



SECTION 25A REPORT

| REPORT DATE | LOCAL AUTHORITY | PREPARED BY |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 26 January 2024 | Cork City Council | Kevin O'Connor |

The purpose of the table below is to assist the local authority in completing the Section 25A (1) report to the Regional Assembly. This report will be used by the Regional Assembly to complete the Section 25A (2) Monitoring Report to be submitted to NOAC and which will focus on progress made in securing the overall objectives of the RSES.

It is intended that the Monitoring Report will be succinct, covering the 2-year period 2022-2024, and therefore we would ask that the response to the questions are as short as possible and for example we do not need the full detail of each policy or programme outlined.

The Regional Assembly is keen to capture examples of good practice initiatives and actions undertaken by the Local Authority which relate to the objectives of RSES and would welcome the inclusion of such examples where appropriate.

For further information, please contact Brigh Ryan at bryan@southernassembly.ie or Claire Breen at cbreen@southernassembly.ie

Please return the report to this office by **Friday, 26th January 2024**.

This can be submitted by email to: cbreen@southernassembly.ie

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES | | | | | | | | | | |
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| SUSTAINABLE PLACE FRAMEWORK & A TAILORED APPROACH RPOS 2 TO 30 | Please complete the following table relating to the status of your County/City Development Plan. | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <table border="1" data-bbox="456 390 1528 600"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="456 390 753 470">Name and Date Made</th> <th data-bbox="753 390 943 470">Date Came into Effect</th> <th data-bbox="943 390 1117 470">Direction</th> <th data-bbox="1117 390 1252 470">Judicial Review</th> <th data-bbox="1252 390 1528 470">Variations</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="456 470 753 600">Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 adopted 27/06/2022</td> <td data-bbox="753 470 943 600">08/08/2022</td> <td data-bbox="943 470 1117 600">Issued 02/12/2022</td> <td data-bbox="1117 470 1252 600">n/a</td> <td data-bbox="1252 470 1528 600">Variation No 1 adopted 08/05/2023</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Name and Date Made | Date Came into Effect | Direction | Judicial Review | Variations | Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 adopted 27/06/2022 | 08/08/2022 | Issued 02/12/2022 | n/a | Variation No 1 adopted 08/05/2023 |
| Name and Date Made | Date Came into Effect | Direction | Judicial Review | Variations | | | | | | | |
| Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 adopted 27/06/2022 | 08/08/2022 | Issued 02/12/2022 | n/a | Variation No 1 adopted 08/05/2023 | | | | | | | |
| | Please outline briefly how the Core Strategy supports the guiding principles and Settlement Typology contained in the RSES. | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>The Core Strategy set out in the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 was prepared in accordance with the overarching ambitions and targets set for Cork City in the NPF and the RSES. The settlement hierarchy set out in the Plan is consistent with national and regional policy, with a focus on compact growth. The Plan identifies five tiers within the city, comprising:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) City Centre (2) Docklands (3) City Suburbs (4) Urban towns (5) Rural hinterland <p>Chapter 1 <i>Introduction</i> and Chapter 2 <i>Core Strategy</i> align the Plan to the RSES and Cork MASP identifying the role of Cork City as a primary driver of economic and population growth in the region and commit the Plan to deliver on RSES and Cork MASP objectives. The following Plan objectives support the guiding principles and settlement typology of the RSES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Objective 1: Compact Liveable Growth • Objective 2.2: National Planning Framework Targets • Objective 2.4 Cork Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan • Objective 2.5 Cork's Role as a Primary National and Regional Driver • Objective 2.6 Regional Collaboration • Objective 2.7 Regional Investment • Objective 3.1 Planning for Sustainable Neighbourhoods | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Please provide details on progress with the preparation of any Local Area Plans or other area-based plans (e.g. Masterplans) in your Local Authority. | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>Cork City Council is currently preparing the following area-based plans referenced in the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028:</p> <p>Cork Docklands Framework Masterplan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Development Plan Objective 10.17 • Cork MASP Policy Objectives 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 • Cork MASP section 7.1 Strategic Residential and Regeneration Area <p>€500 million funding has been approved for various enabling works in the Docklands including new roads and road upgrades, bridges, parks, playing fields, flood defences, transportation systems and quayside amenities. The Framework Masterplan will set out the sequencing of the various projects, as well as set a planning framework for the Docklands for large-scale residential and other</p> | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | <p>construction projects. Work commenced in November 2022 and has progressed steadily. It is envisaged that the Framework Masterplan will be completed in Q2 2024.</p> <p>North Blackpool / Kilbarry Framework Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Development Plan Objective 10.79 • Cork MASP Policy Objectives 8, 22 • Cork MASP section 7.3 Strategic Residential and Regeneration Area <p>This area is identified in the City Development Plan as a strategic city expansion area and is also referenced in the Cork MASP as having opportunities for significant mixed-use regeneration and development. Work commenced in 2023 and it is envisaged that the framework plan will be completed in Q3 / Q4 2024.</p> <p>Blarney East / Ringwood Expansion Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Development Plan Objective 10.63 • Cork MASP section 7.3 Strategic Residential and Regeneration Area <p>This area is located adjacent to Blarney and when developed will contribute to the compact growth of the town. Preparatory work commenced in 2023 and it is envisaged that a framework for the coordinated development of this area will be completed in 2024.</p> <p>Stoneview Framework Masterplan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Development Plan Objective 10.65 • Cork MASP section 7.3 Strategic Residential and Regeneration Area <p>Stoneview, situated 2 km northwest of Blarney town centre, has long been identified as a major residential expansion area for the town. It occupies a strategic position on the Dublin-Cork railway line and the development of a large site in close proximity to the suburban rail network offers a major opportunity to achieve high modal shift by providing new homes at a location where residents can gain easy access to high quality rail. While this is a longer-term project preparatory work commenced in 2023. It is envisaged to prepare this framework masterplan within the lifetime of the City Development Plan.</p> <p>Douglas Framework Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Development Plan Objectives 10.82, 10.85 <p>The Douglas area forms an integral and vibrant part of Cork City and has experienced significant growth and investment in recent years. Douglas still retains its village character and compact urban fabric but there are also a number of long-standing challenges including traffic congestion, restricted public open space accessibility and public realm that need to be addressed. This Framework Plan will identify opportunities to support the consolidation of housing and economic growth through regeneration and the delivery of a sustainable new neighbourhood at Castletreasure. Work commenced in Q4 2023 and will progress throughout 2024 with finalisation envisaged in early 2025.</p> <p>Airport City Gateway Framework Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Development Plan para. 10.336 • Cork MASP Policy Objectives 9, 14 <p>The mixed industrial and commercial area centred on Tramore Road and Kinsale Road and the N27 – a strategic link between the City Centre and Cork International Airport – has regeneration potential for higher density development, linked to the development of high quality public transport. This is a longer-term strategic growth area with capacity to contribute to compact growth in Cork City to 2040. This Framework Plan will cover two strategic landbanks either side of the N40 centred on the Tramore Road, Kinsale Road and N27 area of Cork City. Work commenced in 2023 and will continue in 2024.</p> |

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES |
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| | <p>Cork City Council is also currently preparing the following smaller area-based plans:</p> <p>Avenue De Rennes Neighbourhood Framework Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Development Plan Objectives 10.89, 10.100 • Cork MASP section 7.2 Strategic Residential and Regeneration Area (Mahon) <p>Avenue De Rennes in Mahon is an important street linking two local distributor roads and key node for local retail, education and community services. The zoned Neighbourhood Centre on the street is designated as a Neighbourhood Development Site under Objective 10.100. The regeneration of this site will benefit the local neighbourhood and support compact growth. Work commenced in June 2023 and has progressed steadily. It is envisaged that the neighbourhood framework plan will be completed in Q2 2024.</p> <p>Blackpool Neighbourhood Centre Regeneration Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Development Plan Objectives 10.80, 10.00 • Cork MASP Policy Objectives 8, 22 • Cork MASP section 7.3 Strategic Residential and Regeneration Area <p>Blackpool is a unique area of Cork City that it retains the character and appearance of the original village with important buildings and groups of buildings framing historic streets and lanes. Blackpool has potential to be rejuvenated as the social and economic heart of the northside, especially through re-use of brownfield lands. Work commenced in 2023 and it is envisaged that the regeneration plan will be completed in Q4 2024 or Q1 2025.</p> <p>Northwest Regional Park Masterplan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Development Plan Objectives 10.91, 10.100 • Cork MASP Policy Objective 17 <p>The development of a City Park in the north-west is an ambition of the Cork MASP and is designated as a key deliverable in the Cork City Development Plan. This new park will fulfil an important function in providing a range of both passive and active recreation and utilising green and blue infrastructure to enhance biodiversity and promote active travel for this area of the city. Work commenced in 2023 and is ongoing and it is envisaged that the masterplan will be completed in 2024.</p> |
| <p>METROPOLITAN AREAS – GROWTH AMBITION</p> <p>RPO 6 Collaboration between Metropolitan Areas</p> <p>RPO 10 Compact Growth in Metropolitan Areas</p> <p>ALL MASP Policy Objectives</p> | <p>How has the designation of a Metropolitan Area & the MASP impacted on the following?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any joint initiatives between Metropolitan Areas: Cork, Limerick – Shannon, Waterford, and Galway, to advance the combined proposition for effective regional growth e.g. exchange of good practice/ examples of joint research papers on urban policy. • Cross-boundary collaboration/key strategic initiatives in areas such as sustainable mobility, infrastructure delivery, urban regeneration. • Progress on delivering some of the key development sites/projects identified in the Cork MASP. |
| | <p>Joint initiatives</p> <p>Building on “Cork 2050”, a joint submission by Cork City Council and Cork County Council to the preparation of the NPF 2040, the two Councils are considering a similar approach to the forthcoming review of the NPF, focusing on key issues relevant to the strategic development of Cork MASP including achieving growth targets, infrastructural investment, governance and climate action.</p> <p>Cross-boundary collaboration / key strategic initiatives</p> <p>Cork City Council collaborates on a range of initiatives with other local authorities, agencies and stakeholders, including the Cork City Council and Cork County Council Joint Housing Strategy, tourism and arts strategies, the Public Participation Network (PPN), Healthy Cities, and Lifelong Learning.</p> |

