

**Screening Determination for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) under SEA Directive 2001/42/EC as transposed into Irish law under S.I. No. 435 of 2004 (European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004, as amended**

for the

***Kilkenny Local Authority Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030.***

Kilkenny County Council has prepared a Local Authority Biodiversity Action Plan (LABAP) for the Kilkenny functional area.

Kilkenny County Council as the Competent Authority for the Kilkenny Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030 has undertaken screening for SEA under Directive 2001/42/EC. The screening assessment was carried out using the criteria for determining the likely significance of effects as set out in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004 (European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004, as amended).

Following assessment of the criteria and having regard to the nature of the Local Authority Biodiversity Action Plan (LABAP) and the potential for likely significant environmental effects from implementation of the LABAP, Kilkenny County Council has determined that there is no real likelihood of significant negative environmental effects occurring as result of the implementation of the LABAP. The principal reasons for this are as follows:

- The LABAP does not introduce any source of negative environmental effect.
- All actions in the LABAP are aimed at protecting and enhancing biodiversity. There is no requirement to integrate further environmental considerations into the LABAP given its intrinsic nature, its stated aims and objectives, and the potential positive effects associated with its actions.
- The LABAP is in alignment with nature legislation and higher order policy such as the 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan and inter-related plans and programmes.
- The actions in the LABAP do not support intensive land use or development projects sitting outside the land use planning framework that can cause significant negative environmental effects.
- The LABAP is not a statutory land use plan. The LABAP will not in and of itself set the context for future development consent.

This determination has been reached following consideration of the information contained in the SEA Screening Report prepared for the LABAP, the criteria set out in Schedule 1 to S.I. 435/2004, as amended, and consultation feedback from statutory Environmental Authorities for SEA.

Taking account of the above, it is determined a full SEA of the LABAP is not required.

**Signed by:**



Fiona Deegan, A/Director of Services  
Director of Services - Integration,  
Emergency Service and Culture

**Date:** 8-5-2025