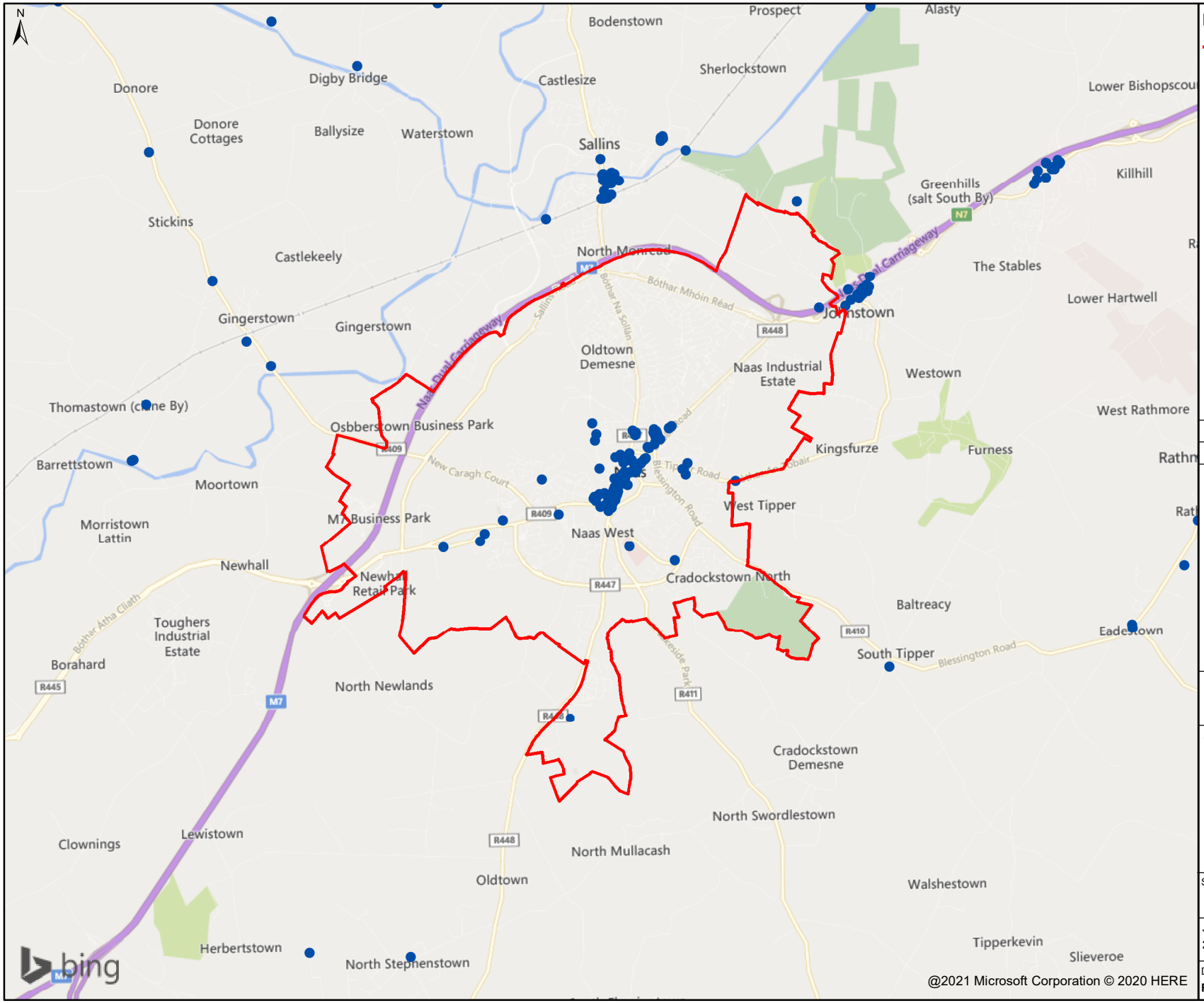
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.12	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_RecordedMonumentss.mxd

A4



Legend

- Naas LAP Boundary
- NIAH Sites

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are sourced from the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage http://webservices.buildingsofireland.ie/arcgis/services

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.375 0.75 1.5

ARUP

50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client
Kildare County Council

Job Title
Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Protected Structures