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| | <p>Progress on delivering some of the key development sites / projects Refer to “SUSTAINABLE PLACE FRAMEWORK & A TAILORED APPROACH – Please provide details on progress with the preparation of any Local Area Plans or other area-based plans (e.g. Masterplans) in your Local Authority” above for a list of these sites and projects.</p> | | | | | | | | |
| <p>REGENERATION & SUPPORT FOR COMPACT GROWTH</p> <p>RPO 34 Regeneration, Brownfield and Infill Development</p> <p>RPO 35 Support for Compact Growth</p> <p>RPO 36 LDA</p> <p>RPO 37 Active Land Management</p> <p>RPO 38 Retrofitting Initiative Priorities</p> <p>RPO 176 “10-minute” city and town concepts</p> | <p>Please provide details on the implementation of your Core Strategy to date, including the achievement of compact growth targets (include details of planning permissions, housing commencement and completion figures in table below, where available)</p> <p>Please outline briefly, examples of significant regeneration projects/Initiatives planned or recently delivered, or innovative examples of delivering quality high density residential development, Transport-Oriented Development opportunities or any projects to develop lands planned in conjunction with the LDA.</p> <p>Please identify details (including amounts) of any funding sources identified to deliver such projects.</p> <p>Please provide details on progress in the delivery of enabling infrastructure and identification of any capacity issues or challenges faced in progressing such projects, including details of programmed delivery of Uisce Éireann’s Investment Plan and prioritisation programme</p> <p>Please identify any challenges faced in delivering objectives for development of compact growth, in particular the unlocking of key regeneration sites and/or development of brownfield land.</p> | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>Details of planning permissions, housing commencements and completions are set out below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="456 932 1523 1173"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="456 932 732 1037">Core Strategy housing requirement</th> <th data-bbox="732 932 976 1037">Units completed Development Plan adopted</th> <th data-bbox="976 932 1247 1037">Units from extant planning permission – commenced</th> <th data-bbox="1247 932 1523 1037">Units from extant planning permission – not yet commenced</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="456 1037 732 1173">A total target of 3,410 new units per year</td> <td data-bbox="732 1037 976 1173">1,202 units completed in 2022 1,063 units completed in 2023</td> <td data-bbox="976 1037 1247 1173">4,127 units with commencement notice (August 2023)</td> <td data-bbox="1247 1037 1523 1173">10,873 units not commenced (August 2023)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>See Figures 1-4 below for more detail on residential capacity, core strategy target updates and commencement notices.</p> <p>See Figure 5 below on challenges to the delivery of strategic sites and regeneration areas.</p> <p>See Figures 6 and 7 and below on key Transport Oriented Development (TOD) sites.</p> | Core Strategy housing requirement | Units completed Development Plan adopted | Units from extant planning permission – commenced | Units from extant planning permission – not yet commenced | A total target of 3,410 new units per year | 1,202 units completed in 2022 1,063 units completed in 2023 | 4,127 units with commencement notice (August 2023) | 10,873 units not commenced (August 2023) |
| Core Strategy housing requirement | Units completed Development Plan adopted | Units from extant planning permission – commenced | Units from extant planning permission – not yet commenced | | | | | | |
| A total target of 3,410 new units per year | 1,202 units completed in 2022 1,063 units completed in 2023 | 4,127 units with commencement notice (August 2023) | 10,873 units not commenced (August 2023) | | | | | | |
| <p>PLACEMAKING</p> <p>RPO 31 Sustainable Place Framework</p> <p>RPO 61 Health Place Audit (HPA) for Placemaking</p> <p>RPO 70 Bidding capacity</p> | <p>Please provide a brief summary of progress on major projects and initiatives identified through the Development Plan to support Placemaking such as improvements to the public realm, developing new streets/spaces/pocket parks. Details of funding sources (including amounts) to deliver such projects should also be included.</p> | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>The Grand Parade Quarter and Bishop Lucey Park (Objective 7.28, para. 7.34)</p> <p>Work is progressing on this project, which includes the design of a statement City Library, for which funding of €46 million has been secured from URDF. Bishop Lucey Park closed in December 2023 to facilitate enabling works for a transformative regeneration of the park which will see it being opened up to the city centre. Works will continue through 2024 with a completion date slated for early 2025. Public realm works will also start on South Main Street and Tuckey Street, extending over to Proby’s Quay and including the bridge onto the Beamish & Crawford site.</p> | | | | | | | | |

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| | <p>Marina Park (phases 2 and 3) (Objectives 6.18, 6.19, para. 7.34) Works have commenced on the Marina Promenade upgrade along the River Lee, which will make this waterfront amenity more accessible to all, improve its attractiveness and will serve to integrate Marina Park, the Blackrock-Passage West Greenway, Blackrock village and the wider Cork Docklands. Works on the next phase of the park are envisaged to commence in 2024. When completed, this will deliver 30 hectares of parkland. This project is funded under URDF.</p> <p>Mac Curtain Street (Objective 4.4, para. 7.34) In November 2023 the Mac Curtain Street Public Transport Improvement Scheme was opened. This includes 24-hour bus lanes, 12 new bus stops, the creation of one kilometre of cycle lanes, upgrades to footpaths and public spaces, and the restoration of two-way traffic on Mac Curtain Street. This has resulted in an improved, more accessible and more walkable street with reliable public transport, enhancing the surrounding area. This was funded by the NTA.</p> <p>Grange Road Transport Corridor & Tramore Valley (N40) Bridge (Objective 4.4, Table 4.3) The Vernon Mount Bridge was opened in November 2023. This bridge, named following a public consultation process after the ruins of a Georgian manor house that sits on a hill above it, connects Tramore Valley Park to Grange Road, crossing the N40 South Rink Road to allow pedestrians and cyclists to access Tramore Valley Park. The 63 m long bridge and its 1 km approach pathway is fully accessible and lit. Cork City Council also acquired 5 hectares of woodland as part of the project to support biodiversity and amenity in the area. This project was funded by the National Transport Authority (NTA).</p> <p>Parklets (Objectives 6.18, 6.22, 7.28, 7.37, Table 6.4 Item 14) Cork City Council installed 15 parklets in the city centre in 2021 and 2022. The purpose of the Parklets Project was to convert on-street parking spaces into public open space and were a cost-effective way to create more vibrant streets, promote economic vitality and provide an inviting green space for residents and passers-by to sit, relax, and interact. While these parklets were installed before the adoption of the current City Development Plan, work has continued since the adoption of the Plan to maintain these parklets in collaboration with the “Parklet Partners” who are responsible for the day-to-day upkeep of the parklet and planting, in accordance with the public realm and placemaking objectives of the City Development Plan. These parklets were funded by the NTA and the Cork City Placemaking Fund.</p> <p>Urban sculpture trail (Objectives 7.39, 8.11) Cork City Council’s ‘Island City – Cork’s Urban Sculpture Trail’ was launched in late 2023. This trail comprises five public artworks which will be in situ for a period of five years. This project was two years in the making and took six months to install and is the largest single investment in public art in the city. This Cork City Council initiative was funded by Fáilte Ireland under the Urban Animation Investment Scheme.</p> <p>Cork City Centre Revitalisation Action Plan 2021-2025 (Objective 10.1, Table 2.6, para. 10.18) The Cork City Centre Revitalisation Action Plan sets a framework for the further development and growth of the city centre’s economic, environmental, and social fabric and includes several placemaking objectives.</p> |

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| <p>RSES ECONOMIC STRATEGY</p> <p>RPO 40 Regional Economic Resilience</p> <p>RPO 64 Facilitate new business formation, growth and industrial re-organisation</p> <p>RPO 72 Brexit</p> <p>RPO 74 Economic Risk Management System</p> <p>RPO 62 Locations for Employment Development</p> | <p>Please provide details of progress in supporting the RSES Economic Strategy and Cork City's role as an Economic Driver for the Region. Details on progress with the delivery of Strategic Locations for Employment Development should also be included.</p> |
| | <p>The Cork MASP identifies the need to develop key employment sites in Cork City, including the Docklands, Cork Science and Technology Park and Mahon. Work is progressing on the Framework Masterplan for Cork Docklands (detailed above in this report) which includes ambitious jobs targets to drive employment-led growth within this new 147 ha brownfield regeneration site. A number of large office developments have recently been permitted in Mahon in line with the City's employment growth strategy.</p> <p>The City Development Plan includes Strategic Employment Sites identified in the MASP, including Cork City Centre, Munster Technological University, Hollyhill, Cork International Airport, Tramore Road, Model Farm Road / South City Environs, Blackpool / Kilbarry, Cork University Hospital, University College Cork and Cork Science and Innovation Park.</p> <p>A number of new business formation and growth developments in the City reflect RPO 64 including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the commencement of a new extension at the Apple's European Headquarters in a Strategic Employment Site at Holyhill to facilitate an additional 1,300 jobs; • permission for a new Business School for UCC in the city Centre; • permission for a mixed use scheme in Mahon (Jacob's Island) including Office and a hotel; and • the completion and occupation of a number of high profile office developments in City Docks (Penrose Dock, Horgan's Quay and Albert Quay). <p>The City Development Plan supports the continued growth and diversification of the local economy as per RPO 74. Cork City Council works closely with IDA Ireland, Enterprise Ireland, University College Cork (UCC), Munster Technological University (MTU) and business representatives to ensure Cork is a global investment location supported by a diverse employment network. Over 30,000 students attend UCC and MTU, many from outside the city and Ireland.</p> <p>In 2022, Munster Technological University's Rubicon Centre established a hub group with the help of Cork City Council and Cork County Council to represent all those who operate enterprise, co-working and incubation spaces in Cork city and county. The group's members are drawn from hubs who are owned by private operators, higher education institutions, local authorities and community groups, and meet on a regular basis to share best practice. Hub members work in close partnership with the Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs) and Enterprise Ireland to assist entrepreneurs. Recently, Recreate Shandon CLG, a non-profit enterprise, has secured funding under the Regional Enterprise Innovation Scoping Scheme to explore new uses in the historic Butter Exchange building including an enterprise hub. The economic vibrancy of Cork City provides an attractive destination for work and education opportunities, and the city's culture and arts framework provide an attractive lifestyle location.</p> <p>MTU and UCC provide access to applied research to the city's employers., through their gateway centres, Nimbus MTU is an example of one centre in the city which provides research and development support to companies who require AI, IOT and energy solutions. Many companies following engagement with the universities will go to develop deeper technology solutions for the home and export markets.</p> |

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| | <p>Please provide details of progress that has been made with respect to the preparation of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) for your Local Authority</p> |
| | <p>The LECP 2023-2029 issues paper is currently at assessment of submissions stage with a complete consultation report and draft list of actions due to be completed by the end of January. The first stage Draft LECP 2023-2029 is due in February 2024 which will be subject to an SEA and AA screening process with the intention to progress to public consultation in March 2024.</p> |
| <p>TOURISM RPO 53 Tourism RPO 54 Tourism & the Environment</p> | <p>Please outline any recently completed or planned projects of significance to support tourism development, culture, heritage or the arts in your Local Authority.</p> |
| | <p>Cork City Council in collaboration with key stakeholders continues its focus on delivering a range of tourism projects to support the expansion of the City's tourism offer, in alignment with RPO 53 of the RSES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In December 2023 Cork City Council celebrated completion of "Island City – Cork's Outdoor Urban Sculpture Trail". This unique contemporary sculpture trail developed by Cork City Council comprises 5 public artworks installed throughout the city centre island. Funded by Fáilte Ireland the trail animates the city island, helping to transform and re-imagine the public spaces as safe, welcoming and vibrant places to visit, encouraging visitors to stay longer, spend more and immerse themselves in Cork's strong heritage and culture. • The "Cork on a Fork Festival" is a new Cork City Council initiative, piloted in 2022, and by 2023 had established itself as a major event in Cork's festival calendar, helping to strengthen Cork's appeal to domestic and overseas visitors as a foodie destination. • Construction of a new outdoor stage at Elizabeth Fort to enable it to be used as a venue for cultural and community events and performances. • During 2021 and 2022 five Cork City centre streets were transformed into bespoke outdoor dining destinations following the installation of Fáilte Ireland-funded infrastructure that will further enhance the city's outdoor dining experience while incorporating the unique personality of each street. • Work is advanced on the installation of a new city wayfinding scheme. New Signage and mapping in key locations will highlight the compact nature and walkability of the city, encouraging visitors to develop itineraries, explore what the city has to offer and increase dwell time. • Cork City Council manages several arts and cultural programmes with partners that have tourism benefits, including the St Patrick's Festival, Culture Night and the GLOW festival in the City Centre. <p>In relation to RPO 54 Tourism and the Environment, Cork City was one of 6 cities shortlisted in 2023 by the European Commission for the European Smart Tourism Award. Sustainability is one of the key criteria used in the shortlisting, and the report noted several sustainability initiatives Cork City's expanding cycling infrastructure, which aims to deliver over 100km of upgraded cycle facilities by 2025, the Cork City bike share scheme and the comprehensive Cork Cycle Map which contribute to a range of environmentally friendly transportation alternatives.</p> |
| <p>MARINE ECONOMY RPO 76 Marine Economy RPO 77 Maritime Spatial planning – Consistency and Alignment RPO 78 First Mover under the National Marine Planning Framework RPO 79 Shannon Estuary and Other Harbour Plans RPO 81 Fishery Harbour Centres and Local Authority Harbours</p> | <p>Please provide a brief summary of relevant recent initiatives, planned or completed projects that support development of our marine and coastal assets.</p> |

