

# Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report

For the Dunboyne North Master Plan – MP22 (2022)

on behalf of Meath County Council

January 2023



McCutcheon Halley

CHARTERED PLANNING CONSULTANTS

## Document Control Sheet

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# 1. Introduction

This *Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening* of the *Dunboyne North Master Plan (MP22)* has been prepared by McCutcheon Halley Chartered Planning Consultants (MHP) on behalf of Meath County Council.

The purpose of this Report is to assess the requirement for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Dunboyne North Master Plan. The Report includes a Screening and Determination of the requirement for SEA.

This Report is to be read in conjunction with the following documents, also prepared on behalf of Meath County Council:-

- Dunboyne North Master Plan (MP22), prepared by DCA, and
- *Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for Dunboyne North Master Plan (2022), Dunboyne, Co. Meath* prepared by Altemar,

## 1.1 Master Plan Area

The Dunboyne North Master Plan lands are located northeast of Dunboyne, adjacent to the M3 Parkway Station and Park and Ride Facility.

The lands, which measure c. 74 ha, are bisected by the R157 Dunboyne Link Road, with approximately two-thirds of the lands to the north and one-third to the south.

These are largely greenfield lands, with a generally flat topography. The M3 parkway train station is located at eastern edge, south of the R157.

The eastern boundary of the lands is the Dublin commuter rail line (old Navan rail line), with the M3 motorway (Junction 5) beyond.

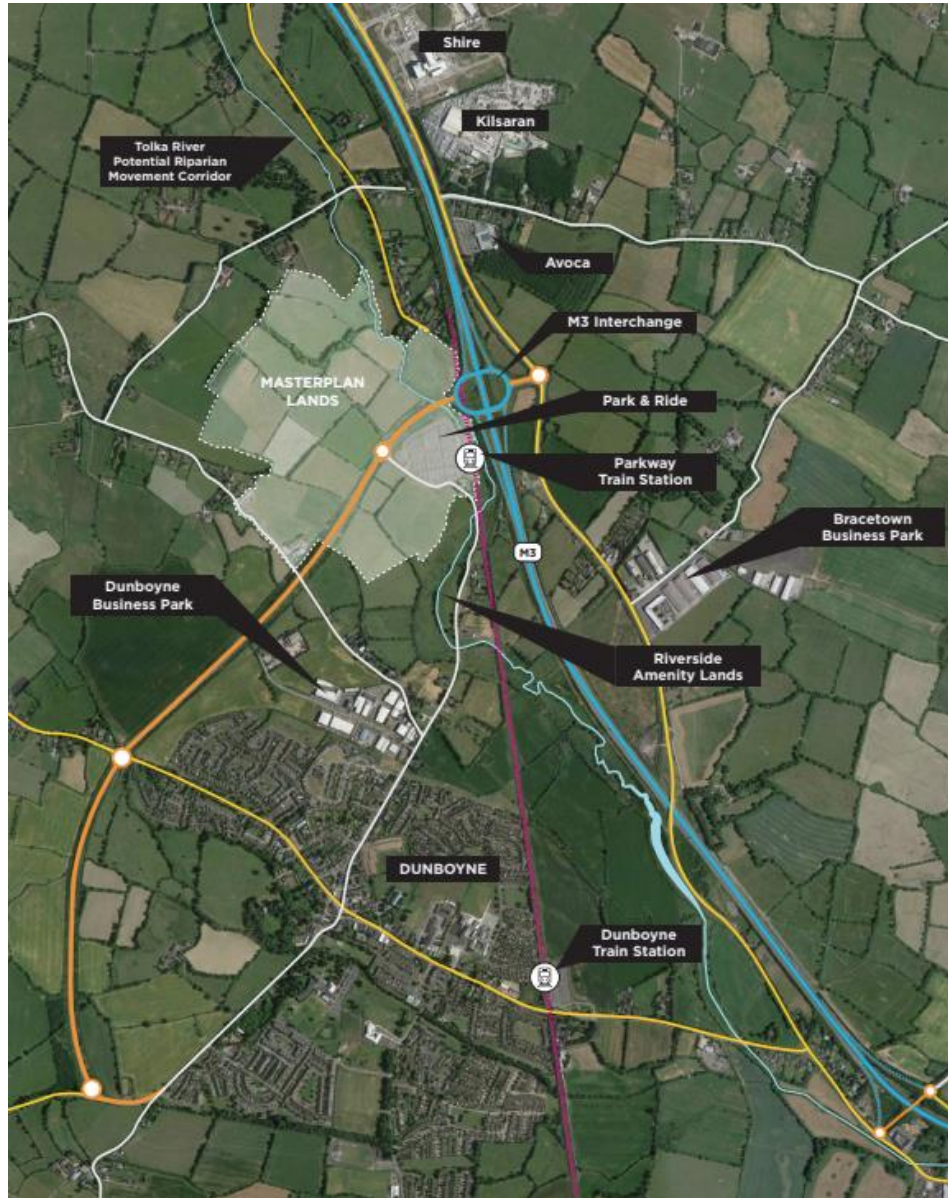


Figure 1- Location of Master Plan Lands

## 2. Strategic Environmental Assessment

### 2.1 Introduction

#### What is Strategic Environmental Assessment

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the evaluation of the 'likely significant environmental effects' of implementing a plan or programme before a decision is made to adopt it. It is required to be undertaken of plans and programmes prepared by authorities at a national, regional or local level.

### 2.2 Legislation

The European Directive on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment (2001/42/EC), referred to as 'the SEA Directive', requires Member States to assess the 'likely significant environmental effects' of implementing plans / programmes prior to their adoption.

Article 1 of the SEA Directive states that:

*"The objective of this directive is to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment."*

This Directive is transposed into Irish law by the following Statutory Instrument (S.I.):-

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

The *European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 435 of 2004)*, as amended, relates to plans or programmes prepared for "agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism and **town and country planning or land use**".

This Master plan is considered under these Regulations.

*The Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004, as amended, relates to SEA of the following specific types of plans or programmes:- “a development plan, a variation of a development plan, a local area plan (or an amendment thereto), regional planning guidelines or a planning scheme” and does not apply.*

## 2.3 Guidance

This Screening Report has been prepared having regard to the following guidance:-

- *Strategic Environmental Assessment Guidelines for Regional Assemblies and Planning Authorities, 2022* (Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage)
- *Good Practice Guidance on SEA Screening, 2021* (Environmental Protection Agency)
- *SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans – EPA Recommendations and Resources, 2022* (Environmental Protection Agency)

## 2.4 Screening for SEA

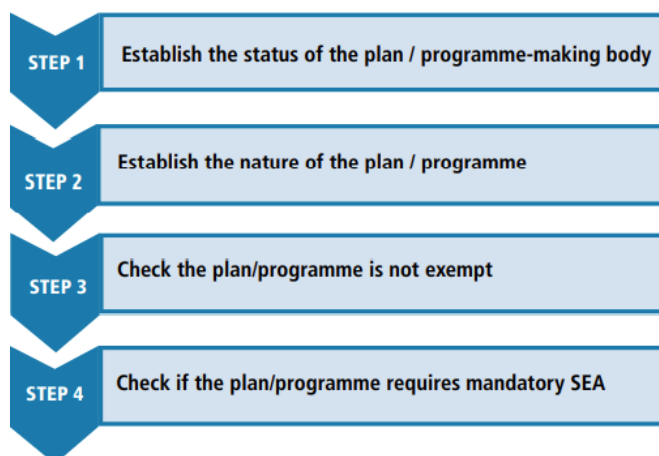
SEA Screening is the process of considering whether SEA of a plan or programme is required to be undertaken in accordance with the SEA Directive.

According to Section 5 of the *Good Practice Guidance on SEA Screening* (EPA, 2021), there are 3 stages to the screening process:-

1. Applicability (including mandatory requirement)
2. Screening
3. Determination

### 2.4.1 Applicability

As outlined in the 2021 EPA Guidelines, there are 4 steps in the first stage. These steps, presented in Figure 2 below, consider whether the SEA Directive applies to the plan or programme being prepared.



**Figure 2: The Screening Process: Stage 1 - Applicability (Source: EPA 2021, Section 5)**

The following questions from the EPA Guidelines (2021) are considered in relation to the Dunboyne North Master Plan to establish if the SEA Directive is applicable:-

Stage 1- Applicability	Response
<p>Step 1 – Status of the Plan / programme-making body</p> <p>Is the P/P prepared and/or adopted by an authority at national, regional or local level or prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government?</p>	Yes
<p>Step 2 – Status of the Plan / Programme</p> <p>Is the P/P required by legislative, regulatory, or administrative provisions?</p>	No
<p>Step 3 -Exclusions</p> <p>Is the sole purpose of the P/P for national defence, civil emergency or finance / budget?</p>	No
<p>Step 4 – Does the P/P fall under Mandatory provision for SEA</p> <p>Is the P/P prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecoms, tourism, town and country planning or land use<sup>13</sup> and does the P/P set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in the Annexes of the EIA Directive;</p> <p>or</p> <p>Will the P/P require assessment under Art. 6 or 7 of the EU Habitats Directive?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>No</p>
<p><sup>13</sup> The reference to town and country planning and land-use may relate to plan making procedures under S.I. 435/2004, as amended, such as “Master Plans”, “public realm strategies”, “urban centre strategies” and plan making procedures under S.I. 436/2004, as amended, such as Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies, County Development Plans, Strategic Development Zones and Local Area Plans</p>	

**Stage 1 Outcome:** It is considered that the SEA Directive may apply as it is a plan which relates to the use of a small area at local level and it may set the framework for future development consent.

On the basis of the above, it is proposed to proceed to Stage 2 – Screening.

#### 2.4.2 Stage 2 - Screening

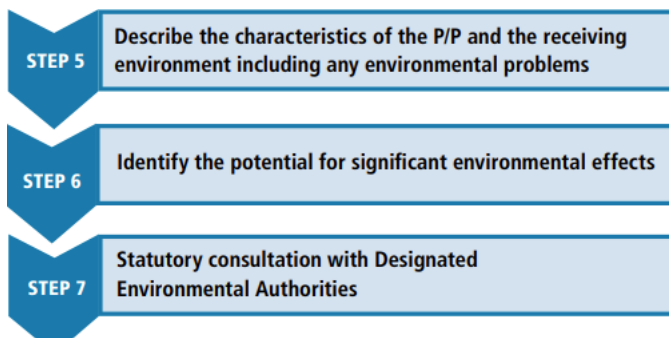
Stage 2 is a case by case undertaking to determine if SEA is required for a plan or programme. An SEA Screening Report, while not mandatory, has



become best practice and is the recommended approach in the EPA 2021 Guidelines.

The Stage 2 Screening Report, contained in Section 5 of this Report, will consider Steps 5 and 6.

On completion, this Report will be issued to the statutory consultees for their consideration (Step 7). The Environmental Authorities consulted are listed in Section 2.6 below.



**Figure 3: The Screening Process: Stage 2 – Screening (Source: EPA 2021, Section 5)**

### 2.4.3 Stage 3 – Determination

The final stage is Step 8 - the Determination i.e. whether SEA is required or not. The format of the Final Determination follows the template provided in Section 6.3 the 2021 EPA Guidelines.

A copy of the Draft Determination is included in Section 6 of this Report.

The Final Determination will be made following consideration of the feedback from the Environmental Authorities (Step 7).

## 2.5 Appropriate Assessment and SEA Screening

A direct link between Appropriate Assessment (AA) and SEA is included in the Habitats Directive – *the EU Directive (92/43/EEC) on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna*. Under Article 3.2b, where AA is required to be undertaken for a plan or programme as it is likely to have a significant impact on a Natura 2000 site, or same cannot be ruled out, the plan or programme must also be subjected to SEA.

A Screening for AA has been completed by Altemar and is included under separate cover – *Appropriate Assessment Screening for the Dunboyne North Master Plan - MP22 (2022), Dunboyne, Co. Meath*. Refer to Section 4.3 for further details.

## 2.6 Consultation with Environmental Authorities

Consultation with the Environmental Authorities listed in the Article 9(5) of the 2004 Regulations, As Amended will be undertaken. The Environmental Authorities consulted are: -

- a) Environmental Protection Agency
- b) Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage
- c) Development Applications Unit of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
- d) Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications

This SEA Screening Report was also issued to the neighbouring local authorities of Fingal County Council and Kildare County Council.

## 3. Planning Policy Context

### 3.1 Meath County Development Plan 2021 - 2027

The Meath County Development Plan 2021 -2027 (MCDP) is the statutory plan for the subject lands.

The subject lands are located in the settlement of Dunboyne. The following lands use zoning categories apply to the subject lands, as illustrated in Figure 2:-

- **A2 New Residential** – Objective: To provide for new residential communities with ancillary community facilities, neighbourhood facilities as considered appropriate
- **C1 Mixed Use** – Objective: *To provide for and facilitate mixed residential and employment generating uses*
- **E1/E3 Strategic Employment Zones (High Technology Uses)/ Warehousing & Distribution** – Objective: *To facilitate opportunities for high end technology/manufacturing and major campus style office-based employment within high quality and accessible locations (E1 Strategic Employment Zones (High Technology Uses); To facilitate logistics, warehousing, distribution and supply chain management inclusive of related industry facilities which require good access to the major road network (E3 Warehousing and Distribution).*
- **E3 Warehousing and Distribution** – Objective: *To facilitate logistics, warehousing, distribution and supply chain management inclusive of related industry facilities which require good access to the major road network.*
- **F1 Open Space** – Objective: *To provide for and improve open spaces for active and passive recreational amenities*

The following designations also apply to the site:-

- The E1/E3 lands north of the R157 (excluding lands adjoining the M3 interchange) are designated as a *Strategic Employment Site*. It is one of the 5 *Strategic Employment Sites* with the MCDP stating the following – ***“It remains a priority for the Council to deliver on the very significant potential presented by the lands adjacent to the M3 Parkway in Dunboyne North as one of the five key strategic employment sites identified within the Economic Development Strategy for County Meath. The area is intended for high technology employment opportunities mixed with other complementary and supporting land uses such as residential and community built on the sustainable community model. The Council remains fully committed to the delivery of a vibrant ‘live work’ community at this location in accordance with the RSES.”*** (Source: Section 4.7.1.1, MCDP: Emphasis Added).
- An indicative road route is shown through the E3 lands. This new road, connecting the R157 Dunboyne Link Road to the Old Navan Road, will providing for direct connection from the master plan lands to the town centre.