Scale at A4
1:60,000

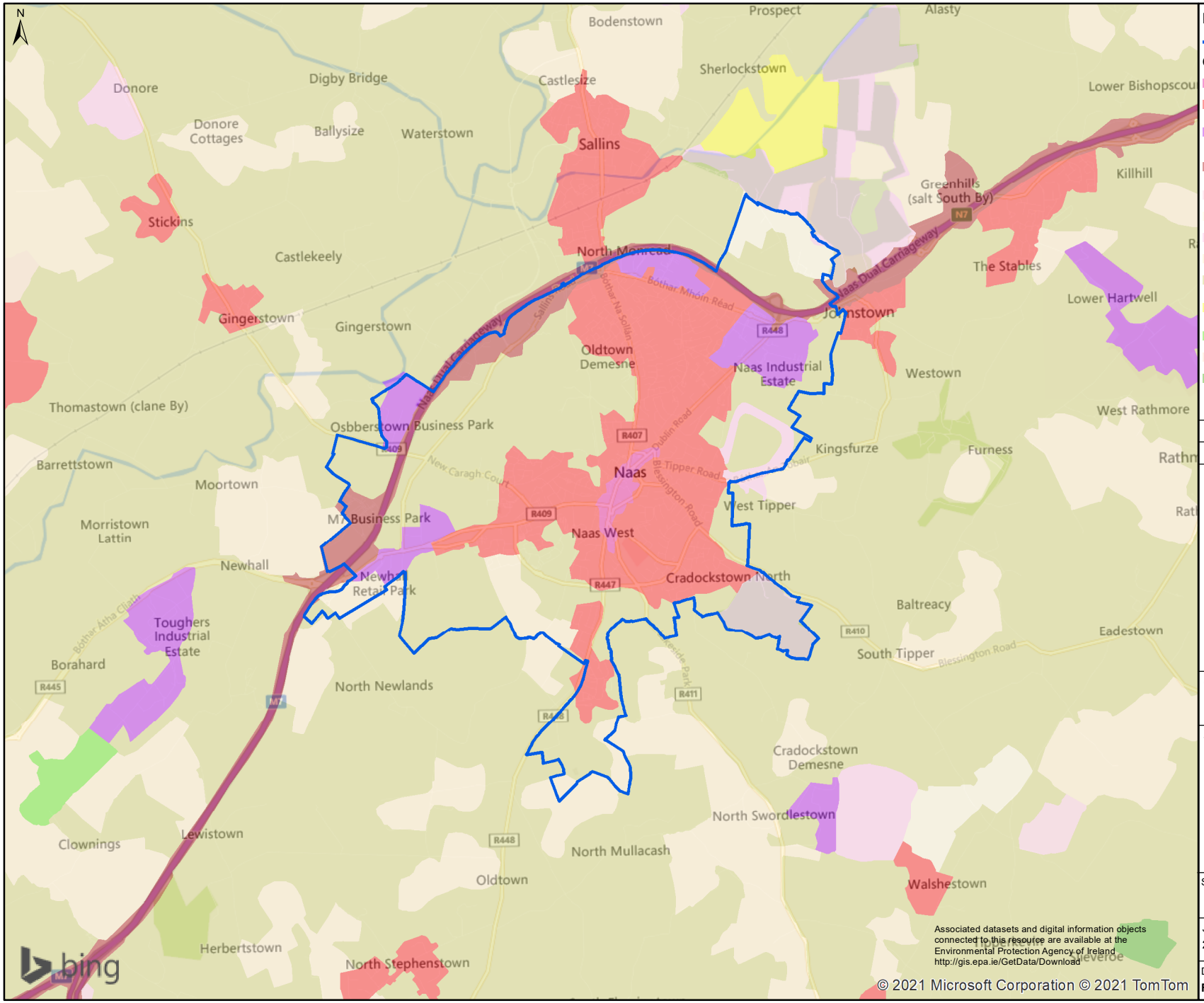
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.13	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_ProtectedStructures.mxd

A4



Legend

- Naas LAP Boundary

Corine Landcover 2018

- 111, Continuous urban fabric
- 112, Discontinuous urban fabric
- 121, Industrial or commercial units
- 122, Road and rail networks and associated land
- 131, Mineral extraction sites
- 132, Dump sites
- 142, Sport and leisure facilities
- 211, Non-irrigated arable land
- 231, Pastures
- 242, Complex cultivation patterns
- 311, Broad-leaved forest
- 312, Coniferous forest
- 313, Mixed forest

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.375 0.75 1.5

ARUP

50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client
Kildare County Council