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| RPO 82 Seafood Sector RPO 83 Island and Coastal Communities RPO 84 Fishing Local Area Group (FLAG) Development Strategies RPO 85 Renewable offshore energy RPO 86 Marine Cluster | <p>Support for a planning framework for the Cork Harbour area is supported under RSES RPO 79 and also Cork MASP Objective 3 Cork Harbour. It is noted that a successful precedent and model already exists in the Strategic Integrated Framework Plan for the Shannon Estuary. This involved close cooperation between the adjoining Local Authorities in the estuary area and can be a useful tool in the future development of the Cork Harbour Framework.</p> <p>Since the RSES was published, the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021, Part 2 Marine Spatial Planning requires any forward planning initiative for the maritime area (including sub regional and local plans for the maritime area) to be prepared through Designated Maritime Area Plans (DMAPs). A planning framework for Cork Harbour will therefore need to be aligned with this new legislation.</p> <p>Cork City Council notes that the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage’s Marine Planning Policy and Legislation Division are currently preparing guidelines for designated authorities to prepare DMAPs, which will provide guidance for the role of local authorities and regional assemblies in the process. It is understood that progress in preparing DMAPs across the Region, including for the Cork Harbour Area, will advance when these guidelines are issued (expected Q1 -Q2 2024).</p> <p>Cork City Council is currently preparing a Framework Masterplan for the City Docklands. River use and access is a key theme which has informed the design and land-use considerations for this significant brownfield site.</p> |
| <p>CLIMATE ACTION: TRANSITION TO A LOW CARBON ECONOMY & SOCIETY AND DECARBONISATION</p> RPO 56 Low Carbon Economy RPO 57 National Policy Statement on Bio-economy RPO 85 Renewable offshore energy RPO 88 National Mitigation Plan and National Adaptation Framework RPO 89 Building Resilience to Climate Change RPO 90 Regional Decarbonisation. RPO 91 Decarbonisation in the Transport Sector RPO 94 Decarbonisation in the Agricultural Sector | <p>Please provide a brief summary of relevant recent initiatives, planned or completed projects to address Climate Action, including progress with the preparation of your Local Authority’s Climate Action Plan and Decarbonisation Zone.</p> <p>Cork City Council’s Climate Action unit was expanded in 2022 and 2023 to include the new roles of Climate Change Co-ordinator, Climate Action Officer, Community Climate Action Officer and Climate Action Support Officer, to support the existing team. Key projects carried out in 2022 and 2023 to address climate action include those set out below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cork City Council Climate Action Plan Public consultation began on Cork City Council’s Draft Climate Action Plan in late 2023 with an anticipated adoption date in February 2024. The Draft Climate Action Plan sets out what Cork City Council will do to reduce emissions from its own buildings and operations, and how residents, businesses, community groups, and public sector institutions can contribute to achieving our vision of Cork as a climate neutral and resilient city. |

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p data-bbox="456 226 935 254">• Community Climate Action Programme</p> <p data-bbox="456 262 1552 470">In 2021 Cork City Council and the Cork City Public Participation Network (PPN) launched a new Community Climate Action Programme. The purpose of this programme is to help members of the community to act in their local areas. Cork City Council has engaged Cork Environmental Forum to work with a number of communities across the city to draw up local Community Climate Action Plans. Acknowledging the key role all sectors need to play to address these challenges, this programme aims to help the city and its citizens deal with the current and future climate change and biodiversity crises.</p> <p data-bbox="456 512 862 539">• Community Climate Action Fund</p> <p data-bbox="456 548 1552 695">This fund was launched to shape and build low-carbon, sustainable communities that collectively contribute to the achievement of Ireland’s national climate change and energy goals. Cork City Council is the first local authority in Ireland to run this funding competition, with €860,000 funding provided by DECC and offered to community organisations to deliver climate action at the local level. This fund complements Cork City Council’s Community Climate Action Programme.</p> <p data-bbox="456 737 915 764">• Community Environment Action Fund</p> <p data-bbox="456 772 1552 827">This fund promotes sustainable development at a local level by funding small scale, non-profit environmental projects, that make a significant difference in local communities.</p> <p data-bbox="456 869 1097 896">• Cork City Heritage and Biodiversity Plan (2021-2026)</p> <p data-bbox="456 905 1552 1022">This plan calls for the development of policy and the planning and provision of green and blue infrastructure particularly around the themes of water and flood defence, landscape and the harbour, climate change and the environment, people, community health and wellbeing, tourism culture leisure and recreation and in particular biodiversity.</p> <p data-bbox="456 1064 1045 1092">• Cork City Council Air Quality Strategy 2021-2026</p> <p data-bbox="456 1100 1552 1247">This strategy was launched in 2021 and was Ireland’s first local authority air quality strategy. It outlines the actions that Cork City Council will take to reduce the concentrations of air pollutants in the city, thereby positively impacting on the quality of life of residents and visitors. The plan examines seven themes from health and wellbeing to transport and air quality and recognises that health is a critical climate action co-benefit.</p> <p data-bbox="456 1289 805 1316">• REACHOUT (Horizon 2020)</p> <p data-bbox="456 1325 1552 1409">REACHOUT is an EU project dedicated to deploying climate services tools to make local adaptation measure decision-making, and the science behind its choices, both accessible and understandable to non-specialist stakeholders.</p> <p data-bbox="456 1451 964 1478">• Climate-neutral and Smart Cities Mission</p> <p data-bbox="456 1486 1552 1667">Cork City is one of 100 EU Mission cities. This is an EU project aiming to create a framework to develop a citywide approach towards the collective planning of accelerated climate action through various innovations. The objectives of the mission are to achieve 100 climate-neutral and smart European cities by 2030 and to ensure these cities act as testbeds for innovation in climate action enabling all European cities to follow suit by 2050. The goal of the mission is to enable a city with net zero carbon emissions by 2030.</p> <p data-bbox="456 1709 932 1736">• Home Energy Upgrade Office (HEUGO)</p> <p data-bbox="456 1745 1552 1862">The “HEUGO”, situated on Cork City’s Grand Parade beside Bishop Lucey Park, offers the public information on energy efficiency upgrades that can be achieved with the intention of reducing their carbon emissions. The office is funded by two EU projects with Cork City Council as the project developer.</p> |

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>• Climate Change Risk Assessment (LACAP)</p> <p>This report provides an assessment of potential climate change risks for Cork City and the impacts of these for the delivery of services by Cork City Council and was conducted as part of the baseline setting activities for the Cork City Climate Action Plan.</p> <p>• Baselines Emissions Inventory (LACAP)</p> <p>University College Cork’s “MaREI”, the world-leading Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Research Centre for Energy, Climate and Marine, coordinated by the Environmental Research Institute (ERI), has mapped the greenhouse gas emissions of the city. Emissions were modelled and mapped for six sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - road transport - households - commercial services and industry - public services - agriculture, fisheries, land use, land use change and forestry, and - waste handling and treatment. <p>The inventory was conducted as part of the baseline setting activities for the Cork City Climate Action Plan (see above).</p> <p>• Decarbonising Zone</p> <p>Government guidance on climate action planning requires each local authority to identify a Decarbonising Zone (DZ). While ultimately the aim is for the whole city to be a decarbonised zone, the Decarbonising Zone area will be used to pilot specific actions. Cork City’s Decarbonising Zone covers approximately 3% of Cork City’s area (5km²) stretching from the west of the city centre at the Tyndal Institute out towards and including the Munster Technological University’s Bishopstown campus. The Decarbonising Zone has a population of 13,927, approximately 11% of the city’s population. The Decarbonising Zone area was chosen as it incorporates a broad mix with three higher education institutions, a business and technology park, a hospital and mixed residential buildings. Cork City Council will lead on implementing the Decarbonising Zone in partnership with key stakeholders and all development proposals within the identified Decarbonising Zone will be expected to comply with and contribute to the overall strategy and measures for the Zone. This is in line with national and international climate goals.</p> <p>See Figure 8 for a map of the Cork City Decarbonisation Zone.</p> <p>• Greening Cities (Horizon Europe)</p> <p>A collaborative community-led approach to urban renaturing as a complement to take the City North-West Quarter Regeneration (CNWQR) beyond bricks and mortar.</p> <p>• TIPS4PED (Horizon Europe)</p> <p>An action listed in the Cork City Council Draft Climate Action Plan is to develop a digital twin of the Cork Docklands to support a “Positive Energy District” (PED) under this European project.</p> <p>• Cork City Council Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Strategy</p> <p>This strategy is at draft stage and will be progressed in 2024.</p> |
| <p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY INCL. RENEWABLE ENERGY</p> <p>RPO 98 Regional Renewable Energy Strategy</p> <p>RPO 109 Bio-Energy Implementation Plan</p> | <p>Please provide details of renewable energy targets, projects or initiatives to support renewal energy.</p> |
| | <p>There is now more than 1,000 MW of installed solar PV generation in Ireland, a very significant increase in 2023. Cork City Council will support measures in the region, including the Offshore Renewable Energy working group being established under the auspices of the South-West Regional</p> |

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES |
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| | Enterprise Plan. There is an exemplar roof top PV solar project in Cork City at the “Old Oak” premises in the city centre. There have also been planning approvals in the city for PV panels included as part of retail, educational facilities and sporting facilities. |
| <p>BLUE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>RPO 110 Ecosystem Services</p> <p>RPO 122 Sustainable Drainage Systems</p> <p>RPO 124 Green Infrastructure</p> <p>RPO 125 Green Infrastructure Corridors</p> <p>RPO 126 Biodiversity</p> <p>RPO 127 Invasive Species</p> <p>RPO 128 All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015 – 2020</p> | <p>Please provide details of any recently completed or planned projects or other actions to support the development of Blue Green Infrastructure, ecosystem services and biodiversity.</p> |
| | <p>Green and blue infrastructure</p> <p>Chapter 6 of the City Development Plan relates to green and blue infrastructure, open space and biodiversity and sets out a suite of 27 development objectives. The Plan identifies emerging opportunities and interventions that have capacity to deliver a range of green and blue infrastructure outputs in the city to support the establishment of healthy, resilient, wilder and destination spaces across Cork City. The opportunities identified act as a framework for enhanced delivery of green and blue infrastructure in Cork City with a horizon of 2040.</p> <p>See Figure 9 below for updates on green and blue infrastructure projects.</p> <p>Biodiversity</p> <p>The City Development Plan references the Cork City Council Heritage and Biodiversity Plan (2021–2026) which aims to protect, enhance and promote the heritage and biodiversity of Cork City and to place the care of our heritage at the heart of the community. Table 6.13 of the City Development Plan sets out strategic biodiversity goals, while the Heritage and Biodiversity Plan sets out a range of actions. Cork City Council appointed two Biodiversity Officers in 2023 to implement the biodiversity actions set out in the Cork City Council Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2021-2026, embed biodiversity as a strategic consideration in the functions of Cork City Council and promote the protection and enhancement of biodiversity in the city. Key actions undertaken on biodiversity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cork City Council celebrated Biodiversity week in May 2023 with a number of outdoor events and produced a brochure to promote events https://www.corkcity.ie/en/council-services/services/arts-culture-heritage/natural-heritage-biodiversity/. • In June 2023 Cork City Council hosted the national gathering of Heritage and Biodiversity Officers in Cork City Hall. The event included various workshops and a guided tour of Harper’s Island Wetland. It was the first dedicated gathering of Biodiversity Officers, with new appointments (at the time) from Clare, Galway, Offaly, Dublin, Wicklow, Kildare, Monaghan and Cork in attendance. Other site visits included Clashduv Park, where community gardens, public engagement, biodiversity enhancement and pond creation were discussed, and Shalom Park where expertise and knowledge of the Green Flag Award, the Cork City Tree Strategy and the Cork City Green and Blue-Infrastructure Studies were discussed. • In July 2023 an internal Biodiversity map viewer was developed to assist in collating biodiversity data across the Council to assist the Biodiversity and Heritage Officers in their work. • In August 2023, the Biodiversity Officers collaborated with Green Spaces for Health and Togher Community Garden to deliver a four-week workshop for local children in Clashduv Park. Also in August the Biodiversity Officers participated in Heritage Week, delivering talks in bird song and bird conservation. • The Biodiversity Officer delivered numerous talks to schools in November, with the focus of educating students about the wonders of the natural world. These sessions focussed on human dependency on biodiversity and the local biodiversity on our doorstep. Visits included meetings with Green Schools Committees and Green School Coordinators, to identify |