- The lands are identified within a master plan boundary for lands at Dunboyne North (MP22). Refer to Section 3.2.1 below.

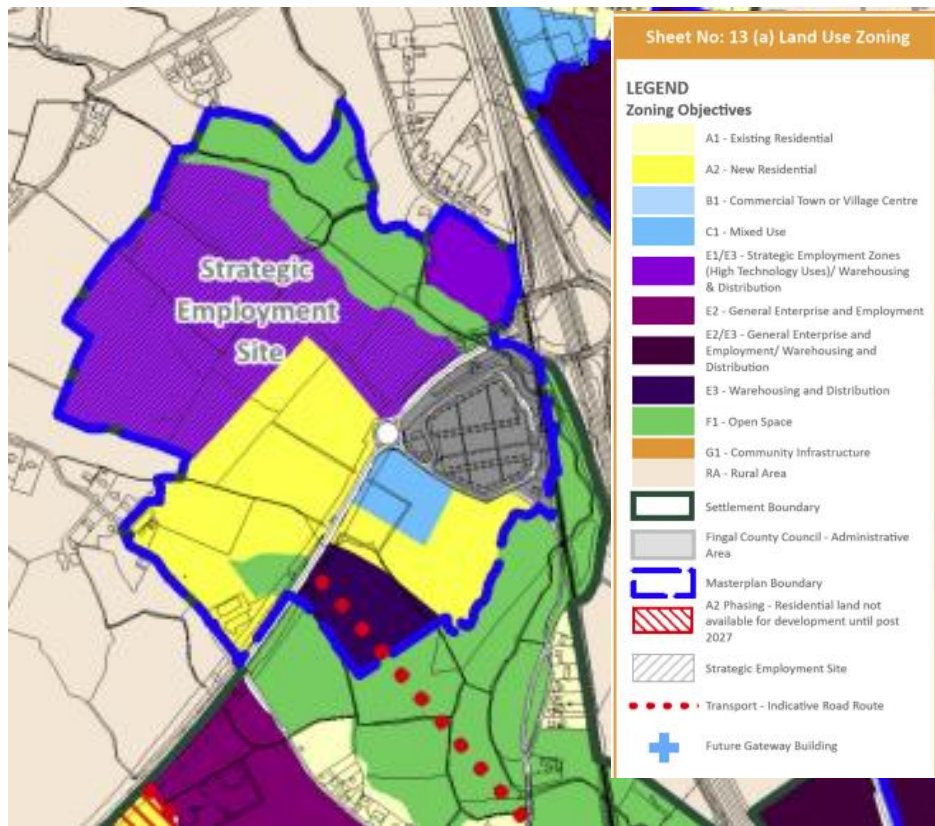


Figure 2: Extract from the Land Use Zoning Map for Dunboyne - Sheet No. 13 (a).

### 3.2 Dunboyne, Clonee and Pace – Written Statement

Volume 2 of the Development Plan sets out the written statements and land use maps for each of the settlements. The following policies and objectives are relevant for the Master Plan lands:-

Policy / Objective	
<b>Policy DCE POL 1</b>	<i>To support the development of Dunboyne and Clonee as an enterprise and employment hub that will be complemented by a compact, attractive, and sustainable residential community and urban environment.</i>
<b>Objective DCE OBJ 5</b>	<i>To prioritise the delivery of residential development on the residentially zoned lands adjacent to Dunboyne Rail Station and Dunboyne North.</i>
<b>Objective DCE OBJ 7</b>	<i>To continue to support and facilitate the development of the Dunboyne-Clonee area as a hub for employment and</i>

Policy / Objective	
	<i>economic investment in County Meath and the Dublin Metropolitan Area.</i>
<b>Objective DCE OBJ 9</b>	<p><b>To facilitate the preparation of a Master Plan at:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MP 22 Lands at Dunboyne North</b></li> <li>• <i>MP23 Lands at Bracetown/Gunnocks</i></li> <li>• <i>MP24 Lands at Pace townland between Piercetown and Bracetown, east of the M3 Motorway.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>As set out in Section 7 of this written statement.</i></p>
<b>Objective DCE OBJ 11</b>	<i>To support and facilitate the provision of new educational facilities for Dunboyne College of Further Education preferably at lands proximate to the rail station at Dunboyne North.</i>
<b>Objective DCE OBJ 15</b>	<i>To facilitate the development of a pedestrian link over the M3 to support the development of employment lands to the north of Dunboyne.</i>
<b>Objective DCE OBJ 17</b>	<i>To support and facilitate in conjunction with the National Transport Authority the extension of the existing bus service to the M3 parkway and development lands to the north of Dunboyne.</i>
<b>Objective DCE OBJ 18</b>	<i>To support the delivery, in conjunction with all relevant stakeholders, of a link road on the lands zoned for new residential development to the east and north east of Dunboyne.</i>
<b>Objective DCE OBJ 22</b>	<i>To support and facilitate the delivery of the transport infrastructure and measures set out in the Dunboyne and Environs Transportation Study.</i>

**Table 1: Development Plan Policies** (Source: MCDP 2021-2027)

### 3.2.1 Lands at Dunboyne North

The subject lands are included within the Dunboyne North Master Plan - MP 22 area. Objective DCE OBJ 9 of the MCDP requires that a Master Plan is prepared.

A description of the requirements for the Master Plan are included in Section 7 of the Dunboyne, Clonee and Pace Written Statement. These are outlined in Section 2 of the Dunboyne North Master Plan and it is not intended to repeat them in this Screening Report.

### 3.3 MCDP Strategic Environmental Assessment

An SEA of the MCDP 2021-2027 was undertaken on behalf of Meath County Council by Brady Shipman Martin. This SEA is included in Vol. 4 of the MCDP.

The Environmental Report completed in the process evaluated the *likely environmental effects* of implementing the development framework contained in the Draft MCDP, including its alterations. The assessment of the

Plan determined that *'significant residual adverse environmental effects will not occur as a result of the implementation of the Plan.'*



## 4. Dunboyne North Master Plan

### 4.1 Introduction

#### 4.1.1 Background and context of the Plan

The Dunboyne North Master Plan has been prepared on behalf of Meath County Council. It is a non-statutory plan prepared in response to the following specific objective of the MCDP 2021 -2027.

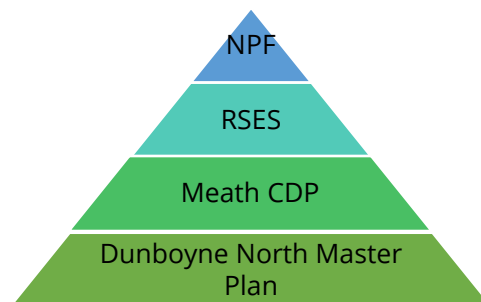
**DCE OBJ 9**

To facilitate the preparation of a Master Plan at:

- MP22 Lands at Dunboyne North
- MP23 Lands at Bracetown/Gunnocks
- MP24 Lands at Pace townland between Piercetown and Bracetown, east of the M3 Motorway.

As set out in Section 7 of this written statement.

In the plan making hierarchy, this Master Plan sits below the MCDP and has no influence over plans of greater order – see Figure 3.



**Figure 3: Hierarchy of Land Use Plans**

#### 4.1.2 Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of the Dunboyne North Master Plan document is outlined in its Introduction –

*‘to distill the vision and development objectives set out in the Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027 in order to inform the realisation of development on the overall land bank over a period of time.*

*It provides a strategy for delivery of a sustainable live work community at Dunboyne North in accordance with Development Plan objectives and their alignment with the physical site context or constraints. National policy and guidance has also informed the development strategy set out in herein.*

*The Masterplan thereby provides a roadmap for development delivery and is designed as an iterative document that will be reviewed and updated with*

*the Executive of Meath County Council as required in line with emerging planning policy and development requirements.*

*Any Planning Application for the development of the Dunboyne North lands should be aligned and consistent with this Masterplan, which will need to be developed and assessed through detail design and consultation with stakeholders and the Local Authority. All layouts shown are therefore indicative.*

*The phasing of development including supporting infrastructure – transportation, utilities, community, amenity, commercial – is detailed to ensure that infrastructure delivery is provided in tandem with and proportionate to the extent of development in a given phase.”*

#### **4.1.3 Master Plan Lands**

The Dunboyne North Master Plan MP22 lands (Refer to Figure 4 – See Figure 1 also) are located northeast of Dunboyne, adjacent to the M3 Parkway Station and Park and Ride Facility. The lands, which measure c.74 ha are bisected by the R157 Dunboyne Link Road, with approximately two-thirds of the lands to the north and one-third to the south.

These are largely greenfield lands, with a generally flat topography. The M3 parkway train station is located at eastern edge, south of the R157. This is a commuter station served by over 20 trains a day, each way, between the M3 Parkway station and Dublin Docklands Station. The associated park and ride facility has a capacity for 1,200 cars.

The eastern boundary of the lands is the Dublin commuter rail line (old Navan rail line), with the M3 motorway (Junction 5) beyond.

Generally, the lands bordering the Master Plan area are agricultural with associated farm dwellings. Some ribbon development has established along Woodpark Road to the North and Kennedy Road south and south west.

The town of Dunboyne is located further south, approximately 2km from the centre of the Master Plan lands.





Figure 4- Aerial View of Master Plan Lands

## 4.2 Content of the Master Plan

### 4.2.1 Introduction

The purpose and vision for the Dunboyne North Master Plan is set out in Section 1 of the document and states:- *'to distill the vision and development objectives set out in the Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027 in order to inform the realisation of development on the overall land bank over a period of time.*

*It provides a strategy for delivery of a sustainable live work community at Dunboyne North in accordance with Development Plan objectives and their alignment with the physical site context or constraints. National policy and guidance has also informed the development strategy set out in herein.*

*The Masterplan thereby provides a roadmap for development delivery and is designed as an iterative document that will be reviewed and updated with the Executive of Meath County Council as required in line with emerging planning policy and development requirements."*

### 4.2.2 Context

Section 2 contains the background and context for the Dunboyne North Master Plan, comprising a description of the site with details on the strategic location of the subject lands within the Dublin Metropolitan area. Details are also given in relation to the numerous transport links available to the site, including its proximity to M3 Junction 5 and the M3 Parkway Train Station.

The planning policy context is outlined in terms of the Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027, including the Written Statement for Dunboyne, Clonee and Pace and objective DCE OBJ 9. This objective requires a Master Plan to be prepared for the subject lands. The content of this Master Plan is specified in Section 7 of the aforementioned Dunboyne Written Statement and included in full in the Dunboyne North Master Plan.

#### **4.2.2 Land Use Strategy**

Transport Strategy - The land use strategy for the Master Plan lands is based upon the Transport requirements identified in previous Transport Studies completed for the lands. This includes the *Transport Study for Dunboyne and Environs* (2018 – prepared on behalf of Meath County Council by Aecom) which outlined a multi modal strategy with strong transport links to Dunboyne town centre, Dublin City and the surrounding areas.

The Proposed Transportation Infrastructure to serve the Master Plan lands is a multi modal approach that *'supports a move away from car dependency towards more sustainable modes of transport.'* This is achieved through a network of new pedestrian and cycle routes throughout the Master Plan lands, creating connections to Dunboyne Town Centre and the M3 Parkway Train Station.

The R157 will also be upgraded, including 2 new junctions accessing the Master plan lands, and a new primary connection to the town centre is proposed, connecting to the Old Navan Road.

Landscape Strategy – maximising the opportunities presented by the River Tolka, retaining the existing landscape framework, where possible, and integrating a movement strategy that provides for enhanced cycle ways and pedestrian routes is central to the proposed landscape strategy.

Four different landscape typologies are identified:- neighbourhood / mixed use centre, residential, commercial office / science and technology campus, and public parks including the Linear Park along the River Tolka corridor.

Design Strategy- An indicative layout is presented for the zoned lands within the Master Plan area, including residential, mixed use, strategic employment zones and warehousing and distribution.

The development management principles of the MCDP will apply, with flexibility to be facilitated where high quality design and layout is demonstrated.

The scale and layout of development will respond to the landscape character. Indicative residential densities of 45-50 units per hectare are proposed for sites proximate to the M3 Parkway train station, with densities reducing for residential lands as distance to the train station increases.

Building heights on E1 or E3 zoned lands will generally range in height from 3 to 4 storeys, with scope for a landmark building of greater height adjacent to the M3 motorway.

#### **4.2.3 Phasing & Implementation**

The nature and extent of the development proposed on the Master Plan lands includes is presented in Section 6 of the Dunboyne North Master Plan and includes:-

- Strategic employment /high technology uses
- Warehousing and Distribution
- Residential (initial development of 500 units)
- Anchor retail and non-residential supporting uses such as café, local services, office space and community facilities
- Education use

Infrastructure and public open space requirements will be provided in tandem with the development proposals.

Indicative phasing proposals outline 4 phases of development. The phasing plan provides a framework for the implementation of the Dunboyne North Master Plan, including infrastructure and public open space requirements. For the landowners, the indicative phasing proposals provide a framework for coordination or planning applications.

The phasing plan presented is indicative. It *"is not intended to be restrictive but rather responsive to the evolving planning context and development requirements of the lands."* (Source: Section 6.1 Dunboyne North Master Plan – MP22).

### **4.3 Appropriate Assessment Screening Report**

Figure 5 shows European sites relative to the Master Plan lands. The closest European site to the Master Plan lands is the Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC (Code: 001398). This is located c.7 kms south west of Master Plan lands), but there is no hydrological connection to this site.

Dublin Bay and its European Sites (See table 2) is located c. 21kms east with a connection via the River Tolka.



**Figure 5: Location of European Sites relative to Master Plan Lands**

European Site	Screened In / out
Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC (001398)	Out
South Dublin Bay SAC (000210)	Out
North Dublin Bay SAC (000206)	Out
South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (004024)	Out
North Bull Island SPA (004006)	Out

**Table 2: Screening of European Sites** (Source: *Appropriate Assessment Screening for the Dunboyne North Master Plan (2022), Dunboyne, Co. Meath – Altemar*)

A Screening for AA has been completed by Altemar and is included under separate cover – *Appropriate Assessment Screening for the Dunboyne North Master Plan (2022), Dunboyne, Co. Meath*.