Job Title
Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

CORINE Landcover

Scale at A4
1:60,000

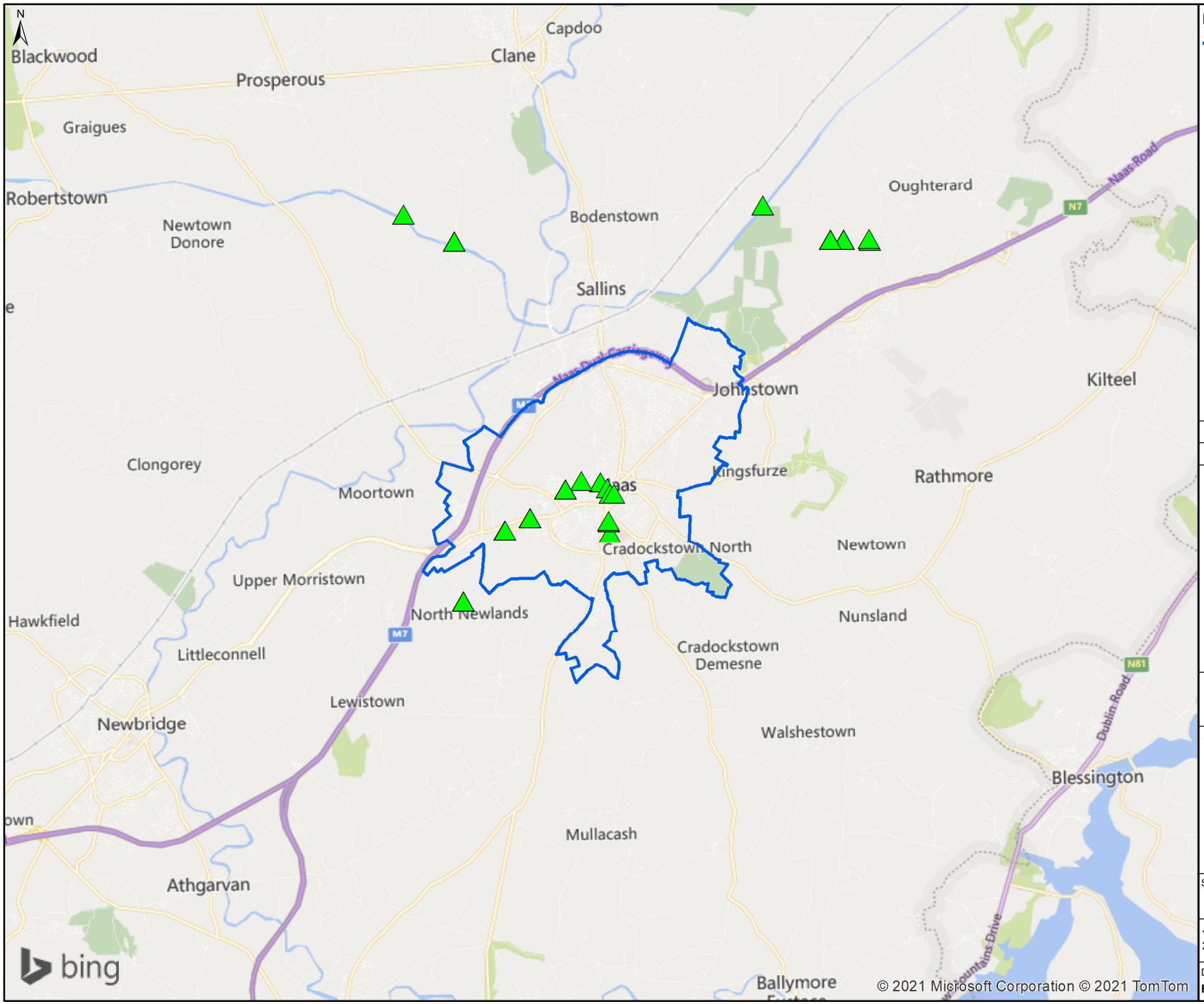
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.14	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_CORINE_Landcover.mxd

A4



Legend

- Naas LAP Boundary
- Protected Views Prospects

Associated datasets and digital information objects connected to this resource are sourced from Kildare County Council

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.5 1 2

ARUP

50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client
Kildare County Council

Job Title
Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Protected Views and Prospects