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES |
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| | <p>opportunities that individual schools have to support biodiversity. The Biodiversity Officer delivered a presentation to Munster Technological University (MTU) School of Architecture on sustainable development and biodiversity consideration in design.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2023 Cork City Council were successful in grant applications for acquiring key materials and resources to support the Biodiversity Officers and Heritage Officer under the Cork City Biodiversity Awareness and Education Project 2023. Materials purchased included specific manuals to support community groups, schools, and individuals to promote biodiversity friendly activities, which have been published by the National Biodiversity Data Centre. These materials will greatly support actions to support biodiversity. Other equipment including telescopes, binoculars, and bat detectors were also purchased to support future Biodiversity and Heritage Week events in the coming years. • In 2023 Cork City Council received funding from the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) to carry out habitat mapping of the city. In December 2023 the tender went live to select a consultant for this project. |
| RECREATION & SPORTING FACILITIES INCL. BLUEWAYS AND GREENWAYS | Please provide details of any recently completed or planned projects or other actions to support recreation and sporting facilities including blueways and greenways. |
| | <p>A number of Greenways have been detailed under “<i>SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY / LOCAL TRANSPORT PLANS (AND OBJECTIVES/INITIATIVES)</i>” above, including projects that have been substantially completed in the last two years, currently under construction and projects that have obtained planning permission as well as future projects embedded in CMATS.</p> <p>“Blueways” will be an area of focus in the new Fáilte Ireland Destination Experience Development Plan for Cork City, Harbour and East Cork – Fáilte Ireland are currently working on a tourism plan for the wider Harbour with working groups including representation from Cork City Council.</p> <p>The Cork Docklands Framework Masterplan, which is at an advanced stage, celebrates Cork’s maritime history by reinstating a close relationship with the river. The design approach identifies the River Lee as a future amenity resource where enhanced river access can be achieved within the public realm design. The masterplan will acknowledge the river’s natural heritage value as a water-based asset and has influenced strategic principles in the design response.</p> <p>The Lido Project is currently being considered in the context of a project Cork City Council is undertaking in conjunction with Swim Ireland, who are undertaking a national project to determine the demand for swimming pools in Ireland. A baseline model is currently being developed for the city to identify the current demand and supply deficit and Cork City Council intends to be a pilot city on a more detailed model for the city to determine the demand for swimming facilities based on the projected populations up to 2040.</p> |
| WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE RPO 110 Ecosystem Services RPO 111 Water Resources RPO 112 Water Quality RPO 121 Effective Collaboration to Implement River Basin Management Plans and Water Framework Directive RPO 122 Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) RPO 123 River Basin Management Plan and Spatial Planning RPO 124 Green Infrastructure RPO 126 Biodiversity RPO 127 Invasive Species | Please provide details of any recently completed or planned projects or other actions to support the implementation of the Water Framework Directive including ecosystem services, SuDS and biodiversity. |

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES |
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| | <p>A Cross-Directorate SuDS Working Group has recently established to develop a collaborative SuDS Strategy for Cork City Council which enables a best practice, practical and consistent organizational approach to the design, evaluation and application of SuDS with the aim of delivering City Development Plan objectives and Climate Action Plan targets. The SuDS Strategy will have the benefit of alleviating pressure on the Cork City drainage system, reducing localised flood risk and improving water quality while creating attractive, multi-functional landscapes for residents and wildlife to enjoy.</p> <p>A South Docks Drainage and Levels Strategy was produced in 2022 to inform the development of the City Docklands. The objective of the Strategy was to provide a long-term placemaking vision that is flexible, environmentally responsible and climate resilient, particularly to potential changes in sea level and rainfall intensity. The recommendations of the Strategy have been a key input into the Framework Masterplan placemaking approach, particularly in relation to green and blue infrastructure and public open space design.</p> <p>RUPARC (Retrofitting Urban Parks for Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change) represents an innovative initiative across a number of Cork City's urban parks, focused on enhancing the sustainability and resilience of urban parks in Cork City. The primary objective of RUPARC is to retrofit existing parks, implementing measures that enhance flood defences, biodiversity, and increased carbon sequestration. One of RUPARC's missions is to adopt the "sponge city" model to Cork City's parks aligning with key objectives set out by the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>In relation to biodiversity, refer to "<i>BLUE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE</i>" above in this report.</p> |
| <p>DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY / SMART REGION / SMART CITIES</p> <p>RPO 133 Smart Cities</p> <p>RPO 134: Smart Cities and Smart Region:</p> <p>RPO 133 Smart Cities</p> <p>RPO 134 Smart Cities and Smart Region:</p> | <p>Please provide details of any recently completed or planned projects or other actions to support the development of a Smart Region/Smart City/Smart Towns.</p> |
| | <p>In 2015, Cork City Council in collaboration with Cork County Council, MTU, UCC and Tyndall National Institute established a smart city and region initiative, the Cork Smart Gateway, to develop and pursue a smart agenda for Cork. Cork City Council continues to collaborate on a range of projects to solve issues faced in the region. It is a founding member and steering group member of the All-Ireland Smart Cities Forum.</p> <p>Cork City's digital strategy aspires to support citizens and businesses to realise the benefits of digitisation. A number of digital actions are embedded in the strategy including citizen participation, support services, digital skills, open data, climate action, infrastructure, governance and leadership.</p> <p>A number of key projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cork City was selected as a core city to participate in EU 100 Intelligent Cities Challenge. As part of the plan, Cork receives strategic advice from international experts on green economy, improving citizen participation and the digitisation of public administration and resilience. • Cork City is part of the 100 Climate Neutral and Smart Cities. This places a commitment on member cities to significantly accelerate the delivery of the European Green Deal. These cities are test beds for innovation in climate action to enable all European cities to follow suit in securing climate neutrality and smart city status by 2050. • In 2023 Cork was one of 6 cities shortlisted by the European Commission for the European Smart Tourism Award. |

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES |
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| | <p>Local actions across the City include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a digital twin of the South Docklands to support a new Positive Energy District. • Cork City Council Housing Directorate is implementing a number of Smart retrofitting projects across a port of its 10,500 social housing units. • Air quality monitoring |
| <p>INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIVITY / PORTS / AIRPORTS, FREIGHT & LOGISTICS</p> <p>RPO 139 Low Carbon International Connectivity</p> <p>RPO 145 Ports and Harbour Strategy for the Southern Region</p> <p>RPO:149 Airport Strategy for the Southern Region</p> <p>RPO 141 Regional Freight Strategy</p> <p>RPO 143 Ports and Airports</p> | <p>Please provide details of any recently completed or planned projects or other actions to support development of the Region’s International Connectivity, development of ports, airports, freight and logistics.</p> |
| | <p>Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T)</p> <p>Cork City Council and TII are currently assessing improvement measures for the N40 under the TEN-T initiative. Statutory planning for the first phase of works (Junction 10 Mahon) was approved in 2023 with the related works scheduled to commence in 2024 subject to the approval of required funding. Subsequent phases will follow in the coming years.</p> <p>M28 Motorway (Cork to Ringaskiddy Road)</p> <p>Preparatory work is on-going with respect to the delivery of the M28 Motorway (Cork to Ringaskiddy Road) and a design team has been appointed to prepare tender documents and supervise its full construction.</p> <p>BusConnects Infrastructure Project</p> <p>The BusConnects Infrastructure Project has presented enhanced bus priority measures along the N27 Airport Road as part of the overall public consultation on the project in the Cork region. The delivery of these proposed works will improve connectivity to Cork Airport by both public transport and bicycle.</p> <p>N27 (Airport Road) Enhanced Cycle Facilities</p> <p>Separately, Cork City Council are advancing plans to deliver enhanced cycle infrastructure to better connect Cork Airport with the wider city centre and suburbs.</p> <p>Cork City Council Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029</p> <p>Transport and mobility is one of the crosscutting themes in the Draft Climate Action Plan, which includes 19 action and / or mitigation measures on this theme.</p> |
| <p>ENHANCED REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY</p> <p>RPO 169 Strategic Road Network Improvement Priorities</p> <p>RPO 170 Rail</p> <p>RPO 171 Bus</p> | <p>Please provide details of any recently completed or planned projects or other actions to support enhanced regional connectivity – by road, rail and public transport.</p> |

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES |
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| | <p>Cork Commuter Rail Programme</p> <p>Iarnód Éireann continue to advance three projects in the Cork Region to provide for capacity enhancements on their network. The three projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New through platform at Kent Station: the construction works are currently on-going within the station with an expected completion date towards the end of 2024. • Signalling and communication upgrade, Cork Area: the contract has recently been commissioned and mobilisation is under way with an expected completion date towards the end of 2026. • Glounthaune to Midleton Twin Track Project: Iarnód Éireann obtained planning permission from An Bord Pleanála in October 2023 to increase the capacity of the rail line between Glounthaune and Midleton; a construction contract is planned to be issued in early 2024 with an expected completion date towards the end of 2026. <p>Iarnód Éireann continue to advance other projects which form part of the Cork Commuter Rail Programme including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • new suburban stations • new fleet depot • electrification of the fleet <p>Region Bus Services</p> <p>The Connecting Ireland rural mobility plan is an initiative by the National Transport Authority (NTA) to improve connectivity and mobility in rural areas through the development of new and enhanced public transport services. As part of the Phase 2 roll out of services, 3 enhanced bus services in the Cork City region were implemented in 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Route 243 Cork to Newmarket • Route 233 Cork to Macroom • Route 239 Cork to Bandon <p>Pathfinder Project: Inter-Urban Demonstrator (National Link Cork-Waterford)</p> <p>The project will complete the remaining sections of the active travel route between Cork and Waterford and will include dedicated facilities between Cork City and Dunkettle. When complete, the project will allow for seamless travel by active modes between the two cities and will function as a demonstrator project which can be deployed between other inter-urban routes. The project is currently in design and is due to go to planning in early 2024 with a completion date scheduled for late 2025.</p> <p>National Road Network: M20 (Cork to Limerick Motorway)</p> <p>The design development of the M20 (Cork to Limerick Motorway) continues, with the latest public update was presented in November 2023. The project includes multi-modal transport solutions and has identified the need for continuous active travel facilities along the route as well as transport hubs to facilitate improved accessibility to public transport services. The current project programme is to submit the M20 Motorway plans to An Bord Pleanála by the end of 2025.</p> <p>National Road Network: Dunkettle Interchange</p> <p>Significant progress has been achieved at the Dunkettle Interchange during 2023 with the opening of the majority of new road links, the remaining N25 (east) to M8 (north) link requiring final construction has an expected completion date of early 2024. A complementary Dunkettle ITS (Intelligent Transport Systems) project will continue to the end of 2024 which includes the installation of electronic signage, CCTV cameras and Overheight Vehicle Detectors on the new link roads, this project has an expected completion date of the end of 2024.</p> |