This Screening Report has concluded that there is no likelihood of significant effects on any European sites either alone or in combination with other plans or projects and therefore determined that there is no requirement for a Stage 2 AA.

## 5. Screening for Requirement for Strategic Environmental Assessment

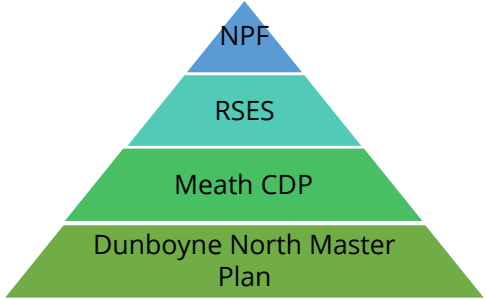
### 5.1 Introduction

This Screening Requirement for the Dunboyne North Master Plan has been prepared having regard to the SEA Legislation and Guidelines outlined in Section 2.

The format of the Screening for Requirement for SEA in Section 5.2 utilises the best practice template recommended in the 2021 EPA Guidelines (ref. Section 6.2).

### 5.2 Screening for Requirement for SEA

Potential for significant environmental effects	Assessment
<p><b>The Characteristics of the Plan, having regard in particular to:</b></p>	
<p>The degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions, or by allocating resources</p>	<p>The land use zoning objectives and development strategy for the Master Plan lands is outlined in the Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027 (MCDP).</p> <p>The Dunboyne North Master Plan has been prepared in response to a specific objective (DCE OBJ 9) of the MCDP.</p> <p>The Master Plan is a non-statutory plan. It sets out an indicative framework for the future development of the lands, providing details and clarity on the development strategy contained in the MCDP.</p> <p>This Master Plan is consistent with the land use zoning policies, objectives and strategy established in the adopted MCDP.</p> <p>The MCDP was subject to a full SEA.</p>

Potential for significant environmental effects	Assessment
<p>The degree to which the plan influences other plans, including those in a hierarchy</p>	<p>The Dunboyne North Master Plan is a non-statutory document prepared in response to a specific objective of the MCDP (DCE OBJ 9).</p> <p>The Master Plan sits at the base of the land use plan making hierarchy and has no influence over plans of greater order.</p> <p>The Dunboyne North Master Plan complies with the land use plans of greater order – see Figure 3.</p>  <p><b>Figure 3: Hierarchy of Land Use Plans</b></p>
<p>The relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development</p>	<p>The development strategy outlined in the Dunboyne North Master Plan has followed the requirements of the MCDP and included relevant environmental considerations e.g. flood risk and protection of the River Tolka corridor.</p> <p>The Master Plan sets the framework for the development of the lands consistent with the provisions of the MCDP. It incorporates the principles of the MCDP which support compact, sustainable development.</p> <p>In general, development on the Master Plan lands will comply with the policies and objectives of plans which sit in the upper tiers of the land use plan hierarchy (illustrated in Figure 3) including the MCDP.</p>
<p>Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme</p>	<p>The receiving baseline environment for the Master Plan lands has been assessed using the EPA's SEA WebGIS</p>

Potential for significant environmental effects	Assessment
	<p>tool (<a href="https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/SEA">https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/SEA</a>)<sup>1</sup>. A Strategic Environmental Assessment GIS Report (Appendix 1) has been produced using this tool for the Master Plan lands and includes details on the receiving environment. There are no likely significant effects evident from a review of this report as a consequence of implementing this Master Plan.</p> <p>The Master Plan is a non-statutory plan which sets the framework for the development of the lands consistent with the provisions of the MCDP.</p> <p>The Master Plan takes account of the following requirements from the MCDP:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid effects on European Sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ An Appropriate Assessment Screening Report has been completed by Altamar for this Master Plan.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Avoid giving rise to adverse flooding effects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This Master Plan has incorporated the findings of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment included in the MCDP. Its land uses and development strategy is consistent with that provided for in the MCDP, which respect the Flood Zone A and B categories presented in the SFRA.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Promote sustainable live work communities by providing a mix of employment, housing and supporting amenities in close proximity to sustainable transport options.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> This tool produces an report on key aspects of the environment in a specific geographic area and according to the EPA is intended to be used by local authorities in SEA screening and scoping exercises.

Potential for significant environmental effects	Assessment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a place where the focus is on sustainable travel options rather than car dependency.</li> </ul>
<p>The relevance of the plan for the implementation of European Union legislation on the environment (e.g. plans linked to waste management or water protection)</p>	<p>The Dunboyne North Master Plan sets out the development framework for the Master Plan lands consistent with the land use zoning and development strategy set out in the MCDP. This Plan therefore will comply with the European Union legislation on the environment already contained within the higher order land use plans including the MCDP.</p>
<p><b>Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to:</b></p>	
<p>The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects</p>	<p>This Master Plan has been prepared in consultation with the landowners. Their desire to implement the proposals in the Master Plan and see the lands developed is evident.</p> <p>The effects of implementing the Master Plan proposals will be permanent. The effects will be typical of other such development for the approved uses and likely to be short -medium term duration, recurring with each phase of development.</p> <p>The effects are not likely to be significant or adverse.</p> <p>As there are no changes in the land uses / development strategy outlined in the MCDP, the effects on the environment of implementing the proposed mixed use (residential, commercial, enterprise, employment etc.) development of the Master Plan lands is consistent with the effects considered in the SEA completed for the MCDP.</p>



Potential for significant environmental effects	Assessment
<p>The cumulative nature of the effects</p>	<p>In addition to the zoning of the Master Plan lands, the MCDP has identified 2 no. additional Master Plan areas in close proximity to the Dunboyne North lands – Lands at Bracetown / Gunnocks (MP 23) and lands at between Piercetown and Bracetown (MP 24). The Dunboyne North Master Plan Lands (MP 22) are the only Master Plan lands identified west of the M3. The cumulative nature of the effects of designating the Master Plans lands, in addition to the zoning of lands in the settlements of Dunboyne, Clonee and Pace and the wider county, has been considered in the making of the MCDP.</p> <p>The proposed Master Plan is not varying any of the parameters previously assessed and therefore there will be no change to the cumulative effects previously considered and accepted in the MCDP SEA.</p>
<p>The trans-boundary nature of the effects</p>	<p>The implementation of this Master Plan will have no transboundary effects, at national, regional or local inter county level.</p>
<p>The risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)</p>	<p>The Master Plan is a non-statutory plan which sets the framework for the development of the lands in accordance with the provisions of the MCDP.</p> <p>Proposed uses are primarily residential, commercial, enterprise and employment, with open space / linear parks along river corridors. Compliance with standard planning and development provisions (e.g. planning conditions, building regulations, health and safety provisions) will mitigate against possible risks to human health or the environment.</p> <p>There are no significant or adverse effects identified due to accidents or</p>

Potential for significant environmental effects	Assessment
	otherwise as a result of implementing this Master Plan.
<p>The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)</p>	<p>The Dunboyne Master Plan lands will provide for residential, commercial and enterprise uses etc. in accordance with the zoning objectives and development strategy outlined in the MCDP. The Master Plan lands are specifically identified as one of the two areas earmarked for population growth - <b><i>“the primary areas for population growth will be in Dunboyne and Dunboyne North adjacent to the M3 Parkway Park and Ride.”</i></b> (Source: Section 5.1, Dunboyne, Clonee and Pace Written Statement – MCDP Vol.2).</p> <p>Future development of the lands will adhere to the development management standards contained in the MCDP.</p> <p>The Master Plan lands (c.74 ha) are generally greenfield agricultural lands, with no existing residences. The existing local resident population adjoining the site is small.</p> <p>The population likely to be affected is small and comprises of persons living in Dunboyne and its Environs. The preliminary results for Census 2022 record a population of 10,639 persons in the Dunboyne Electoral Division (i.e. Dunboyne and its Environs, largely west of the M3). The MCDP notes that the population of Dunboyne was 7,272 persons in 2016 and is projected to grow to 10,572 by 2027. This projected increase includes new residential development on the Master Plan lands, with 500 dwellings initially proposed in the MCDP.</p>
<p>The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:</p>	

Potential for significant environmental effects	Assessment
<p>(a) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage</p>	<p>The Master Plan lands are zoned in the MCDP for a mix of uses. They generally comprise of agricultural lands. The lands along the Tolka Valley have been designated as open space to preserve their special natural characteristics.</p> <p>There are no proposals in this Master Plan which vary the above provisions of the MCDP, which have previously been subjected to SEA.</p> <p>The closest European site to the Master Plan lands, with a hydrological connection, is Dublin Bay and its European Sites. The <i>AA Screening Report</i> (Altamar) has considered the potential impacts and concluded that as <i>'significant dilution, settlement and mixing will take place between the proposed development and this SPA'</i> [the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA], <b><i>"no significant effects on this SPA are likely as a result of the proposed Master Plan."</i></b></p> <p>Overall the <i>AA Screening Report</i> (Altamar) concluded that <i>"there is no likelihood of significant effects on any European sites either alone or in combination with other plans or projects"</i> through the implementation of the Dunboyne North Master Plan.</p> <p>Three recorded monuments were identified and recorded / excavated during excavations for the M3 route /Dunboyne link road - 2 no. sites are located on the R157 north of the M3 Park and Ride facility and 1 no. site west of the M3 Parkway station.</p> <p>The MCDP requires archaeological assessments, testing etc. to be completed, where relevant, and there are no proposals in this Master Plan to alter this requirement.</p>

Potential for significant environmental effects	Assessment
(b) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values	Due to the nature of the land uses proposed in the MCDP and the associated 'permitted' / 'open to consideration' uses, it is not foreseen that there will be any development on the Master Plan lands of a nature which would exceed environmental quality standards or limit values.
(c) intensive land-use	<p>A density of 45-50 units per hectare (indicative) is proposed for the residential lands proximate to the railway station. Densities will reduce as distance from the railway station increases.</p> <p>The extent of development proposed is within the intensities provided for in the MCDP. The MCDP has been subjected to its own SEA and there are no changes proposed in this Master Plan which would impact on its outcome.</p>
The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, European Union or international protection status	<p>There are no protected landscapes within or proximate to the Master Plan lands.</p> <p>The closest European site to the Master Plan lands is the Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC (Code: 001398). This is located c.7 kms south west of Master Plan lands but there is no hydrological connection with the Master Plan lands.</p> <p>There is a hydrological connection to Dublin Bay and its European Sites, via the River Tolka. The <i>AA Screening Report</i> (Altemar) has considered the potential effects and concluded that as <i>'significant dilution, settlement and mixing will take place between the proposed development and this SPA'</i> [the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA], <b><i>"no significant effects on this SPA are likely as a result of the proposed Master Plan."</i></b></p> <p>Overall the <i>AA Screening Report</i> (Altemar) concluded that <i>"there is no likelihood of significant effects on any European sites"</i></p>

Potential for significant environmental effects	Assessment
	<p><i>either alone or in combination with other plans or projects” through the implementation of the Dunboyne North Master Plan.</i></p> <p>Three recorded monuments were identified and recorded / excavated during excavations for the M3 route /Dunboyne link road. One of the sites is located west of the M3 parkway station, with 2 no. on the R157, north of the Park and Ride facility.</p> <p>The upgrade of the R157 Dunboyne Link Road is a requirement of the MCDP and any potential effects on the Recorded Monuments were considered in the SEA of the MCDP.</p>

### 5.3 Summary and Conclusion

A Draft Determination on the Requirement for SEA has been made following consideration of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 to S.I. 435/2004 as amended and the information contained in the SEA Screening Report is based upon the following reasons:-

- The *Dunboyne North Master Plan – MP22* is a non-statutory document, which sits below the Meath County Development Plan 2021 – 2022 in the plan hierarchy. The policies, objectives and development management standards of the Development Plan apply to the Master Plan lands;
- The land use zonings and development strategy included in the *Dunboyne North Master Plan – MP22* is consistent with the *Meath County Development Plan 2021 – 2022*;
- The environmental policies and objectives of the *Meath County Development Plan 2021 – 2022* will apply to future development of the Master Plan lands;
- There are no proposals in this Master Plan which extend beyond the scope of the *Meath County Development Plan 2021 – 2022*. As the MCDP was subjected to a full SEA, the probability of any *likely significant environmental effects* arising from the implementation of the Master Plan is minimal;
- An Appropriate Assessment of the Plan is not required; and
- Consultation with the Environmental Authorities has been undertaken.

On the basis of the above, it is determined that :-

- The *Dunboyne North Master Plan – MP22* does not satisfy the conditions for mandatory SEA under SI 435/2004, As Amended

- The *Dunboyne North Master Plan - MP22* has not been shown to have significant effects on the environment with reference to Articles 9(2), 9(3) or 9(4) and Schedule 1 of SI 435/2004, As Amended.

**Therefore, it is determined that there is no requirement for SEA of the Dunboyne North Master Plan - MP22.**

The Draft Determination will be reviewed on receipt of feedback from the Environmental Authorities consulted and will be finalised, modified or amended, as required.

The Final Determination will be included in Section 6.

## 5.4 Statutory Consultation

Consultation with the Environmental Authorities listed in Section 2.6 has been undertaken. A copy of the correspondence received is included as Appendix 2.

A summary of the issues raised in the submissions and commentary on how this has influenced the final screening determination is outlined in Table 3.