Scale at A4
1:100,000

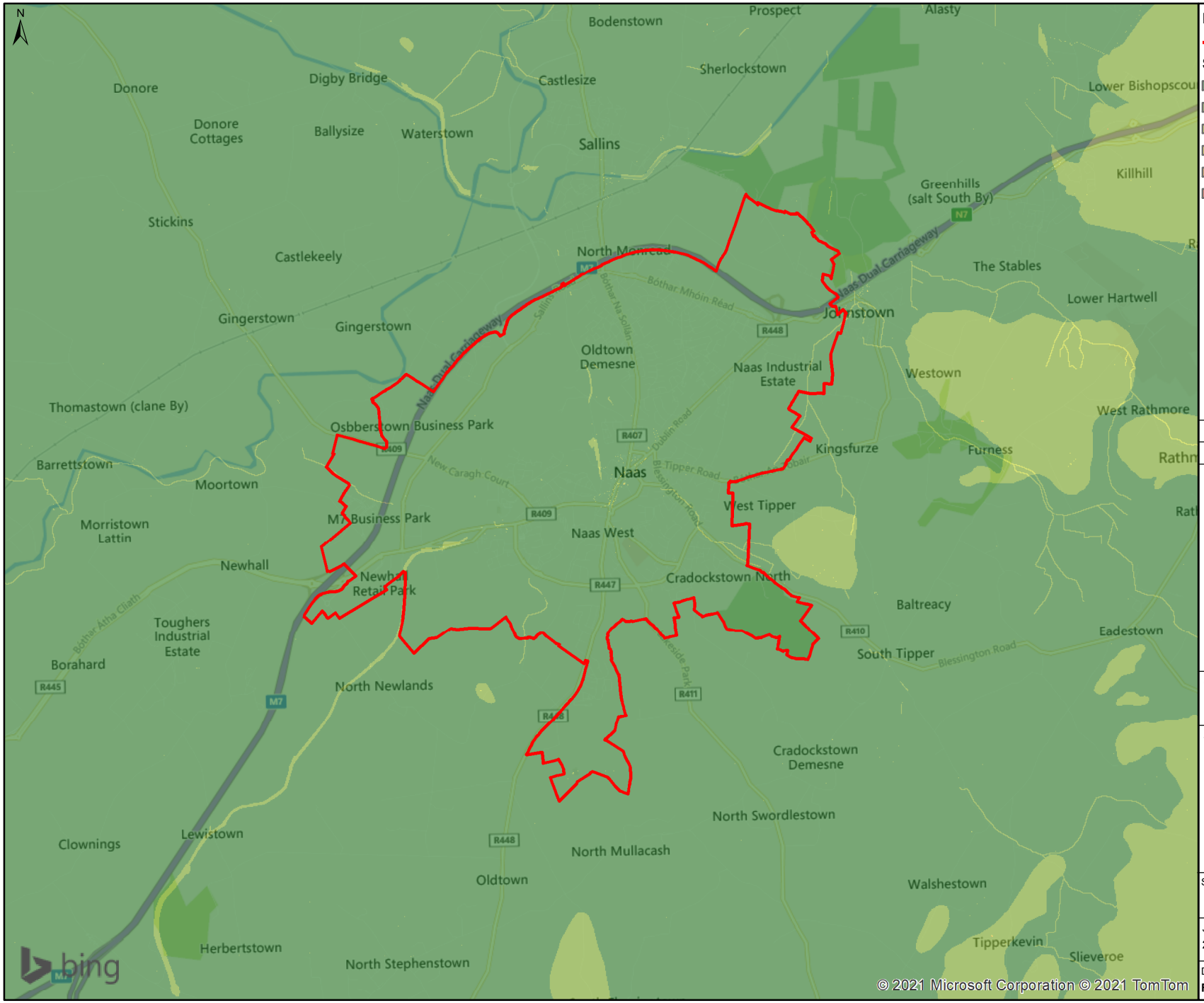
Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.15	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_ProtectedViews&Prospects.mxd

A4



Legend

Naas LAP Boundary

Sensitivity Rating

- 5 - 10
- 15 - 20
- 25 - 30
- 35 - 40
- 45 - 50
- > 50

Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
I1	2021-02-24	LM	LG	SW

Kilometers

0 0.375 0.75 1.5

ARUP

50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4, D04 T6X0
Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455 Fax +353 (0)1 668 3169
www.arup.com

Client

Kildare County Council

Job Title

Naas Local Area Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Sensitivity Mapping

Scale at A4

1:60,000

Job No	Drawing Status
278388	**Issue**

Drawing No	Issue
Figure 5.16	**I1**

25/03/2019 19:06:32

MXD Location \\global\europe\Dublin\Jobs\257000\257722-00\4. Internal\4-03 Design\4-03-02 Consulting\GIS\03_MapDocuments\Naas\February2021_Revision_of_Boundary\Naas_LAP_SensitivityMapping.mxd