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES |
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| <p>SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY / LOCAL TRANSPORT PLANS (AND OBJECTIVES/INITIATIVES</p> <p>RPO 151 Integration of Land Use and Transport</p> <p>RPO 152 Local Planning Objectives</p> <p>RPO 154 Land Use Plans</p> <p>RPO 157 Local Transport Plans (LTP)</p> <p>RPO 163 Sustainable Mobility Targets</p> <p>RPO 165 Higher Densities</p> | <p>Please provide details of any recently completed or planned projects or other actions to support sustainable mobility e.g. public transport, walking cycling, the 10 minute city/town concept, sustainable mobility targets. Please also provide details of any Local Transport Plans in respect of relevant settlements in your Local Authority.</p> |
| | <p>Cork Light Rail Transit System</p> <p>Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) have carried out a detailed alignment assessment of the proposed Cork Light Rail Transit System and plan to engage with the public in the first half of 2024.</p> <p>Development Framework Plans</p> <p>The City Docks Framework Masterplan is currently under preparation and has included guidance to support the sustainable development of the area to support active and sustainable travel accessibility. The Framework Masterplan has provided guidance on the scale and alignment of key transport infrastructure including supporting measures such as the delivery of Mobility Hubs.</p> <p>The North Blackpool / Kilbarry Framework Masterplan has recently begun with the finalisation of baseline studies and the preparation of tender documents to appoint a design team. This Framework Masterplan will provide guidance on the required urban street network to support the regeneration of the area and deliver on the key transport objectives within the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy.</p> <p>Infrastructure Delivery</p> <p>The following active and sustainable travel projects have been substantially completed in the city over the last two years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCurtain Street Public Transport Improvement Scheme: • Passage Greenway Project Phase 1 (Mahon to Docklands) • Skehard Road Phase 3: Church Road to Mahon Link Road • Glanmire Road Improvement Scheme • Grange to Tramore Valley Park Pedestrian & Cycleway • Curraheen to Carrigrohane Greenway Upgrade • South Douglas Road Junction Upgrade Scheme • Curragh Road junction upgrade • Knapp's Square and Lower John's Street <p>The following projects are currently under construction in the city:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beamish & Crawford Public Realm and New Bridges • Bishop Lucy Park • The Marina Promenade Project • Mahon Cycle Project • Glanmire to City Centre Cycle Project Phase 1 (Glanmire to Dunkettle) • Upper Glanmire Active Travel Project • Innishmore Active Travel Project, Ballincollig |

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES |
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| | <p>Active and sustainable travel projects</p> <p>The following active and sustainable travel projects have obtained planning consent in the city over the last two years and are scheduled for implementation over the lifetime of the Development Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballyvolane – Phase 2 including Fox and Hounds • Knockfree Avenue – Knockpogue Avenue • Kilcully & Upper Glanmire Pedestrian Scheme • Viaduct to City Cycle Scheme Phase 1 • Monahan’s Road Extension • Lehenaghmore Road Enhancement Project: • Leo Murphy Rd Ballincollig • Frankfield Rd Cycle Scheme • Ballybrack Footpath and Cycleway Phase 4 • Passage Greenway Project Phase 2 (Mahon to Passage). • Curraheen Road Cycle Lanes • Cork City to Viaduct Greenway • Ballyvolane Sustainable Transport Corridor • Various active travel projects in Glanmire • Maryborough Woods Active Travel Project • Kerry Pike Pedestrian Improvement Scheme <p>The following projects are in the planning stage and will facilitate the delivery on the transport objectives embedded in the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BusConnects Service Network Design • BusConnects Sustainable Transport Corridors • Northern Distributer Road • Southern Distributer Road • Docklands to City Centre Public Realm • Curraheen Science and Innovation Park • Glanmire to City Centre Phase 2 (Dunkettle to City Centre) • Clarke Hill & Coach Hill Road widening and enhancement project • Douglas East West Link Bridge • Mary St., White St., Douglas St Public Realm Project • Cook Street, Marlboro Street and Princes Street Public Realm Project • Rochestown Road Cycle Scheme • Ballyphehane Cycle Routes • Kinsale Road to Tramore Valley Park • Bessboro to Mahon Greenway • South Docklands Public Realm and Infrastructure • Cork North Docks public Realm and Transport Infrastructure • Colmcille Avenue to Gardiner’s Hill Pedestrian and Cycle Upgrade • Nash’s Boreen Pedestrian and Cycle Upgrade Scheme • Maglin Urban Expansion Area Sustainable Access Corridor • Lee to Sea Greenway • Various Rapid Deployment Pedestrian Schemes • Mayfield to Glen Walking and Cycling Route • Banduff Road Active Scheme • Cooney’s Lane Pedestrian Improvement Scheme • Shankiel to Strawberry Hill Active Travel Improvements |

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES |
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| <p>INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES & PLACES -IMPROVING WELLBEING AND QUALITY OF LIFE</p> <p>RPO 181 Equal Access</p> <p>RPO 182 Ageing Population</p> | <p>Please provide details of any recently completed or planned projects or other actions to support and develop Inclusive Communities and Places and Improved Quality of Life.</p> |
| | <p>A cross directorate Placemaking Steering Group is participating in a European-wide 'Cities in Placemaking' programme with 15 other cities across Europe, with a view to developing a whole of Council understanding of placemaking as a tool to improve places for the purposes of accessibility, inclusion, welcome and safety. This work will include a series of pilot scale projects, starting with a localised engagement process in the St Finbarr's Cathedral quarter. The early focus is very much process driven and emphasises the importance of engaging lesser heard voices in the local authority approach to public realm and short- and medium-term interventions. The <i>Sláintecare</i> Healthy Communities Officer in the Cork City Council Community Team is using placemaking methodology and tools to progress and plan the various infrastructural and project interventions resourced by that programme.</p> <p>Cork City Council continues its facilitation and support role for a diverse array of inter-agency groups whose focus is, variously, on communities of interest, origin and geography, including the LGBTQI Interagency, Traveller Community, Africa Day, etc.</p> <p>As well as an ongoing focus on RAPID areas of the city (increased and focused cross-agency cooperation in communities of geography which experience high levels of deprivation) the Cork City Council Community Team work closely with colleagues in the HSE Community Healthcare team to target supports to new, migrant and transitory populations in the city.</p> <p>Cork City Council led local efforts to provide a welcoming reception for Ukrainian refugees who were allocated modular housing (the first scheme to be brought online nationally) in the Mahon community, by drawing together a local community response group, holding a dedicated 'Mahon Welcomes' day which also provided an opportunity for existing Mahon residents to be made aware of the various services and opportunities in their locality.</p> <p>An Age Friendly Officer has recently been appointed which will have a direct bearing on the implementation of RPO 182 Ageing Population.</p> |
| <p>LEARNING REGION</p> <p>RPO 186: Lifelong Learning & RPOs 39, 63,</p> <p>Also RPO 187 Education & Training, RPO 190 Lifelong Learning & Healthy Cities Initiative</p> | <p>Please provide details of any recently completed or planned projects or other actions to support lifelong learning and development of a Learning Region or the development of UNESCO Learning Cities</p> |
| | <p>Cork has delivered on its strategic plan and further developed as a UNESCO Learning City in this period, through ongoing engagement with the UNESCO Institute of Lifelong Learning and as a leading member of the Global Network of Learning Cities since 2013. In addition to giving presentations in China, Korea, Colombia, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia for UNESCO, Cork was also selected to lead an international city cluster on Learning for Health and Well-being with the Korean city of Osan in 2020-2022.</p> <p>Learning City development in Cork has been co-ordinated by a team based in Cork City Council, as a Lead member of the Steering Group, along with CETB, UCC, MTU, HSE, National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals and other partners including Cork Chamber, Industry and Trade Union representatives.</p> |

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES |
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| | <p>In line with the Local Economic and Community Plan, key initiatives of Cork Learning City are the annual Lifelong Learning Festival (winner of Irish Festival of the Year in the 2022 Local Authority Management Awards), the Learning Neighbourhoods programme (active in 6 communities), Cork Learning Cities Day, Cork Access Network, and the “Cork Celebrates Lifelong Learning” award scheme. These initiatives and other learning events seek to action Cork as a Learning City to celebrate lifelong learning in action, and to deliver on the UN SDGs, in particular Goals 4, 11 and 17, and in doing so to follow the UN commitment to ‘Leave No-One Behind’.</p> <p>Cork Learning City development is aligned with the goals set out in the policy document ‘Towards a Learning Region’ which was launched by the SRA in September 2022, in an event supported by the Cork Learning City team, who secured and facilitated the participation of UNESCO’s Learning Cities Lead Raúl Valdes Cotera. Cork continues to engage closely with Limerick as a co-founding member of the Irish Network of Learning Cities and nominated Waterford to join the INLC in 2023. Cork also supported a Waterford application to UNESCO, co-ordinated by the SRA, to join the Global Network of Learning Cities submitted in 2023.</p> <p>With Limerick and Waterford the INLC also includes Belfast, Derry-Strabane and Dublin Learning Cities. The network, formed in Cork in 2018, seeks to create a shared dedication to strengthening relations and enhancing cooperation between the people and City-regions, celebrate learning and the achievements of learners. On behalf of the Network Cork, with match funding and support from Derry Strabane Council, successfully applied for Shared Island funding to develop the network further as an all-island inclusive initiative. A series of Learning City Exchange visits was delivered in 2023, hosted in turn by Cork, Belfast, Limerick and Derry-Strabane co-ordinated by Cork, to achieve the ‘Learning Island’ programme goals, aligned with Govt. policy on developing a Shared Island.</p> <p>Cork City Council has been requested to take part in a leading research project with UCC, the HSE and EPA to develop a Health Impact Assessment Implementation Model (HIA -IM) on the Cork City Development Plan. At a national level, the Irish Government’s Climate Action Plan will also be subject to a Health Impact Assessment. Both will be undertaken using the latest Irish Health Impact Assessment guidance (devised by Irish Public Health in 2021). Health Impact Assessment is a way of applying a health lens to a project, programme, plan or policy, and involves collaboration across key stakeholders. Access to education is identified as a contributor to health. The aims of the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to identify the potential significant effects of the City Development Plan, • to identify opportunities and strengths in the City Development Plan for improving health equity, reducing health inequalities and health inequities of the Plan, and • to identify mitigation opportunities for health in the City Development Plan. <p>Learning outcomes are intended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve future use and implementation of HIA in Ireland, • enhance the HIA guidance, • generate key theoretical learnings on the implementation of HIA, and • create a community engagement toolkit to complement the current guidance. |
| GAELTACHTAÍ, GAELTACHT SERVICE TOWNS(GSTs) & IRISH LANGUAGE NETWORKS | Please provide details of any recently completed or planned projects or other actions to support Gaeltachtaí, Gaeltacht Service Towns (GSTs) & Irish Language Networks |
| | <p>After a period of consolidation during Covid, Cork City Council is actively supporting Irish language initiatives in the city, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing significant funding to a city branch of Comhaltas, • Douglas hosting the county fleadh for the first time and |

| RSES THEME | RSES IMPLEMENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY & SUPPORTING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES |
|------------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> it continues to take an active role in the development of Cork City as a Baile Seirbhíse Gaeltachta. <p>Cork City Council's designated Grúpa Forbartha Gaeilge has and will continue to fund projects aimed at fostering a culture of bilingualism in the city.</p> |