Environmental Authority	Comment	Response
<b>Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)</b>	<p>This submission is general in nature and outlines the process to arrive at the SEA Determination.</p> <p>Various resources are referenced including the <i>'SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans - EPA Recommendations and Resources'</i> guidance document, SEA checklist and web tools available on the EPA website.</p>	<p>The steps required under legislation to undertake the SEA Screening have been completed in preparing this document and issuing the associated Determination.</p> <p>The resources listed have been utilised in undertaking the SEA Screening of the Dunboyne North Master Plan.</p> <p>Consultation with the relevant Environmental Authorities has been completed.</p> <p>In specific response to the EPA document - <i>'SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans - EPA Recommendations and Resources'</i> - it is noted that the recommendations which are relevant and appropriate to the Master Plan are taken into account in the SEA Determination.</p>

Environmental Authority	Comment	Response
		<p>It is again highlighted that the Dunboyne North Master Plan is consistent with the provisions outlined in the Meath County Development Plan, which itself was subjected to a full SEA.</p> <p><b>Other resources:</b></p> <p>The resources listed have been utilised in undertaking the SEA Screening of the Dunboyne North Master Plan.</p> <p>Future applicants should use the information available in these datasets also.</p>
<p><b>Geological Survey Ireland (GSI)<sup>2</sup></b></p>	<p>This submission provides information on the Geoheritage and groundwater of the Dunboyne North Master Plan lands. In summary:-</p> <p><b>Geoheritage:-</b> GSI have confirmed that there are no County Geological Sites in the vicinity of the Master Plan lands.</p> <p><b>Groundwater:-</b> A 'Locally Important Aquifer - Bedrock which is Moderately Productive only in Local Zones' underlies the proposed Master Plan area.</p> <p>The Groundwater vulnerability Map indicates variable groundwater vulnerability across the lands including areas of High to Extreme Vulnerability and 'rock at or near surface'.</p> <p>An existing groundwater drinking water abstraction located within the Master</p>	<p><b>Geoheritage:-</b> The nearest Geoheritage sites are located at Huntstown Quarry (c. 10kms south east) and north east of Dunboyne village (10kms north east).</p> <p><b>Groundwater:-</b> At planning application stage, applicants will be required to provide information on groundwater-surface water interactions relevant to their site.</p> <p>On review of the Groundwater Vulnerability Map, it is noted that the Master Plan lands are primarily classed as low. To the south and south east it varies from moderate to high. Contrary to the GSI submissions, there are no lands classed as Extreme or 'Rock at or near surface or Karst'.</p> <p>As recommended by GSI, applications including infrastructure projects will have to be cognisant of existing groundwater wells and springs within the lands, and their catchment areas. Mitigation measures, as required, to avoid potential contamination / dewatering should be included in future development projects.</p>

<sup>2</sup> GSI is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications.

Environmental Authority	Comment	Response
	<p>Plan lands is identified in the submission.</p> <p>GSI recommend that the future design of infrastructure projects will have to be cognisant of this water supply and should include relevant mitigation measures to avoid potential contamination / dewatering.</p> <p>The submission also includes references and links to various data sets and maps prepared by GSI under the categories of geology, natural resources and geochemistry.</p>	<p><b><u>Other resources:</u></b></p> <p>The resources listed have been utilised in undertaking the SEA Screening of the Dunboyne North Master Plan.</p> <p>Future applicants should use the information available in these datasets also.</p>

**Table 3: Submissions from Consultation with Environmental Authorities**



## 6. Determination on Requirement for SEA

### 6.1 Introduction

The Draft Determination presented in Section 5 has been reviewed in response to the feedback received from the Environmental Authorities consulted.

The Final Determination is presented in Section 6.2 below, in the format prescribed by the 2021 EPA Guidelines – Section 6.3, Template 3.

### 6.2 Final Determination

**Screening Determination for Strategic Environmental Assessment  
under SEA Directive 2001/42/EC as transposed into Irish law under  
S.I. 435/2004, as amended**

**Concerning the proposed Dunboyne North Master Plan.**

Meath County Council as the Competent Authority for the Dunboyne North Master Plan has undertaken screening for SEA under Directive 2001/42/EC. The screening assessment was carried out using the criteria for determining the likely significance of effects as set out in Schedule 1 of S.I. 435/2004, as amended.

Following assessment of the criteria and having regard to the nature of the plan ~~—/ programme~~ and the potential for likely significant environmental effects from implementation of the plan ~~—/ programme~~, Meath County Council has determined that the plan ~~—/ programme will~~ will not give rise to likely significant effects on the environment.

This determination has been made following consideration of the information contained in the SEA Screening Report (attached to this determination), the criteria set out in Schedule 1 to S.I. 435/2004 as amended, and consultation feedback from [insert organisations which provided feedback], as statutory Environmental Authorities for SEA.

The principal reasons the P/P ~~does~~ does not require an SEA] are as follows:

- The *Dunboyne North Master Plan – MP22* is a non-statutory document, which sits below the Meath County Development Plan 2021 – 2022 in the plan hierarchy. The policies, objectives and development management standards of the Development Plan apply to the Master Plan lands;
- The land use zonings and development strategy included in the *Dunboyne North Master Plan – MP22* is consistent with the *Meath County Development Plan 2021 – 2022*;
- The environmental policies and objectives of the *Meath County Development Plan 2021 – 2022* will apply to future development of the Master Plan lands;
- There are no proposals in this Master Plan which extend beyond the scope of the *Meath County Development Plan 2021 – 2022*. As the MCDP was subjected to a full SEA, the probability of any *likely significant environmental effects* arising from the implementation of the Master Plan is minimal;
- An Appropriate Assessment of the Plan is not required; and
- Consultation with the Environmental Authorities has been undertaken.

**Signed on behalf of Meath County Council:** \_\_\_\_\_

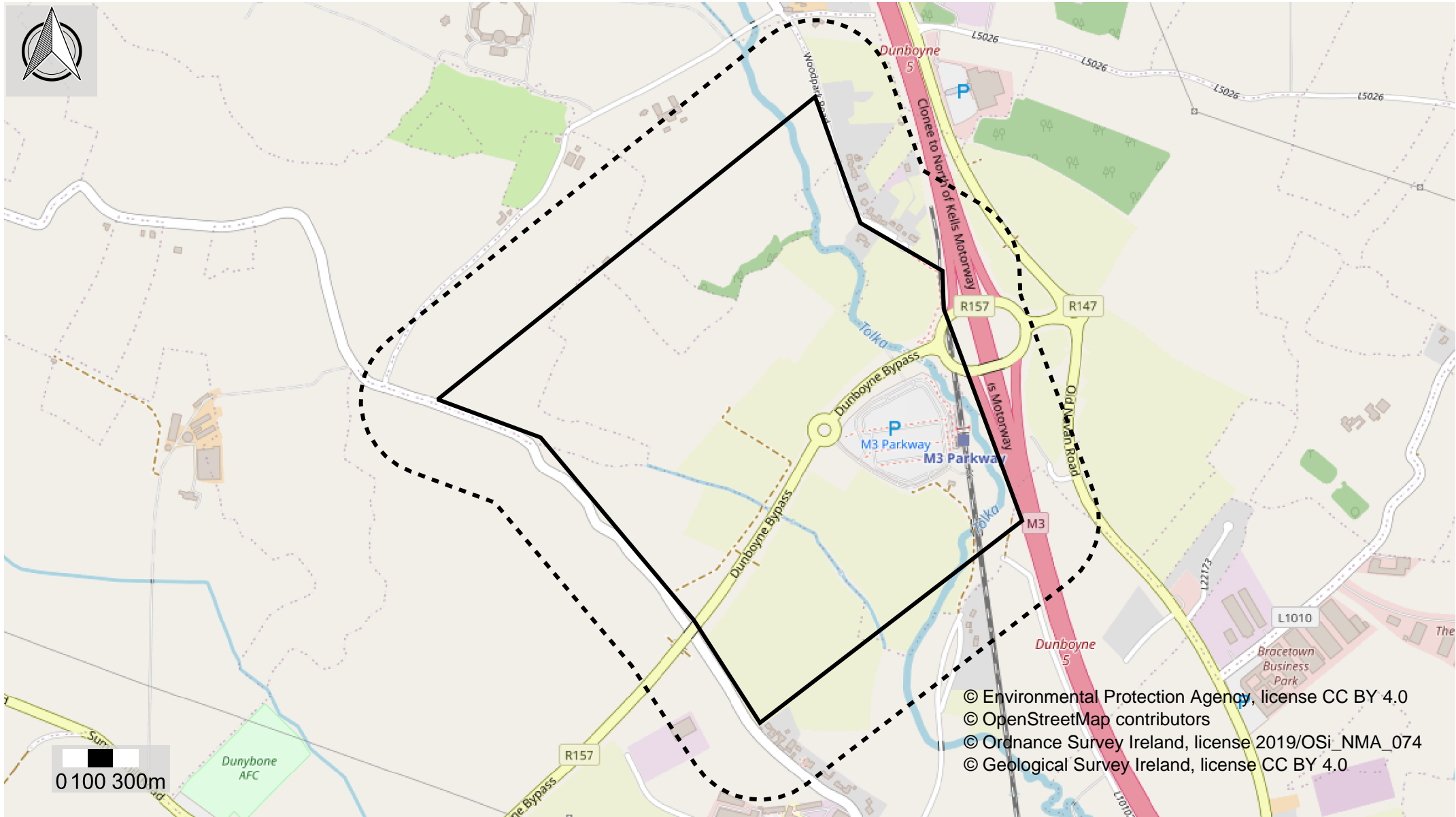
**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_

Attached:

- Dunboyne North Master Plan – MP22 [October 2022]

- SEA Screening Report [December 2022]
- Appropriate Assessment Screening for the Dunboyne North Master Plan - MP22 [October 2022]
- Correspondence from statutory consultees [as appendix to SEA Screening Report]

## Appendix 1 – Strategic Environmental Assessment GIS Report (EPA)



### **Uses of the SEAGIS Reporting Tool**

This tool aims to provide an easy-to-use resource for plan makers and environmental authorities involved in preparing plans and programmes, and in undertaking SEA. In determining the likelihood for potential significant environmental effects and in integrating environmental considerations into the Plan-making process, the information provided in this report generated by the Tool should be integrated as appropriate in the Plan-making and SEA processes. It is not the intention for this tool to replace the requirement for Planning Authorities to carry out their own SEA Scoping or Screening but rather to serve as resource in this regard.

**Content of Report** This Report consists of a series of maps and data tables relating to the named plan or programme area which highlight environmental vulnerabilities/sensitivities to be considered in the preparation of the plan or programme and in undertaking the SEA in accordance with the SEA Directive and associated National Regulations.

**Sources of Data** The data provided in this report comprises both Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and external data sources. Where sources of information are not directly under the remit of the EPA, these may not necessarily be up to date and you are advised to consult the respective environmental authorities to ensure you take account of the most recent data. A list of data sources is provided at the back of the report. All EPA data is available freely for download from the Geoportal, see <http://gis.epa.ie>.

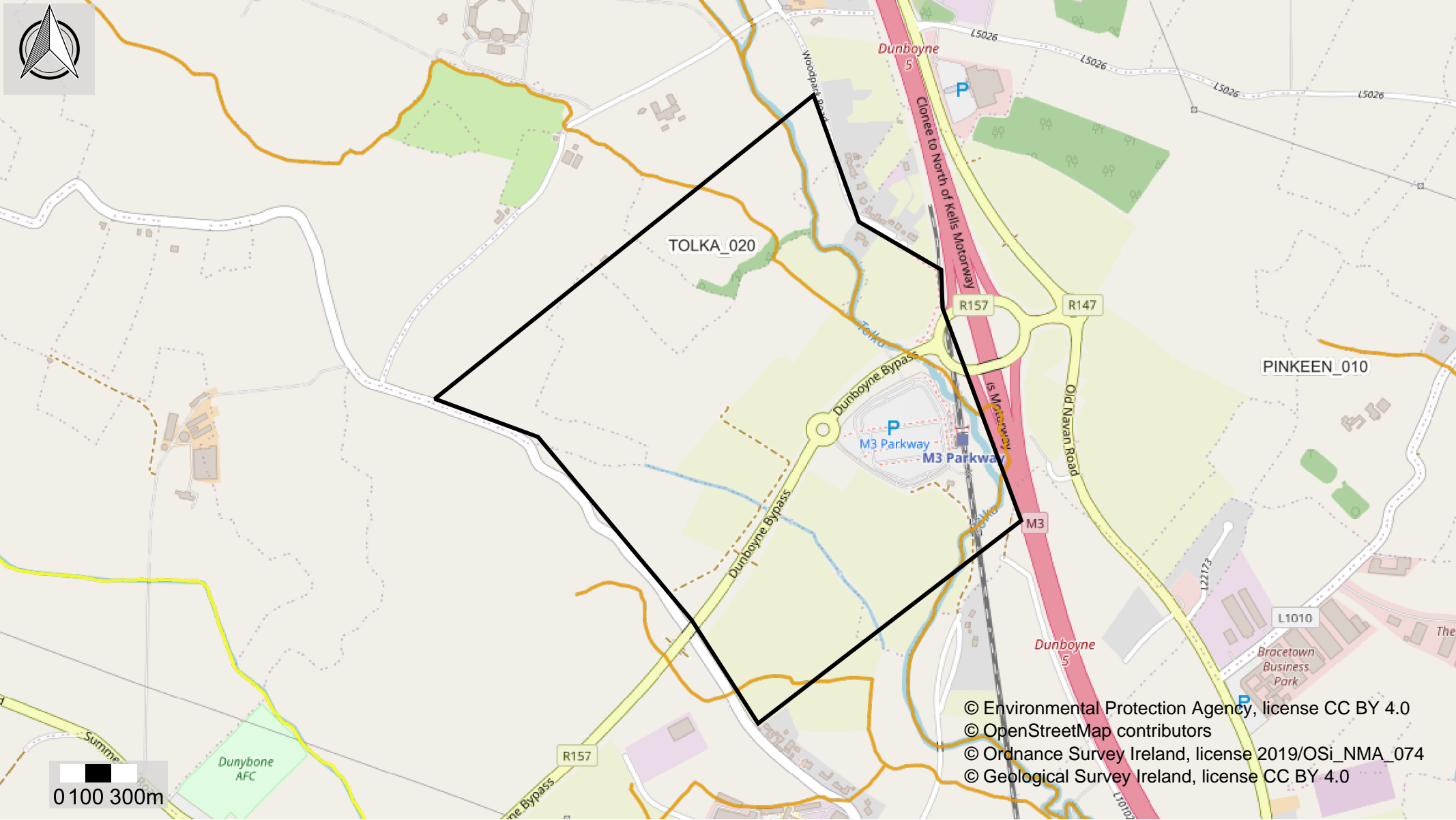
**Buffer Selection** The option to specify a buffer around the plan or programme area allows the plan makers the ability to identify wider environmental aspects outside the plan or programme area. The SEAGIS Tool allows a maximum buffer of 15km to be selected, primarily as a means of limiting the size of the report. This information is included on the various maps and tables of the report. It is important to note that when carrying out environmental assessments, such as SEA, the potential for likely significant affects should not be limited to information identified within the specified buffer area. It should be based on the extent to which environmental criteria may be impacted by the proposed plan or programme, which may be wider than the buffer selected.

**SEA Guidance** The requirement for SEA derives from the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC). Eleven sectors are specified in the Directive. Competent Authorities (Plan/Programme makers) must subject specific Plans and Programmes for these sectors to a strategic environmental assessment where they are likely to have significant effects on the environment. Further SEA-related information and guidance are available at [www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie). Our website also provides reports, advice and guidance on specific environmental themes such as drinking water, waste water, waste, climate change, air quality etc. that are also available to consult and take into account, as appropriate.

**Contact Information** Please direct all queries related to the use of this tool to [sea@epa.ie](mailto:sea@epa.ie).

**Disclaimer** Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the material contained in this report, complete accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Neither the EPA or the system developer(s), nor the data providers accept any responsibility whatsoever for loss or damage occasioned, or claimed to have been occasioned, in part or in full as a consequence of any person acting or refraining from acting, as a result of a matter contained in this report.

# Map 1 – Water Quality



**Legend Map 1: Water Quality Status**

WFD River Status

High Good Moderate Poor Bad Unassigned

WFD Lake, Transitional & Coastal Status

High Good Moderate Poor Bad Unassigned

Bathing Water Quality

Excellent Water Quality Sufficient Water Quality New (classification not yet possible) No Data  
 Good Water Quality Poor Water Quality Changes (classification not yet possible)

**Table 1.1 - WFD Water Quality Status**

Period: 2013-2018

Status Category	River	Lake	Transitional	Coastal	Groundwater
Good	0	0	0	0	1
Poor	1	0	0	0	0

**Note:** See Annex 1 Table A1.1 for detailed WFD data



**Table 1.2 - WFD Bathing Waters Quality**

Period: Not Available

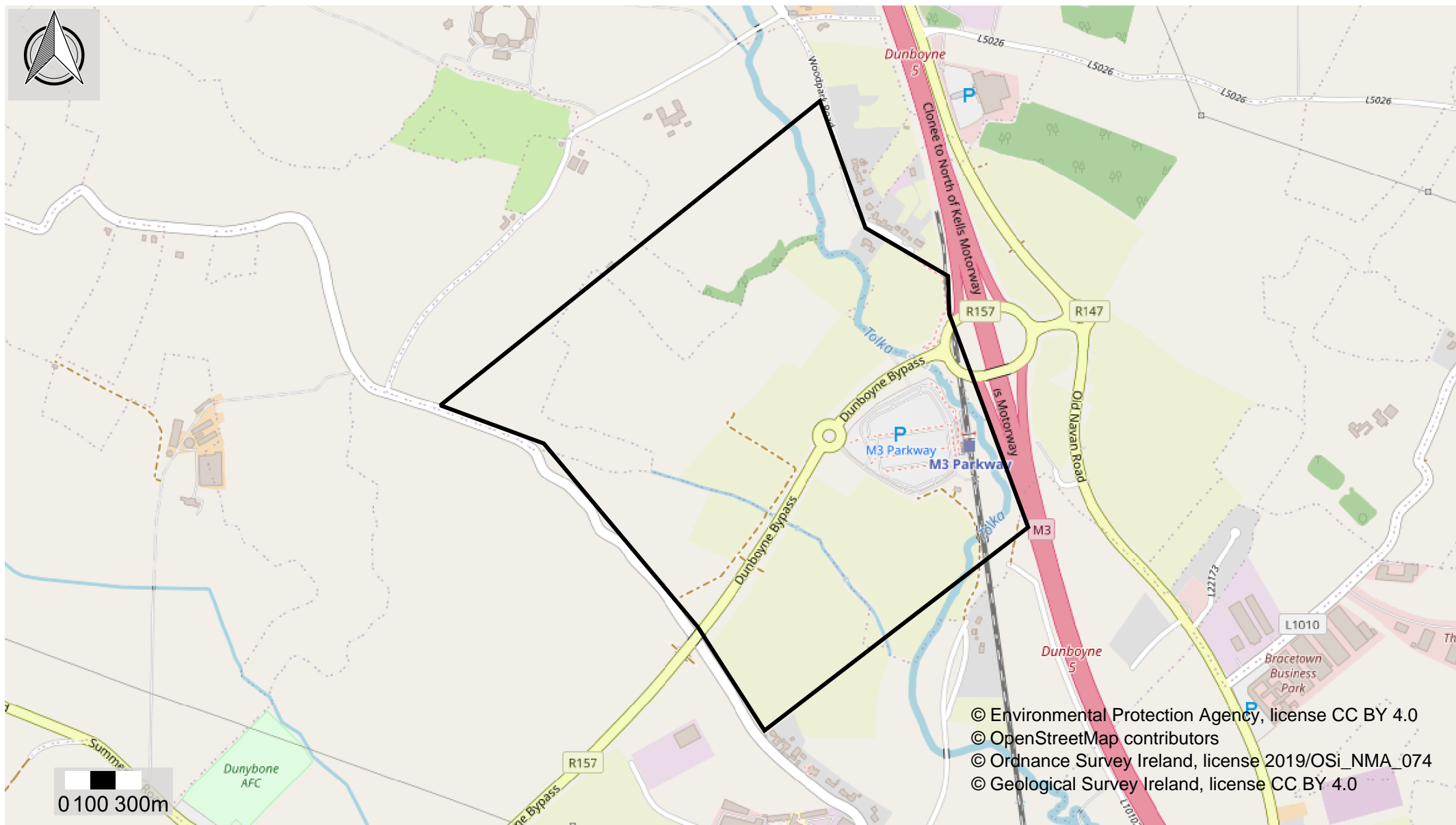
Bathing Area

Compliance

There are no bathing waters within the selected area

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# Map 2 – Water Quality: WFD Significant Pressures



**Legend Map 2: Water Quality WFD Significant Pressures**

Urban Waste Water Plants (>500pe)

 Licensed  Applied  Reviewed  Withdrawn

Certs of Authorisation(<500pe)

 Certified  Applied  Withdrawn

Integrated Pollution Control(IPC)

 Licensed  Applied  Surrendered  Other

Industrial Emissions (IE)

 Licensed  Applied  Surrendered  Other

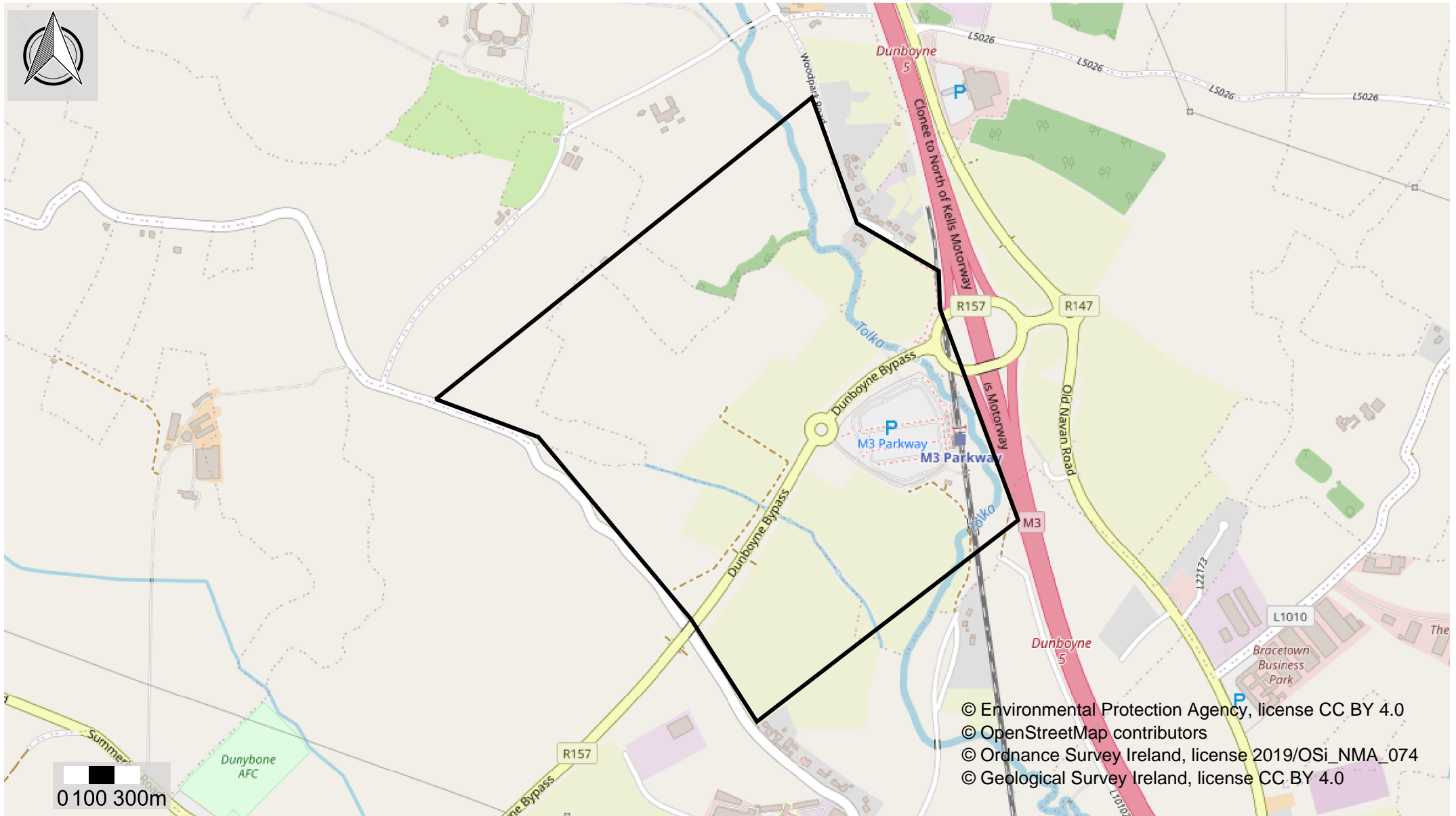
Waste Facilities

 Licensed  Applied  Surrendered  Other

**Table 2.1 - Water Quality: WFD Significant Pressures (EPA Licensed Facilities)**

Licence Type	Number of Sites
Industry (IE)	0
Industry (IPC)	0
Urban Waste Water (Agglomeration PE < 500)	0
Urban Waste Water (Agglomeration PE of 500 to 1,000)	0
Urban Waste Water (Agglomeration PE of 1,001 to 2,000)	0
Urban Waste Water (Agglomeration PE of 2,001 to 10,000)	0
Urban Waste Water (Agglomeration PE > 10,000)	0
Waste (EPA Licensed Activity)	0

# Map 3 – Conservation Areas



**Legend Map 3: Conservation Areas**

Drinking Water Rivers



Drinking Water Lakes



Natural Heritage Areas

 Designated  Proposed NHA

Nutrient Sensitive Areas - Rivers



Nutrient Sensitive Areas - Lakes and Estuaries



N.I. S.A.C



N.I. S.P.A



N.I. Marine Conservation Areas



Margaritifera Catchments



Recreational Waters - Bathing Water Areas



Ramsar Sites



Shellfish Areas



Salmonoid Rivers



S.A.C



S.P.A



**Table 3.1 - WFD Register of Protected Areas**

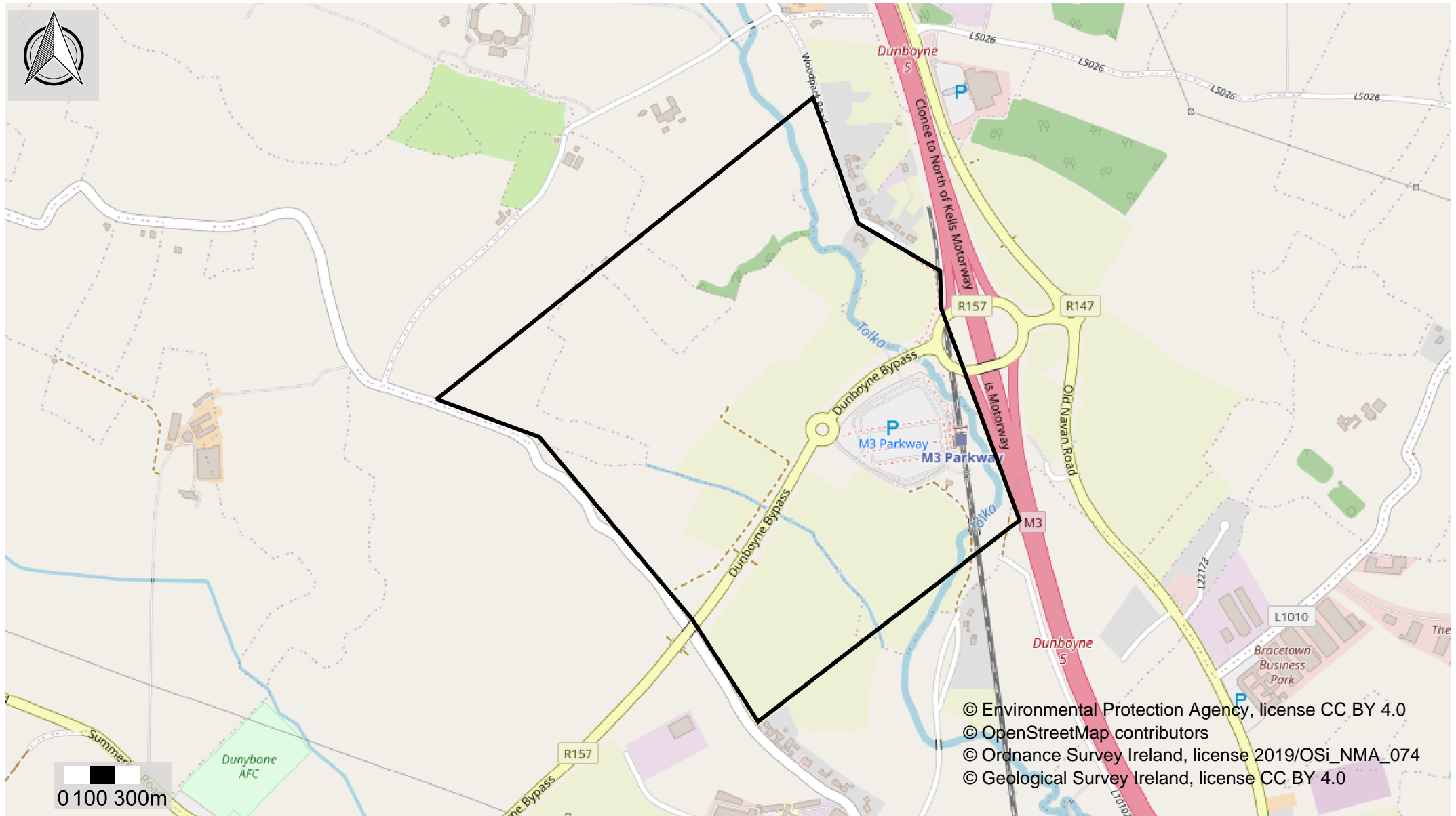
Type of Protected Area	Code	Name
Drinking Water Lakes	No records for this protected area type	
Drinking Water Rivers	No records for this protected area type	
Nutrient Sensitive Areas Lakes & Estuaries	No records for this protected area type	
Nutrient Sensitive Areas Rivers	No records for this protected area type	
Recreational Waters - Bathing Water Areas	No records for this protected area type	
Salmonid Rivers	No records for this protected area type	
Shellfish Areas	No records for this protected area type	