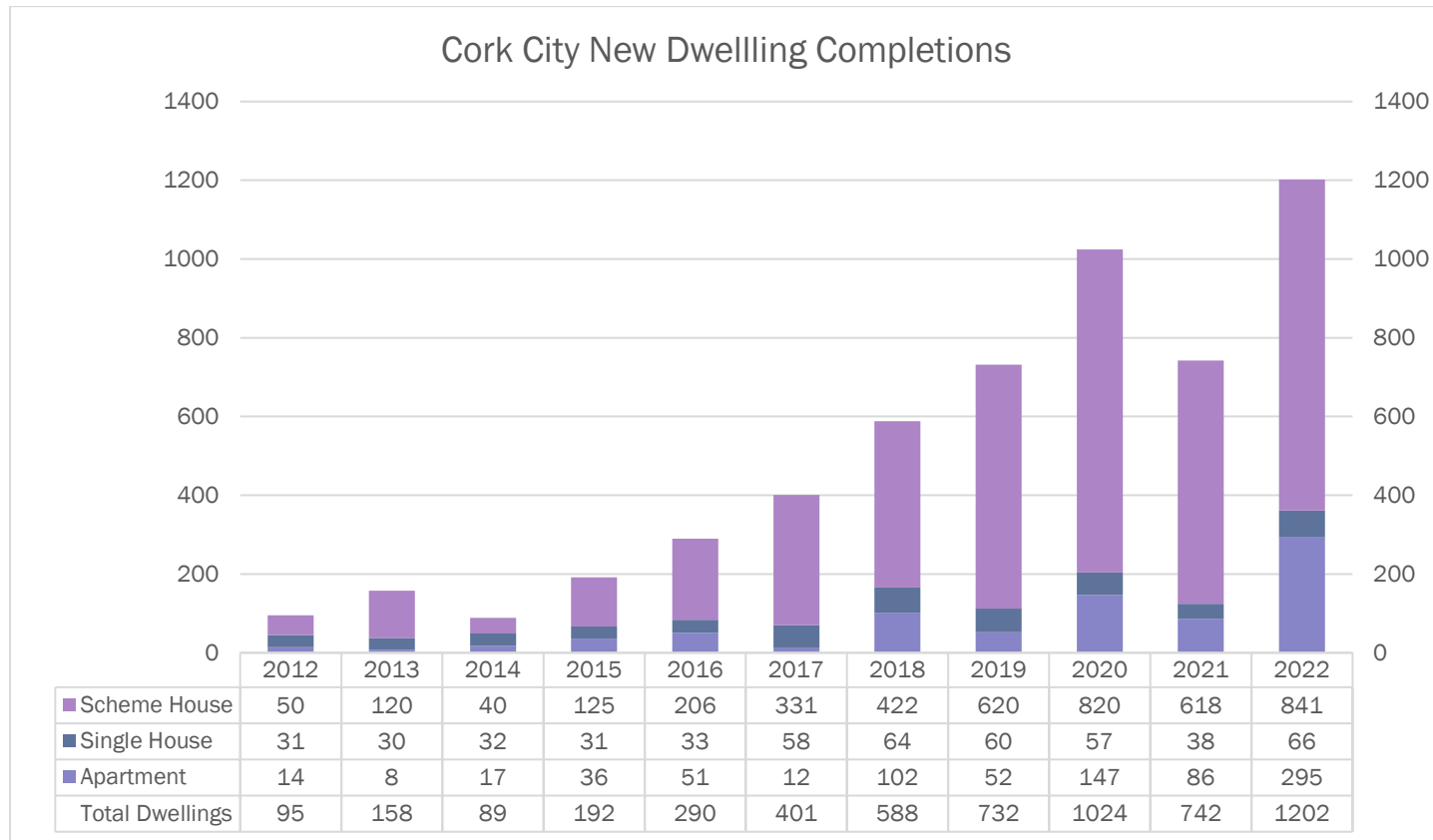
Please provide any other comments that you would like to make with respect to your Local Authority and implementing the RSES. This may include any recommendations that you consider would facilitate this process, reduce barriers to implementation or ways to improve implementation.

It is recommended that the delivery mechanisms envisaged under RPO 226 "Implementation Mechanism for the Strategy and MASPs" be progressed, specifically to drive delivery in the MASP areas.

PLEASE PROVIDE A CONTACT POINT IN THE EVENT THAT WE NEED TO CONTACT YOU ABOUT THIS FORM.

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Name: | Kevin O'Connor |
| Position: | Senior Planner, Strategic Planning and Heritage |
| Email: | kevin_oconnor@corkcity.ie |
| Contact phone number: | (021) 492 4715 |

Figure 1 – Cork City New Dwelling Completions



All data has been sourced from the CSO New Dwelling Completions (NDC) quarterly publication available for Cork City up to Q4 2022 only. The principal data source for the NDC is connections data provided to the CSO on ESB Network (ESBN) connections. This is supplemented with data from Eircode, GeoDirectory, BER data, eStamping data and Census of Population data.

Figure 2 – Cork City New Housing Delivery Q4 2103 – Q3 2023

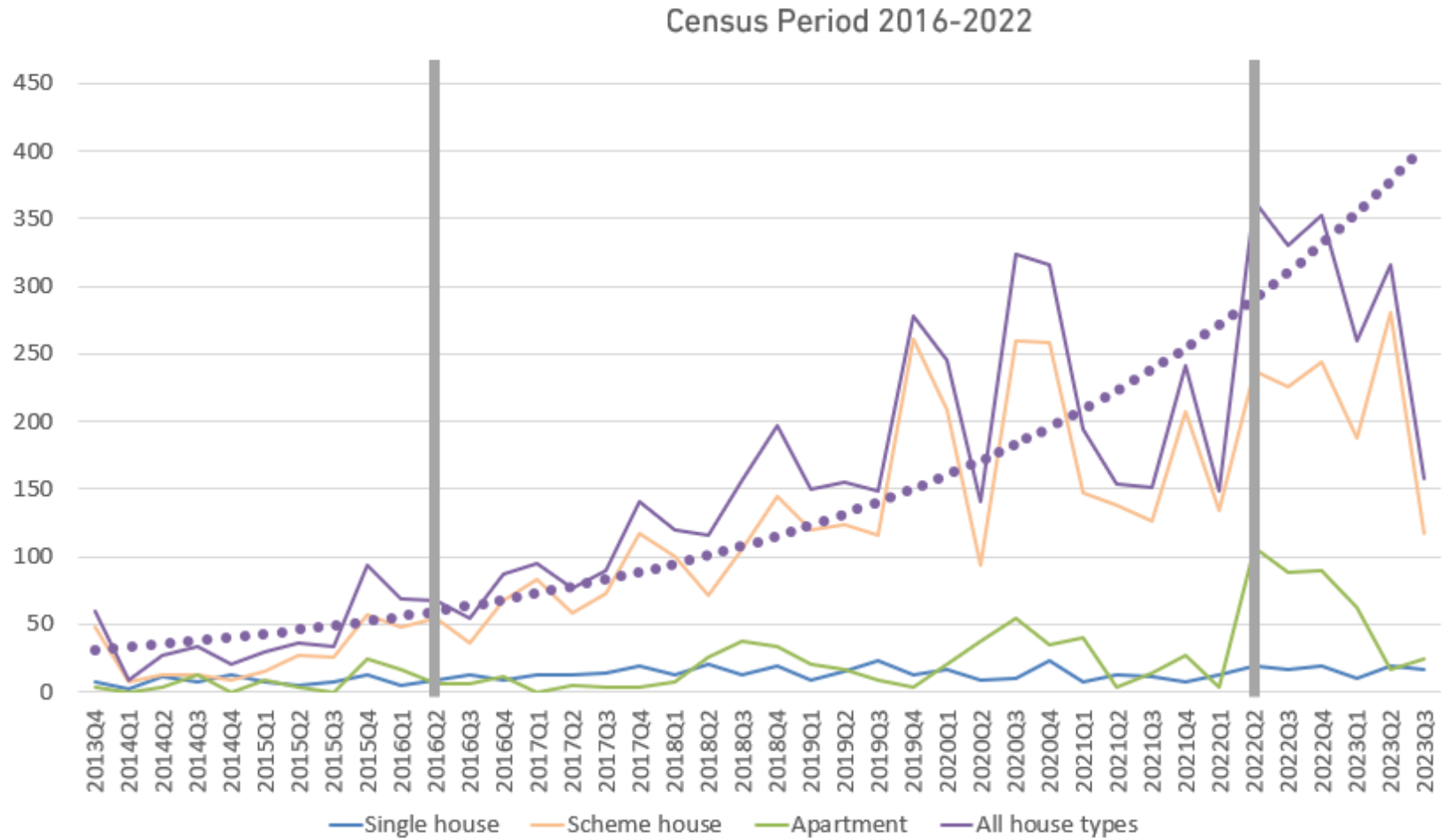
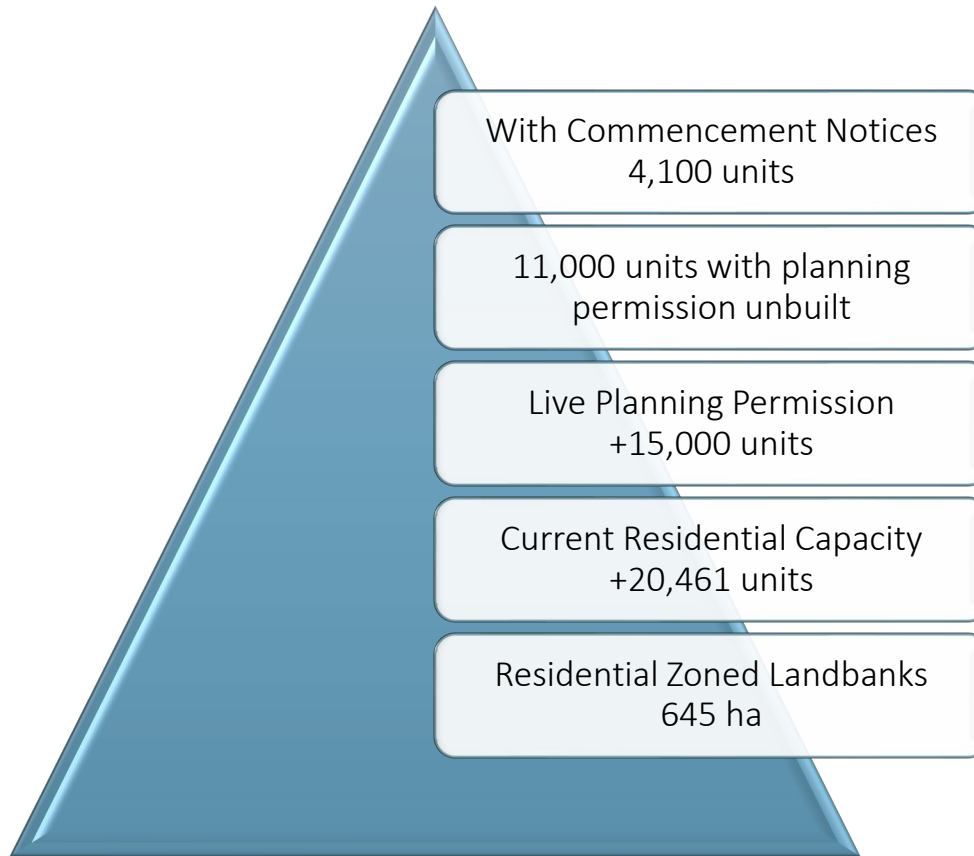