**Table 3.2 - Conservation Areas**

Type of Conservation Area	Code	Name
Margaritifera Catchment	No records for this conservation area type	
National Heritage Areas	No records for this conservation area type	
Ramsar Location	No records for this conservation area type	
SAC	No records for this conservation area type	
SPA	No records for this conservation area type	









# Map 4 – Groundwater Vulnerability

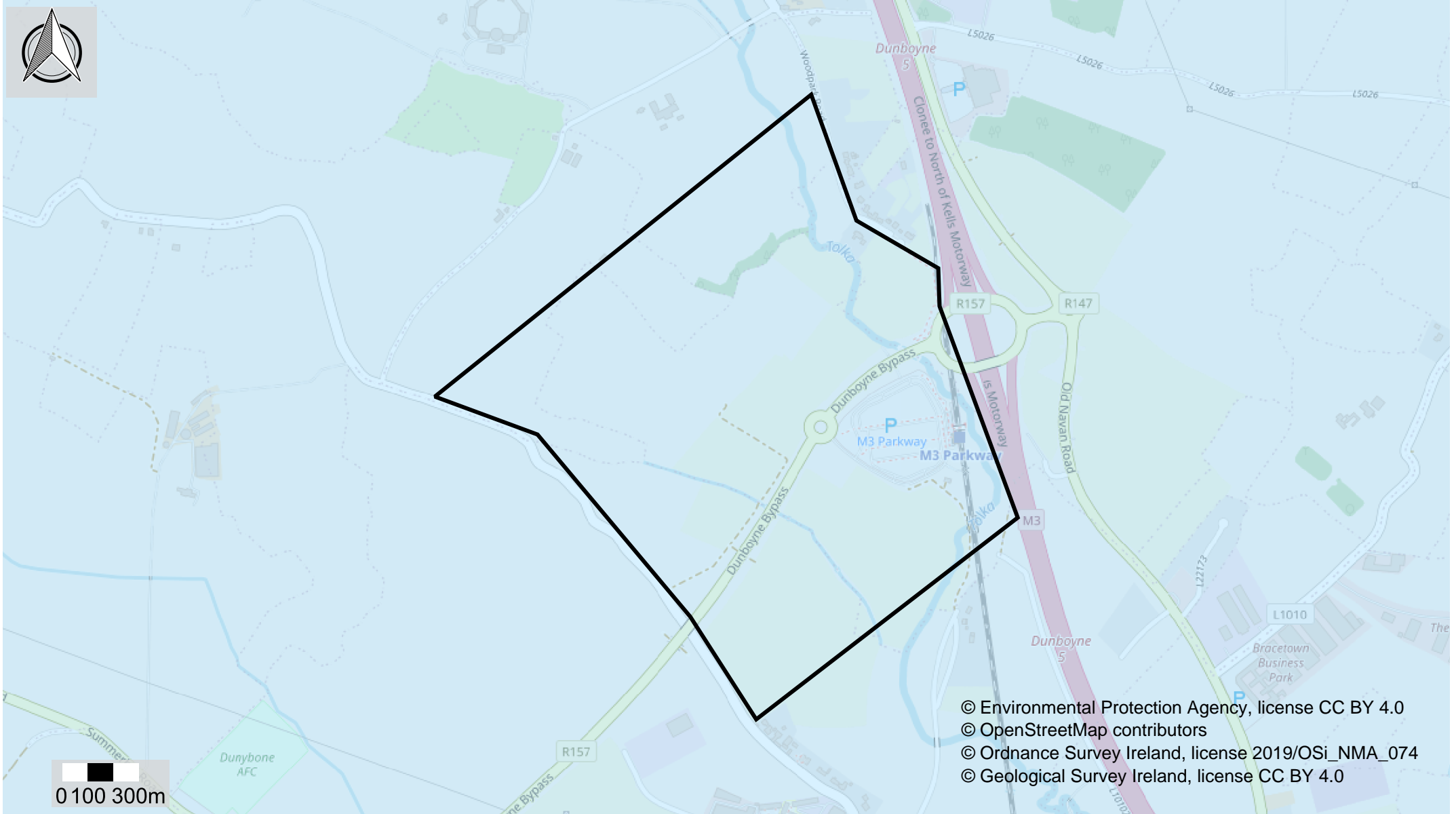


## Legend Map 4: Groundwater Vulnerability

Vulnerability










 Extreme Vulnerability  High Vulnerability  Moderate Vulnerability  Low Vulnerability  X - Rock at or near surface  Water

# Map 5 – GSI Bedrock (1:1000000)

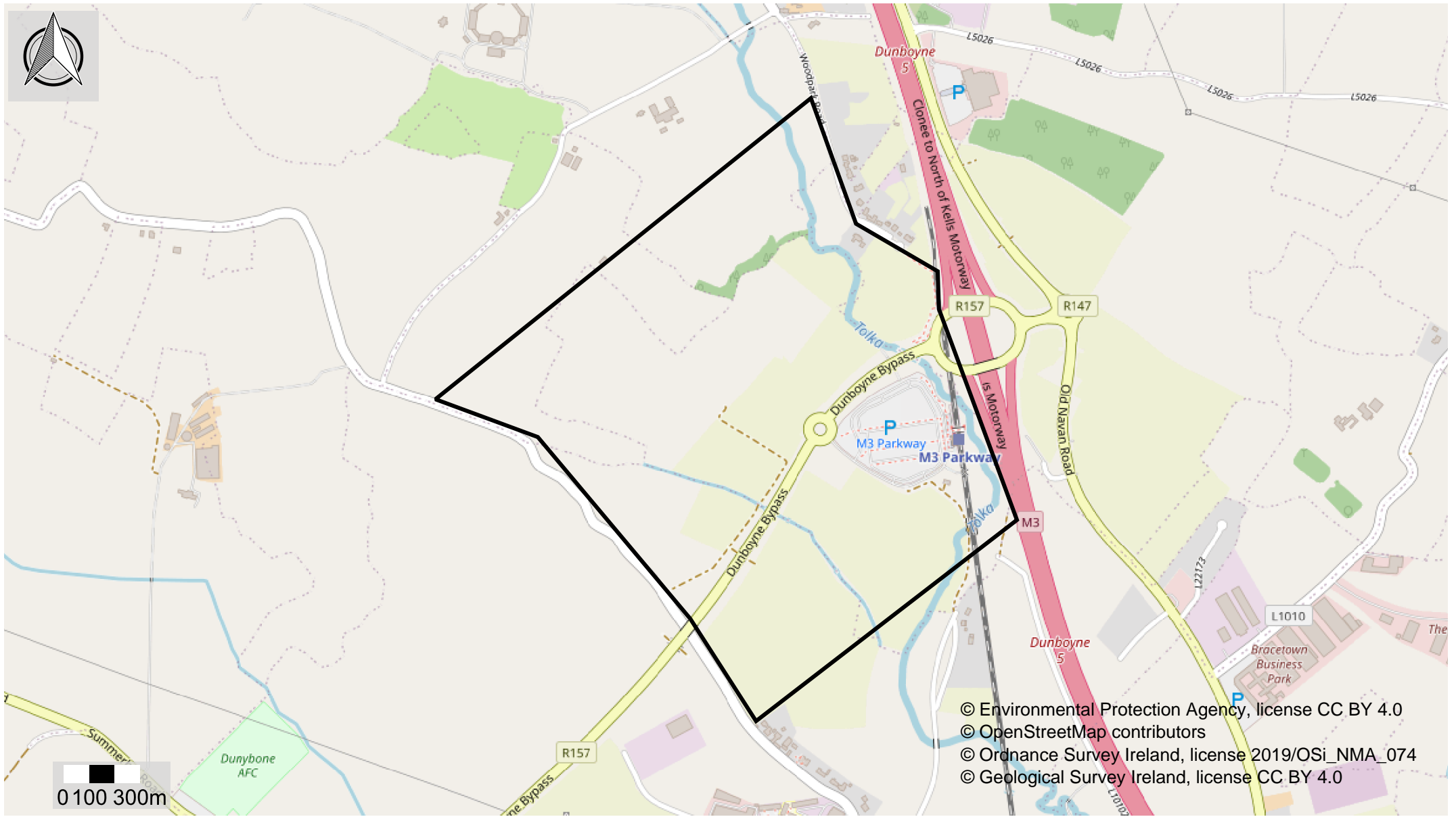


## Legend Map 5: GIS Bedrock

### GSI Bedrock

 Serpentinite and sedimentary melange (Palaeozoic)	 Silurian terrestrial - shallow marine sandstone, siltstone, conglomerate	 Cretaceous chalk, flint, glauconitic sandstone
 Ordovician granitic rocks	 Silurian deep marine mudstone, greywacke & conglomerate	 Palaeocene basalt lava
 Lr Palaeozoic basic-intermediate intrusion	 Devonian volcanic rocks	 Oligocene clay, sand & lignite
 Siluro-Devonian granitic rocks & appinite	 ORS, sandstone, conglomerate & mudstone	
 Palaeogene granitic rocks	 Up. Devonian sandstone & mudstone (Old Head Sandstone Fm)	
 Palaeogene rhyolite	 Carboniferous volcanic rocks	
 Palaeogene basic intrusive rocks	 Tournaisian sandstone, mudstone, limestone	
 Palaeoproterozoic gneiss	 Tournaisian limestone	
 Mesoproterozoic gneiss	 Viséan limestone & calcareous shale	
 Neoproterozoic schist and gneiss	 Viséan sandstone, mudstone & evaporite	
 Neoproterozoic metasedimentary rocks - Dalradian	 Viséan to Westphalian redbed sandstone, conglomerate & mudstone	
 Cambrian greywacke, slate, quartzite	 Namurian shale, sandstone, siltstone & coal	
 Ordovician volcanic rocks	 Westphalian shale, sandstone, siltstone & coal	
 Lower-Middle Ordovician slate, sandstone, greywacke, conglomerate	 Permian sandstone, conglomerate, evaporite	
 Middle-Upper Ordovician slate, sandstone, greywacke, conglomerate	 Triassic sandstone, mudstone, evaporite	
 Late Ordovician-Silurian deep marine greywacke, mudstone (Longford-Down)	 Jurassic mudstone & limestone	

# Map 6 – Sand & Gravel Aquifer

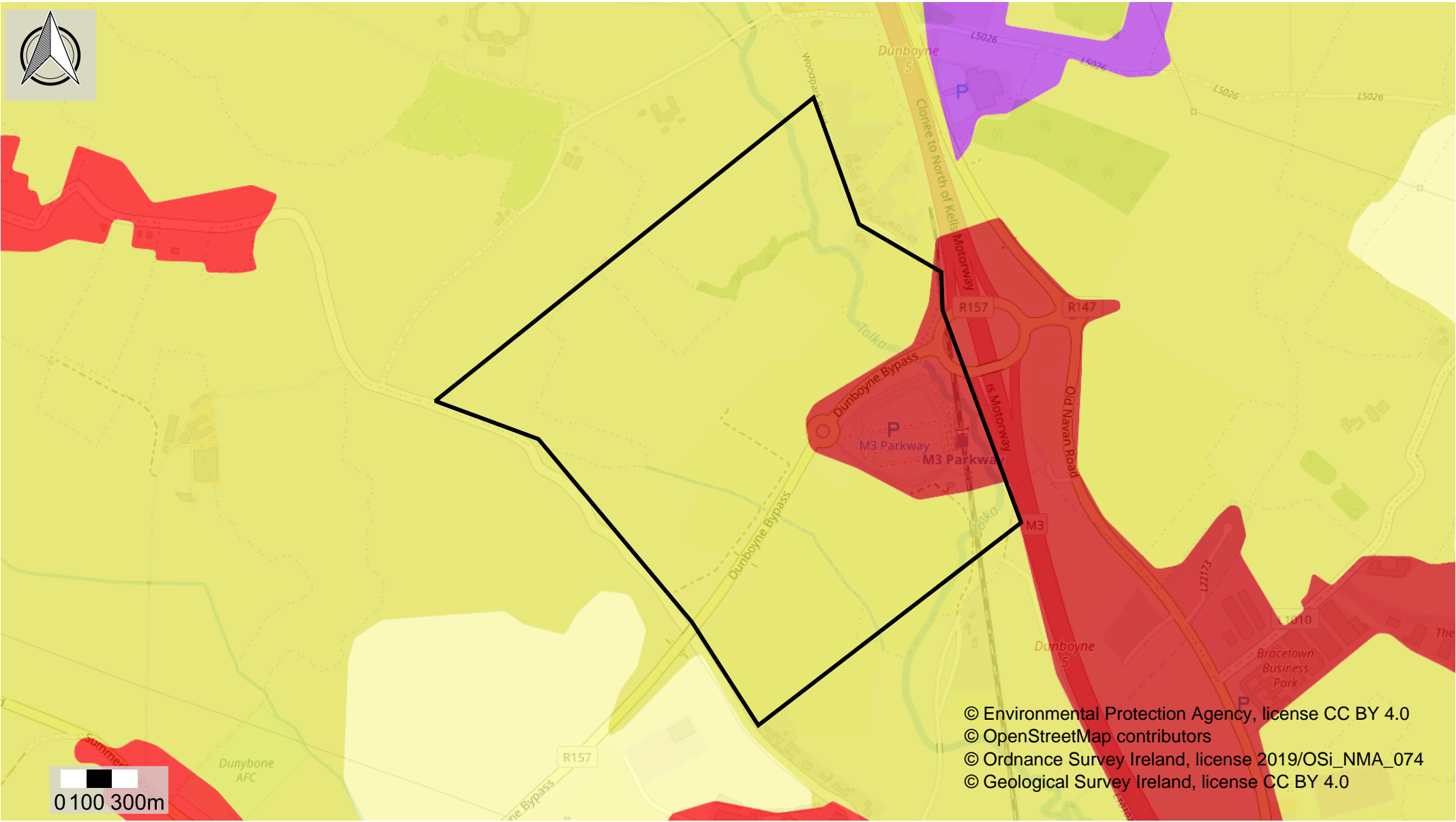


## Legend Map 6: Sand & Gravel Aquifer

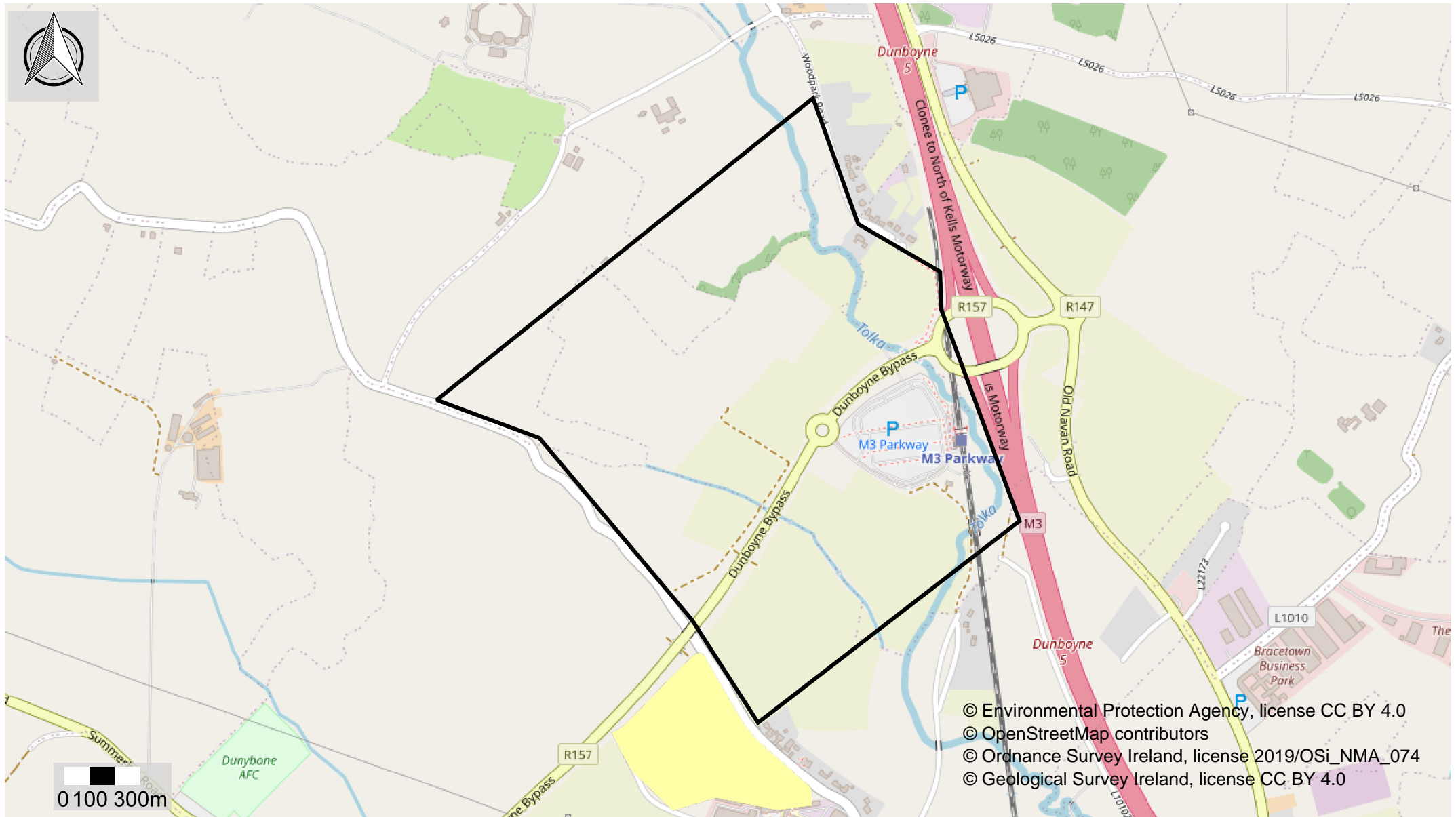
Sand & Gravel

 Lg - Locally Important Gravel Aquifer  Rg - Regionally Important Gravel Aquifer

# Map 7 – Landcover



Map 8 – Landcover change



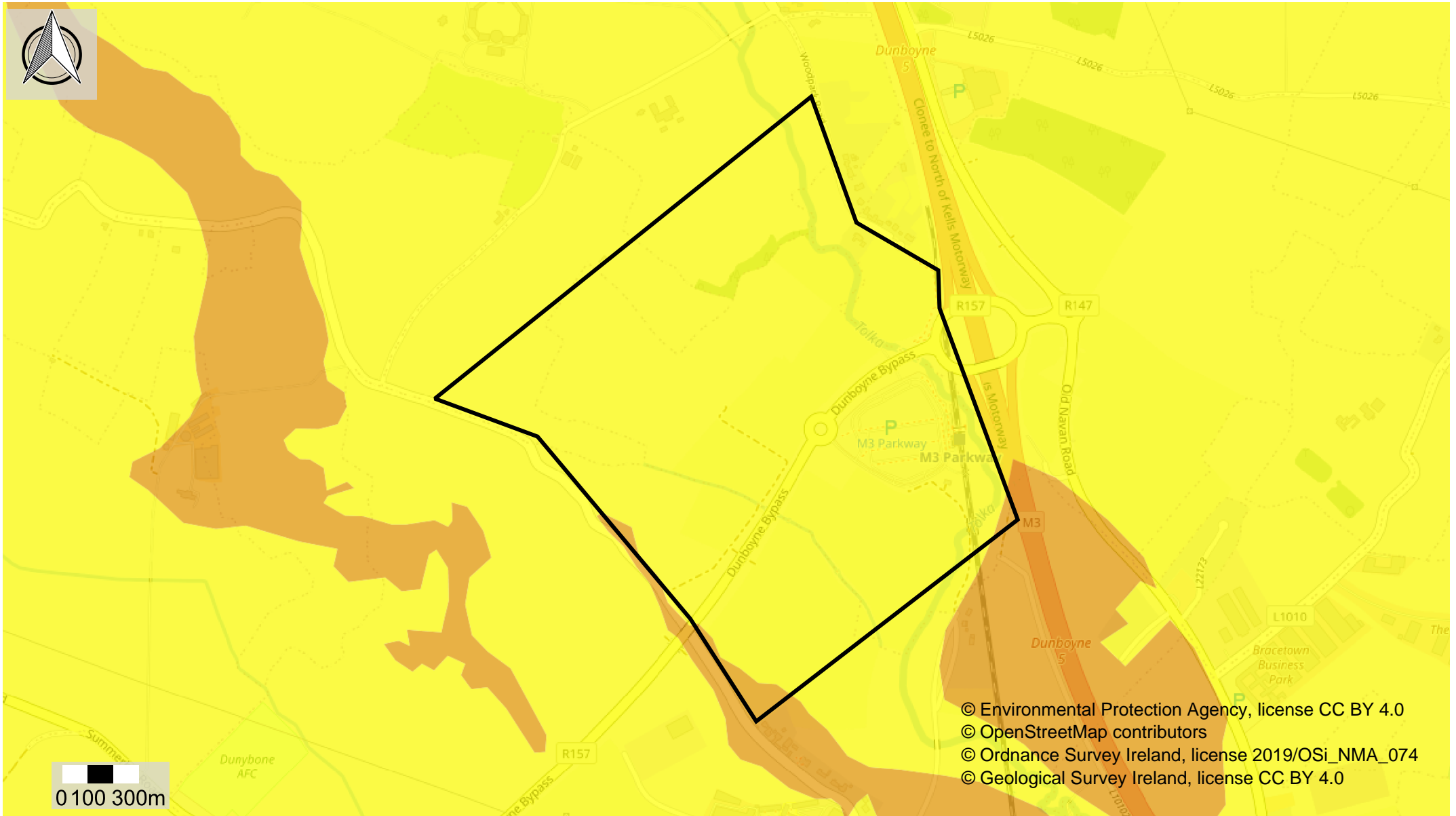


## Legend Map 7 & 8: Landcover and Landcover change

Corine 2018 | Corine Change 2012 - 2018




- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 111 Continuous urban fabric   | 313 Mixed forest                |
| 112 Discontinuous urban fabric  | 321 Natural grassland           |
| 121 Industrial or commercial units  | 322 Moors and heaths            |
| 122 Road and rail networks  | 324 Transitional woodland scrub |
| 123 Sea ports   | 331 Beaches, dunes, sand        |
| 124 Airports  | 332 Bare rocks                  |
| 131 Mineral extraction sites  | 333 Sparsely vegetated areas    |
| 132 Dump  | 334 Burnt areas                 |
| 133 Construction sites  | 411 Inland marshes              |
| 141 Green urban areas   | 412 Peat bogs                   |
| 142 Sport and leisure facilities  | 421 Salt marshes                |
| 211 Non-irrigated land  | 423 Intertidal flats            |
| 222 Fruit trees and berry plantation  | 511 Stream courses              |
| 231 Pastures  | 512 Water bodies                |
| 242 Complex cultivation patterns  | 521 Coastal lagoons             |
| 243 Land principally occupied by agriculture with areas of natural vegetation | 522 Estuaries                   |
| 311 Broad Leaved forest   |                                 |
| 312 Coniferous forest   |                                 |

# Map 9 – Radon Levels



**Legend Map 9: Radon Levels**

Radon map (radon concentration in excess of the national Reference Level of 200 bequerel per cubic metre(Bq/m3))

-  About 1 in 5 homes in this area is likely to have high radon levels
-  About 1 in 10 homes in this area is likely to have high radon levels
-  About 1 in 20 homes in this area is likely to have high radon levels

**Table A1.1 - WFD Water Quality Status Data**

Waterbody Name	2010-2012	2010-2015	2013-2018
TOLKA_020 (River)	Poor	Poor	Poor

Waterbody Name	2007-2012	2010-2015	2013-2018
Dublin (Groundwater)	Good	Good	Good

**Table A1.2 - Detailed Water Quality WFD Significant Pressures**

Pressure Category	Pressure Subcategory	Pressure Name	Licence Code	Licence Status
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**Table A2.1 - Detailed Water Catchment Data**

Catchment Type	Code	Name
WFD Catchments	09	Liffey and Dublin Bay
WFD SubCatchments	09_10	Tolka_SC_010

## Appendix 2 – Correspondence from Statutory Consultees

- **Environmental Protection Agency**
- **Geological Survey Ireland (Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications).**

Wendy Bagnall  
Senior Executive Planner  
Planning Department  
Meath County Council

04/11/2022

Our Ref: 221101.1

### **Re. SEA Screening for the Dunboyne North Master Plan – MP22 (2022)**

Dear Ms Bagnall,

We acknowledge your notice, dated 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022, in relation to the Dunboyne North Master Plan – MP22 (2022) (the ‘Plan’) and associated Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening.

The EPA is one of the statutory environmental authorities under the SEA Regulations. In our role as an SEA environmental authority, we focus on promoting the full and transparent integration of the findings of the Environmental Assessment into the Plan and advocating that the key environmental challenges for Ireland are addressed as relevant and appropriate to the plan. Our functions as an SEA environmental authority do not include approving or enforcing SEAs or plans.

As a priority, we focus our efforts on reviewing and commenting on key sector plans. For land use plans at county and local level, we provide a ‘self-service approach’ via our guidance document ‘[SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans – EPA Recommendations and Resources](#)’. This document is updated regularly and sets out our key recommendations for integrating environmental considerations into Local Authority land use plans. In finalising your SEA screening determination, we suggest that you take this guidance document into account and incorporate the relevant recommendations as relevant and appropriate to the Plan.

#### **Proposed SEA Determination**

We note your proposed determination regarding the need for SEA of the *Plan*.

Guidance on the SEA process, including an SEA pack and checklist available on our website at: <https://www.epa.ie/our-services/monitoring--assessment/assessment/strategic-environmental-assessment/sea-resources-and-guidance/>.



We recommend that you take the available guidance into account in finalising your SEA Screening Determination and incorporate the relevant recommendations as relevant and appropriate to the *Plan*.

### **Sustainable Development**

In proposing and in implementing the *Plan*, Meath County Council should ensure that the *Plan* is consistent with the need for proper planning and sustainable development. Adequate and appropriate critical service infrastructure should be in place, or required to be put in place, to service any development proposed and authorised during the lifetime of the *Plan*.

In considering the *Plan* Meath County Council should take into account the need to align with national commitments on climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as incorporating any relevant recommendations in sectoral, regional and local climate adaptation plans.

Meath County Council should also ensure that the *Plan* aligns with key relevant higher-level plans and programmes and is consistent with the relevant objectives and policy commitments of the National Planning Framework and the Eastern and Midlands Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.

### **State of the Environment Report – Ireland’s Environment 2020**

In preparing the *Plan* and associated SEA screening, the recommendations, key issues and challenges described in our published State of the Environment Report [Ireland’s Environment – An Integrated Assessment 2020 \(EPA, 2020\)](#) should be considered, as relevant and appropriate to the *Plan*. It should also be taken into account, in preparing the *Plan*.

### **Available Guidance & Resources**

Our website contains various SEA resources and guidance, including:

- SEA process guidance and checklists
- Inventory of spatial datasets relevant to SEA
- topic specific SEA guidance (including *Good practice note on Cumulative Effects Assessment* (EPA, 2020), *Guidance on SEA Statements and Monitoring* (EPA, 2020), *Integrating climatic factors into SEA* (EPA, 2019), *Developing and Assessing Alternatives in SEA* (EPA, 2015), and *Integrated Biodiversity Impact Assessment* (EPA, 2012))

You can access these guidance notes and other resources at: <https://www.epa.ie/our-services/monitoring--assessment/assessment/strategic-environmental-assessment/sea-topic-and-sector-specific-guidance/>

### **Environmental Sensitivity Mapping (ESM) WebTool**

This new tool was launched recently by the EPA. It is a new decision support tool to assist SEA and planning processes in Ireland. It is available at [www.enviromap.ie](http://www.enviromap.ie). The

tool brings together over 100 datasets and allows users to create plan-specific environmental sensitivity maps. These maps can help planners examine environmental considerations, anticipate potential land-use conflicts, and help identify suitable development locations while also protecting the environment.