Figure 3 – Overview of Residential Activity in cork City



Future
Development

Reserved Landbanks: Potential Delivery **+18,000 units**

Strategic 2040 Landbanks: Potential delivery **+25,000 units**

Figure 4 – Update of Core Strategy Targets – Post-2022 Census

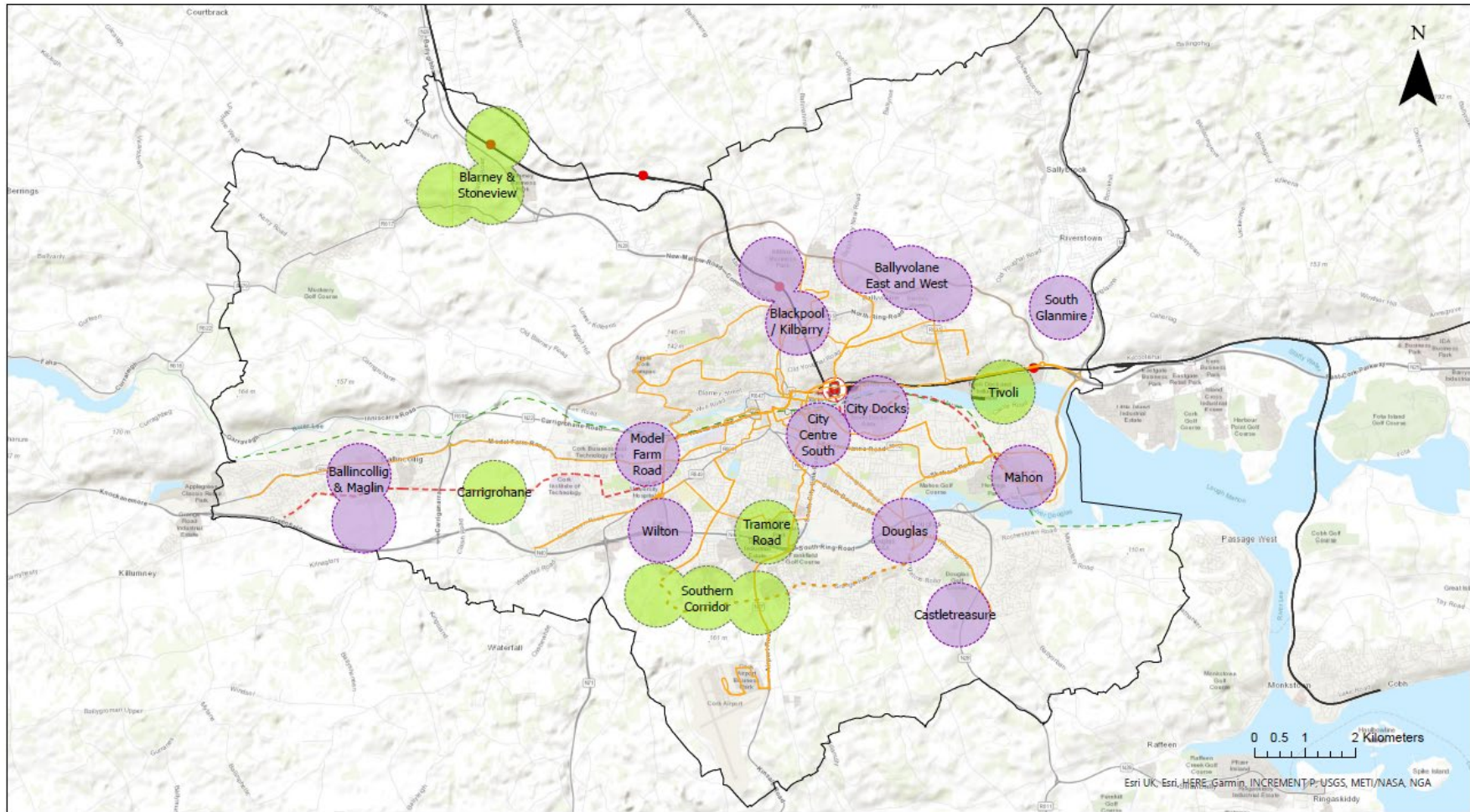
| Cork City Areas | 2016 Pop | Census 2022 Update | | | Forecasted Growth | | | Percentage of forecasted growth achieved | | |
|------------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | 2022 Pop | Growth Number | Growth % | 2028 Pop Target | % of Total Growth 2028 | % Growth from 2016 | Forecast growth to 2022 | % growth to 2022 achieved | % growth to 2028 achieved |
| City Centre | 22,732 | 25,862 | 3,130 | 13.8% | 26,218 | 6.8% | 15% | 24,475 | 180% | 90% |
| Docklands | 1,667 | 1,971 | 304 | 18.2% | 7,737 | 11.9% | 364% | 4,702 | 10% | 5% |
| City Docks | 1,667 | 1,971 | 304 | 18.2% | 7,239 | 10.9% | 334.3% | 4,453 | 11% | 5% |
| Tivoli Docks | 0 | | | | 498 | 1.0% | - | 249 | 0% | 0% |
| City Suburb | 141,808 | 145,811 | 4,003 | 2.8% | 161,258 | 38.2% | 14% | 151,533 | 41% | 21% |
| North East Suburb | 26,841 | 26,745 | -96 | -0.4% | 36,038 | 18.1% | 34.3% | 31,439 | -2% | -1% |
| North West Suburb | 23,125 | 23,578 | 453 | 2.0% | 23,917 | 1.6% | 3.4% | 23,521 | 114% | 57% |
| South East Suburb | 51,605 | 53,807 | 2,202 | 4.3% | 58,679 | 13.9% | 13.7% | 55,142 | 62% | 31% |
| South West Suburb | 40,237 | 41,681 | 1,444 | 3.6% | 42,625 | 4.7% | 5.9% | 41,431 | 121% | 60% |
| Urban Town | 33,886 | 38,123 | 4,237 | 12.5% | 54,737 | 40.9% | 62% | 44,312 | 41% | 20% |
| Ballincollig | 18,159 | 20,578 | 2,419 | 13.3% | 27,987 | 19.3% | 54.1% | 23,073 | 49% | 25% |
| Blarney | 2,550 | 2,742 | 192 | 7.5% | 6,238 | 7.2% | 144.6% | 4,394 | 10% | 5% |
| Glanmire | 9,903 | 11,296 | 1,393 | 14.1% | 16,076 | 12.1% | 62.3% | 12,989 | 45% | 23% |
| Tower | 3,274 | 3,507 | 233 | 7.1% | 4,437 | 2.3% | 35.5% | 3,855 | 40% | 20% |
| City Hinterland | 10,521 | 12,236 | 1,715 | 16.3% | 11,611 | 2.14% | 10% | 11,066 | 315% | 157% |
| Kerry Pike | 497 | 1,078 | 581 | 116.9% | 546 | 0.1% | 10.0% | 522 | 2371% | 1186% |
| Killeens | 765 | 864 | 99 | 12.9% | 841 | 0.2% | 10.0% | 803 | 261% | 130% |
| Upper Glanmire | 530 | 470 | -60 | -11.3% | 894 | 0.7% | 68.6% | 712 | -33% | -17% |
| Hinterland | 8,729 | 9,824 | 1,095 | 12.5% | 9,330 | 1.2% | 6.9% | 9,030 | 364% | 182% |
| Total | 210,853 | 224,004 | 13,151 | 6.2% | 261,561 | 100% | 24% | 236,207 | 52% | 26% |

Figure 5 – Challenges to the delivery of Strategic Sites and Regeneration Areas

| CITY AREA | ROLE IN THE CORE STRATEGY | EXAMPLES OF KEY SITES AND PROJECTS | KEY CONSTRAINTS |
|-----------------------|--|---|---|
| City Centre | Consolidate and regenerate by providing a wider range of uses that increase vibrancy and activity. Encourage more homes in mixed use areas, especially on upper floors. Encourage broader mix of cultural and tourism uses, including educational and entertainment. Develop at a scale and form that reflects and respects the city centres historic character. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grand Parade Quarter: URDF funded, and Part 8 design granted for public realm works. • Bishop Lucey Park redevelopment underway. • Mac Curtain Street public transport improvement scheme (including Coburg Street, Devonshire Street, Bridge Street). • Knapps Square and Lower John’s Street Area Pedestrianisation and Cycle measures. • Morrison island public realm and flood relief project. • “Brooks Haughton site” on Union Quay: construction is due to start on UCC’s Cork University Business School in 2024. • UCC North Mall Campus: An Bord Pleanála granted planning permission in December 2023. • Redevelopment of Moore’s Hotel in 2024 and development of Camden Quay Hotel. • New student accommodation on North Main Street and Washington Street. • Construction commenced in October 2023 for a new platform at Kent Station to facilitate through running services from Mallow to Cobh and Midleton. • Delivery of social housing schemes on Barrack Street. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing retail vacancy rates. • Low levels of use of upper floors. • Long delivery timeframes for key regeneration projects. • Need for alternative mechanism to allow early intervention for unmanaged buildings and sites. • Increased funding for public realm projects. • Derelict and vacant sites. • Lack of delivery of various infill sites with active planning permission. |
| City Docklands | Phased regeneration of the City Docks and Tivoli Docks as high quality, higher density, mixed use sustainable waterfront areas with new urban quarters and transformational projects acting as catalyst for further investment and regeneration of the city. | <p>City Docklands updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • €650m already allocated by URDF, LDA, LIHAF, Irish Rail and NTA. • Planning approved for 245,000 sqm commercial, 96,000 sqm completed to date. • Planning approved for 3,184 new homes to date across 6 separate residential schemes. • LDA to commence construction on 302 apartments at Horgan’s Quay in 2024. • Decision pending from ABP on a further 825 units. | <p>City Docklands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M28 to Ringaskiddy required to enable move of port activities from the city. • Removal of Seveso to enable development at “Goulding” site on Centre Park Road. • Market delivery of apartments. • Delivery of LRT: emerging preferred route to be issued for public consultation Q1 2024. • N25/R624 at Belvelly Bridge excluded from the NDP. • Need for increased investment. |

| CITY AREA | ROLE IN THE CORE STRATEGY | EXAMPLES OF KEY SITES AND PROJECTS | KEY CONSTRAINTS |
|---------------------|---|---|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marina Promenade and Marina Park Phase 2 to commence in Q1 2024 Docklands Framework Masterplan will be completed in 2024. Preliminary business case for €700m+ in enabling infrastructure will be submitted for government approval in Q2 2024. <p>Tivoli Docks updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Port of Cork, the LDA and Cork City Council are progressing future development including a planning application for enabling transport infrastructure in 2024. | <p>Tivoli Docks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> M28 to Ringaskiddy required to enable move of port activities from the city. Relocation, remediation of 3 Seveso sites. Delivery of new train station. Design and delivery of new eastern access and upgraded “Silversprings” access. Delivery of catalyst infrastructure including new central park, active 2.5km waterfront and cultural waterside hub. |
| City Suburbs | <p>Consolidate and enhance by providing a mix of new neighbourhood uses in suitable strategic locations. Prioritise walking, cycling and public transport access. Deliver uses, layouts and densities that enhance existing local character. Deliver high quality sustainable transport orientated development.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ballyvolane, North Blackpool / Kilbarry, North-West Quarter Regeneration area Old Whitechurch Road. <p>Regenerate underutilised sites in existing neighbourhoods including Mayfield, Douglas, Grange, Togher and Wilton.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery of Cork BusConnects. Delivery of additional active travel Infrastructure identified in CMATS. Delivery of LRT route in the longer term. Cork Northern Distributor Multi-Modal Route (CNDMR): a key objective of CMATS to be delivered in the short to medium-term. The CNDMR will form a central part of an accessible, integrated transport network enabling the sustainable growth of the Cork Metropolitan Area as a dynamic, connected and internationally competitive European City region. |
| Urban Towns | <p>Phased delivery of strategic sites by targeting growth proportionate to the existing population within the four urban towns. All development shall focus on prioritising walking, cycling and public transport use. Apply a mixed-use approach to regenerating key underutilised locations.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> South Ballincollig at Maglin. South Glanmire at Ballinglanna. <p>Opportunities to repurpose underutilised sites within town centres.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Framework plans to be delivered. Action plans for key sites. |

Figure 6 – Strategic Locations for Transport Oriented Development in Cork City



TOD Strategic Areas

- Medium to Long term development Horizon
- Short to Medium term development Horizon

Key Transport _ CMATS

- BusConnects Cork
- Proposed Light Rail Transport
- Proposed Train Stations

Existing_Train_Station

- Cork_Rail_Line
- Proposed Northern Distributor Multimodal Road
- Proposed Southern Distributor Road CMAT Approx

Lee to Sea Greenway proposed route

- CityBoundary

Figure 7 – Relevant Data on Transport Oriented Development in Cork City

| TOD Location (Cork City Development Plan) | | Strategic Transport Infrastructure (Cork Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan) | Landbank Size (Ha.) | Net Units * | Net Density * (UHP) | Timeframe * (2022-2040) |
|--|-------------------------|---|------------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| City Centre & Docklands | | | | | | |
| 1 | City Centre South | LRT, Urban Rail works, BusConnects, Lee to Sea | 13 | 1,350 | 150 | Short-Medium |
| 2 | City Docks | LRT, Urban Rail works, BusConnects, Lee to Sea | 147 | 10,000 | n/a | Short-Medium |
| 3 | Tivoli Docks | Tivoli train station, BusConnects, Eurovelo 2, Dunkettle P+R, Northern Distributor Multimodal Route | 61.5 | 5,000 | n/a | Medium-Long |
| City Suburbs | | | | | | |
| 4 | Model Farm Road | LRT, BusConnects, Lee to Sea | 13 | 1,500 | 70 | Short-Medium |
| 5 | Mahon | LRT, BusConnects, Lee to Sea | 35 | 3,600 | 80 | Short-Medium |
| 6 | Douglas | BusConnects, Southern Distributor Multimodal Route, Carr's Hill P+R | 9 | 640 | 70 | Short-Medium |
| 7 | Wilton | LRT, BusConnects, Bandon Road P+R | 7 | 450 | 70 | Short-Medium |
| 8 | Blackpool/ Kilbarry | Blackpool/Kilbarry Train Station, BusConnects, Northern Distributor Multimodal Route | 119 | 8,000 | 95 | Short-Medium |
| 9 | Ballyvolane | Blackpool/Kilbarry Train Station, BusConnects, Northern Distributor Multimodal Route | 227 | 14,250 | 70 | Short-Medium |
| 10 | Castletreasure | BusConnects, Southern Distributor Multimodal Route, Carr's Hill P+R | 70 | 1,850 | 35 | Short-Medium |
| 11 | Carrigrohane | LRT, BusConnects, Ballincollig P+R | 250 | 16,500 | 70 | Medium-Long |
| 12 | Tramore Road | BusConnects, Bandon Road P+R | 59 | 4,800 | 70 | Medium-Long |
| 13 | Southern Corridor | BusConnects, Southern Distributor Multimodal Route, Bandon Road P+R | 256 | 10,000 | 50 | Medium-Long |
| Urban Towns | | | | | | |
| 14 | Ballincollig and Maglin | LRT, BusConnects, Ballincollig P+R | 184 | 9,200 | 70 | Short-Medium |
| 15 | South Glanmire | Tivoli Train Station, Eurovelo 2, BusConnects, Northern Distributor Multimodal Route, Dunkettle P+R | 74 | 2,500 | 50 | Short-Medium |
| 16 | Blarney and Stoneview | Blarney/Stoneview Train Station, Blarney/Stoneview P+R | 210 | 10,000 | 58 | Medium-Long |
| TOTAL | | | 1588 Ha | 99,640 | | |

* indicative

Figure 8 – Cork City Decarbonising Zone

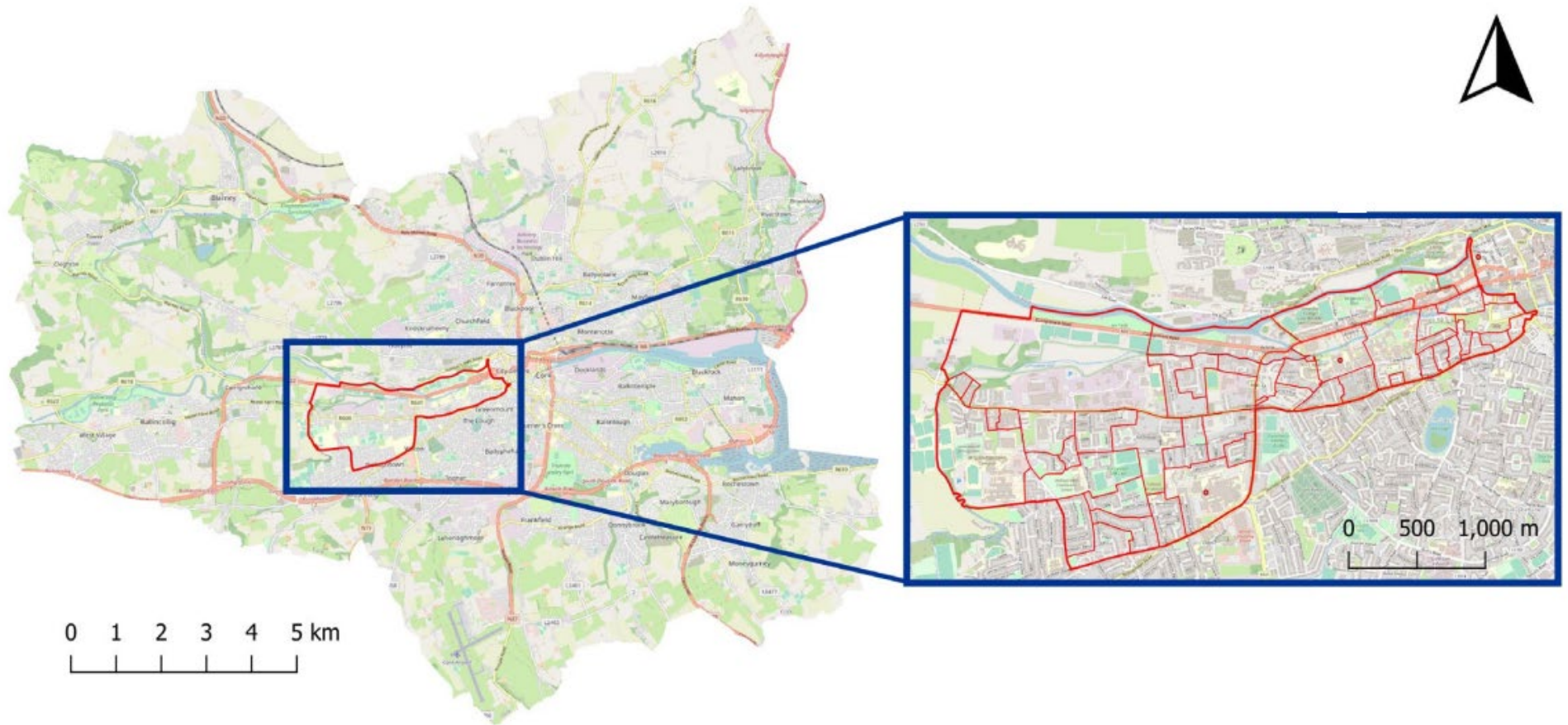


Figure 9 – Update on green and blue infrastructure projects

| GBI PROJECT | OVERVIEW | GBI PROJECT UPDATE |
|--|---|---|
| Lee to Sea Greenway biodiversity and greening plan | Support the design and delivery of the Lee to Sea Greenway as a traffic-free corridor for movement, biodiversity and as a regional tourism asset. Provide a corridor for wildlife movement, protection of natural resources and other GBI spaces where feasible. | Route selection process currently underway with the NTA. |
| City Docks and Tivoli Docks urban drainage strategies | Develop an urban drainage strategy for the City and Tivoli Docklands to integrate best practice climate change actions that combine water management with the creation and protection of a new GBI network with amenity, recreation, wildlife and placemaking benefits. | The Cork City Docklands urban drainage study was completed and integrated into the City Docklands Framework Masterplan to be progressed in 2024. |
| Cork City tree planting and management strategy | Delivery of a medium-term city-wide tree planting and management strategy focusing on best practice implementation, design and management of the city’s tree network. | Currently at draft stage. Public consultation will take place in Q1 2024, and the strategy will be proposed for adoption in Q2 2024. |
| Vernon Mount Park project | To support the provision of safe, off-road access from Vernon Mount to Tramore Valley Park that connects Grange and Frankfield to the city and provides public access to the eastern wooded valley. | Vernon Mount pedestrian and cycle bridge over the N40 opened in November 2023 linking Grange and Frankfield to Tramore Valley Park, Douglas and the city centre. Cork City Council acquired 13-acres of woodland as part of the project to increase the overall biodiversity and greening within the area. |
| New northeast and northwest city parks | Support actions and funding applications to progress the development of a new City Park in the North East and North West of the City that promote a range of both passive and active recreation and utilise GBI to enhance biodiversity and promote active travel. | The tender for a multidisciplinary design team to progress the masterplan of the North West city park was issued in November 2023. A successful tenderer will be appointed in February 2024 and work on the preparation of the masterplan will be progressed thereafter. The new park will create green links between the city and its hinterland, complimenting biodiversity and providing important economic, leisure, health and environmental benefits. |
| Rewilding, rewetting and reforestation projects | Support actions and projects that promote and deliver rewilding, rewetting and reforestation in Cork City to create best practice GBI assets that benefit communities, health and the environment and enhance species richness using ecologically-friendly management. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Heritage Grant Scheme: supported community groups to carry out a variety of biodiversity projects. • Bat Enhancement Project: bat box installation in several locations. • Blarney Bog: habitat mapping and restoration. • Cork City Japanese Knotweed Treatment Programme. • Urban Pond Creation Project: pond project created in Clashduv Park. • Sand Martin nest creation and colony installation project at Cork Lough. • Beaumont Quarry Invasive Species Management: innovative use of goats in an urban context to remove invasive species. • Tramore Valley Park Biodiversity Action Plan. • Swift Project: swift box installation and monitoring in several locations • Herbicide reduction: City Parks awarded the green flag for significantly reducing the use of harmful herbicides. |

| GBI PROJECT | OVERVIEW | GBI PROJECT UPDATE |
|---|--|--|
| Ecology, biodiversity and natural heritage data | Adopt new approaches to overcome gaps in baseline data for ecology, biodiversity and natural heritage at the city level and develop a successful approach for its use at an early stage in development planning. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cork City Habitat Mapping Project: priority survey areas identified and project currently at tender stage. • Carbon baseline of city parks: analysis of carbon storage rates within each land use type of 25 city parks. • City bat survey of lesser horseshoe bat (2022). • Implementation of Pollinator Plan • Ecological Awareness Programmes (referenced above in this report). • Environmental Awareness: purchase of specialised materials (referenced above in this report). |
| Decarbonising Zone (DZ) Pilot Project | Identify a DZ pilot project within Cork City and introduce a range of mitigation measures to address local low carbon energy, GHG emissions and climate needs that contribute to national climate action to help better understand challenges in decarbonising the wider city | An area within Cork City was identified as Cork City's DZ, covering a land area of 5km ² with a population of 13,927. Further details of the DZ are provided above in this report. |
| Maritime activities and recreation hub | To support the planning, design and delivery of a multi-use maritime activities and recreation hub in the Marina along the River Lee. The hub will enhance the recreational, natural and cultural heritage value of the River Lee by improving access, activities and use of the water for water-based leisure activities and land site facilities such as rowing, light craft, swimming and other suitable active and passive recreational activities. | Planning and design will include stakeholder engagement designed to facilitate safe, improved accessibility to the water and the exploration of co-location and sharing of community, enterprise, recreation and open space infrastructure that helps create a community based maritime hub for the city and wider area. |
| Guide for implementing nature-based solutions in the southern region | Be an active stakeholder in the delivery of a 'toolkit' for the implementation of GBI interventions to act as a checklist for proposed development and standards for delivering nature-based solutions across the region. | Engaged with SRA in the preparation and delivery of this resource for local authorities, decision makers and developers working in the region to guide the implementation of GBI and nature-based solutions. |
| Cork City open space and GBI network strategy | As per Objective 6.17 of the City Development Plan, Cork City Council will seek to prepare a citywide open space and GBI network strategy as a framework to define strategy, projects and standards to ensure an excellent network of open spaces. The strategy will include the identification of existing, emerging and future GBI route networks within the city's neighbourhoods, urban towns and hinterland area. Extensions and connections to the metropolitan GBI network will also be investigated and planned. | Study to go out to tender in Q2, 2024. |