#### ***EPA SEA WebGIS Tool***

Our SEA WebGIS Tool has been updated recently and is now publicly available at <https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/SEA>. It allows public authorities to produce an indicative report on key aspects of the environment in a specific geographic area. It is intended to assist public authorities in SEA screening and scoping exercises.

#### ***EPA WFD Application***

Our WFD Application provides access to water quality and catchment data from the national WFD monitoring programme. The Application is accessed through EDEN <https://wfd.edenireland.ie/> and is available to public agencies. Publicly available data can be accessed via the [www.catchments.ie](http://www.catchments.ie) website.

#### **Future amendments to the Plan**

Where changes to the Plan are made prior to finalisation, or where modifications to the Plan are proposed following its adoption, these should be screened for potential for likely significant effects in accordance with the criteria set out in Schedule 2A of the SEA Regulations (S.I. No. 436 of 2004).

#### **Appropriate Assessment**

You should ensure that the *Plan* complies with the requirements of the Habitats Directive where relevant. Where Appropriate Assessment is required, the key findings and recommendations should be incorporated into the SEA and the *Plan*.

#### ***EPA AA GeoTool***

Our AA GeoTool application has been developed in partnership with the NPWS. It allows users to select a location, specify a search area and gather available information for each European Site within the area. It is available at: <https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/AAGeoTool>.

#### **Environmental Authorities**

Under the SEA Regulations, prior to making your SEA determination you should consult with:

- Environmental Protection Agency;
- Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage
- Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications; and
- Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine.
- any adjoining planning authority whose area is contiguous to the area of a planning authority which prepared a draft plan, proposed variation or local area plan.

**SEA Determination**

As soon as practicable after making your determination as to whether SEA is required or not, you should make a copy of your decision, including, as appropriate, the reasons for not requiring an environmental assessment, available for public inspection in your offices and on your website. You should also send a copy of your determination to the relevant environmental authorities consulted.

If you have any queries or need further information in relation to this submission, please contact me directly. I would be grateful if you could send an email confirming receipt of this submission to: [sea@epa.ie](mailto:sea@epa.ie).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background, appearing to read 'Lee Kelly'.

---

Lee Kelly  
*SEA Section*  
*Office of Evidence and Assessment*



Meath County Council  
Navan  
Co. Meath C15 Y291

15 November 2022

**Re: SEA Screening for Dunboyne North Master Plan, Co Meath**

**Your Ref: n/a**  
**Our Ref: 22/454**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. We provide independent geological information and advice and gather various data for that purpose. Please see our [website](#) for data availability. We recommend using these various data sets, when conducting the EIAR, SEA, planning and scoping processes. Use of our data or maps should be attributed correctly to 'Geological Survey Ireland'.

With reference to your email received on the 07 November 2022, concerning the SEA Screening for Dunboyne North Master Plan, Co Meath, Geological Survey Ireland would encourage use of and reference to our datasets. This data can add to the content and robustness of the SEA process. With this in mind, please find attached a list of our publicly available datasets that may be useful to the environmental assessment and planning process. We recommend that you review this list and refer to any datasets you consider relevant to your assessment. The remainder of this letter and following sections provide more detail on some of these datasets.

**Geoheritage**

A national inventory of geoheritage sites known as County Geological Sites (CGSs) is managed by the Geoheritage Programme of Geological Survey Ireland. CGSs, as adopted under the National Heritage Plan, include sites that are of national importance which have been selected as the very best examples for NHA (Natural Heritage Areas) designation. NHA designation will be completed in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). CGSs are now routinely included in County Development Plans and in the GIS of planning departments, to ensure the recognition and appropriate protection of geological heritage within the planning system. CGSs can be viewed online under the Geological Heritage tab on the online [Map Viewer](#).

The audit for Co. Meath was carried out in 2007. The full report details can be found [here](#). **Our records show that there are no CGSs in the vicinity of the Dunboyne North Master Plan.**

**Groundwater**

Geological Survey Ireland's [Groundwater and Geothermal Unit](#), provides advice, data and maps relating to groundwater distribution, quality and use, which is especially relevant for safe and secure drinking water supplies and healthy ecosystems.

Proposed developments need to consider any potential impact on specific groundwater abstractions and on groundwater resources in general. We recommend using the groundwater maps on our [Map viewer](#) which should include: wells; drinking water source protection areas; the national map suite - aquifer, groundwater vulnerability, groundwater recharge and subsoil permeability maps. For areas underlain by limestone, please refer to the karst specific data layers (karst features, tracer test database; turlough water levels (gwlevel.ie). Background information is also provided in the Groundwater Body Descriptions. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data.

**The Groundwater Data Viewer indicates an aquifer classed as a 'Locally Important Aquifer - Bedrock which is Moderately Productive only in Local Zones' underlies the proposed Master Plan area.**

**The Groundwater Vulnerability map indicates the range of groundwater vulnerabilities within the area covered is variable. We would therefore recommend use of the Groundwater Viewer to identify areas of High to Extreme Vulnerability and 'Rock at or near surface' in your assessments, as any groundwater-surface water interactions that might occur would be greatest in these areas.**



There is a groundwater drinking water abstraction within the Dunboyne North Mater Plan area for which there is a source protection area: Dunboyne Public Water Scheme (PWS). Link to report at:

[https://secure.dccae.gov.ie/GSI\\_DOWNLOAD/Groundwater/Reports/SPZ/MH\\_PWSS\\_SPZ\\_Dunboyne\\_June\\_2004\\_GSI.pdf](https://secure.dccae.gov.ie/GSI_DOWNLOAD/Groundwater/Reports/SPZ/MH_PWSS_SPZ_Dunboyne_June_2004_GSI.pdf)

Key to groundwater protection in general, and protection of specific drinking water supplies, is preventing ingress of runoff to the aquifer. With any potential infrastructure projects such as roads, design of any drainage will need to be cognisant of this supply scheme and the interactions between surface water and groundwater as well as run-off. Appropriate design should be undertaken by qualified and competent persons to include mitigation measures as necessary, such as SUDs or other drainage mitigation measures. Given the nearby drinking water source, the effects of any potential contamination / dewatering as a result of any developments would need to be assessed.

[GWClimate](#) is a groundwater monitoring and modelling project that aims to investigate the impact of climate change on groundwater in Ireland. This is a follow on from a previous project (GWFlood) and the data may be useful in relation to Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and management plans. Maps and data are available on the [Map viewer](#).

Geological Survey Ireland has completed Groundwater Protection Schemes (GWPSs) in partnership with Local Authorities, and there is now national coverage of GWPS mapping. A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater. **The Groundwater Protection Response overview and link to the main reports is here:** <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater/projects/protecting-drinking-water/what-is-drinking-water-protection/county-groundwater-protection-schemes/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Geological Mapping**

Geological Survey Ireland maintains online datasets of bedrock and subsoils geological mapping that are reliable and accessible. We would encourage you to use these data which can be found [here](#), in your future assessments.

**Please note we have recently launched QGIS compatible bedrock (100K) and Quaternary geology map data, with instructional manuals and videos. This makes our data more accessible to general public and external stakeholders. QGIS compatible data can be found in our downloadable bedrock 100k .zip file on the [Data & Maps](#) section of our website.**

### **Natural Resources (Minerals/Aggregates)**

Geological Survey Ireland provides data, maps, interpretations and advice on matters related to minerals, their use and their development in our [Minerals section](#) of the website. The Active Quarries, Mineral Localities and the Aggregate Potential maps are available on our [Map Viewer](#).

We would recommend use of the Aggregate Potential Mapping viewer to identify areas of High to Very High source aggregate potential within the area. In keeping with a sustainable approach we would recommend use of our data and mapping viewers to identify and ensure that natural resources used in any proposed developments are sustainably sourced from properly recognised and licensed facilities, and that consideration of future resource sterilization is considered.

### **Geochemistry of soils, surface waters and sediments**

Geological Survey Ireland provides baseline geochemistry data for Ireland as part of the Tellus programme. Baseline geochemistry data can be used to assess the chemical status of soil and water at a regional scale and to support the assessment of existing or potential impacts of human activity on environmental chemical quality. Tellus is a national-scale mapping programme which provides multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water in Ireland. At present, mapping consists of the border, western and midland regions. Data is available at <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/Geochemistry.aspx>. This page also hosts Geochemical Mapping of Agricultural and Grazing Land Soil of Europe (GEMAS) and litho-geochemistry (rock geochemistry) from southeast Ireland datasets. Geological Survey Ireland and partners are undertaking applied geochemistry projects to provide data for agriculture ([Terra Soil](#)), waste soil characterisation ([Geochemically Appropriate Levels for Soil Recovery Facilities](#)) and mineral exploration ([Mineral Prospectivity Mapping](#)).



I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me Clare Glanville, or my colleague Trish Smullen at [GSIPanning@gsi.ie](mailto:GSIPanning@gsi.ie).

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Clare Glanville  
**Senior Geologist**  
**Geological Survey Ireland**

Trish Smullen  
**Geoheritage and Planning Programme**  
**Geological Survey Ireland**

Enc: Table - Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes.

**Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes**  
following European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018  
(S.I. No. 296 of 2018)

Geological Survey Ireland Programme	Dataset	Relevant EIA Topic	Coverage	Description / Notes / Limitations	Link to Geological Survey Ireland map viewer
Geohazards	Landslide: National landslide database and landslide susceptibility map	Land & Soil/Climate/Landscape	National	Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b68cf1e4a9044a5981f950e9b9c5625c">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b68cf1e4a9044a5981f950e9b9c5625c</a>
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Historic)	Water	Regional	Provide information of historic flooding, both surface water and groundwater. [A lack of flooding presented in any specific location of the map only indicates that a flood has not been detected. It does not indicate that a flood cannot occur in that location at present or in the future]	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc</a>
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Predictive)	Water	Regional	Provides information on the probability of future karst groundwater flooding (where available). [The maps do not, and are not intended to, constitute advice. Professional or specialist advice should be sought before taking, or refraining from, any action on the basis of the flood maps]	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc</a>
Geohazards	Radon Map	Land & Soils/Air	National		<a href="http://www.epa.ie/radiation/radonmap/">http://www.epa.ie/radiation/radonmap/</a>
Geoheritage	County Geological Sites as adopted by National Heritage Plan and listed in County Development Plans	Land & Soils/Landscape	Regional	All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS.	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0b2fbd2aaac3c228">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0b2fbd2aaac3c228</a>
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	National	1:100,000 scale and associated memoirs.	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	Regional	1:50,000 scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Sediments	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Geomorphology	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Physiographic units:	Land & Soils	National	Broad-scale physical landscape units mapped at 1:100,000 scale in order to be represented as a cartographic digital map at 1:250,000 scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=afa76a420f54877843aca1bc075c62b">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=afa76a420f54877843aca1bc075c62b</a>
Geological Mapping	GeoUrban: Spatial geological data for the greater Dublin and Cork areas	Land & Soils	Regional	Includes 3D models	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9768f4818b794c16093beb2212a850ce6&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9768f4818b794c16093beb2212a850ce6&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Geotechnical database	Land & Soils	National	Digitised geotechnical and Site Investigation Reports and boreholes which can be accessed through online downloads	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a21718be1873d47a585a3f0415b4a724c">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a21718be1873d47a585a3f0415b4a724c</a>
Goldmine	Historical data sets including geological memoirs and 6" to 1 mile geological mapping records	Land & Soils/Water	National	available online	<a href="https://secure.dcca.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html">https://secure.dcca.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater resources (aquifers)	Water	National	Data limited to 1:100,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater recharge.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale; long term annual average recharge	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater vulnerability.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Group scheme and public supply source protection areas.	Water	National	Not all PWS / GWS have SPZ / ZOC. Check with IW / coco / NFGWS for private supplies.	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater Protection Schemes	Water	National	Data is limited to scale of 1:40,000. Data does not include all of the source protection areas	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Catchment and WFD management units.	Water	National		<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	karst specific data layers	water	National	For areas underlain by limestone, includes karst features, tracer test database; turf/rough water levels (gwlevel.ie)	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Wells and Springs	Water	National	Not comprehensive, there may be unrecorded wells and springs	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater body Descriptions	Water	National	Not exhaustive; only those in designated SACs; could be other GWDTEs; for more information contact NPWS / EPA / site investigations Also, Roadmap for a Policy and Regulatory Framework for Geothermal Energy, November 2020	<a href="https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater/Pages/Groundwater-bodies.aspx">https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater/Pages/Groundwater-bodies.aspx</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Geothermal Suitability maps	Land & Soils/Water	National		<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9e46be08de41278b90a9916d0c0b9e">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9e46be08de41278b90a9916d0c0b9e</a>
Marine & Coastal Unit	INFOMAR - Ireland's national marine mapping programme; providing key baseline data for Ireland's	Water	National		<a href="https://secure.dcca.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/">https://secure.dcca.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/</a>
Marine & Coastal Unit	CHERISH - Coastal change project (Climate, Heritage and Environments of Reefs, Islands, and Headlands)	Water	Regional		<a href="http://www.cherishproject.eu/en/">http://www.cherishproject.eu/en/</a>
Marine & Coastal Unit	Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI).	water / Land & Soils	Regional	Currently the project is being carried out on the east coast and will be rolled out nationally	<a href="https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-Index.aspx">https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-Index.aspx</a>
Minerals	Aggregate potential	Land & Soils/Material Assets	National	Consideration of mineral resources and potential resources as a material asset which should be explicitly recognised within the environmental assessment process	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956</a>
Minerals	Active quarries	Land & Soils	National		<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956</a>
Minerals	Historic mines	Land & Soils/Cultural Heritage	National	Inventory and Risk Classification 2009. Environmental Protection Agency, Economic Minerals Division and Geological Survey Ireland (DECC).	<a href="https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/default?zesting=7&amp;northing=7&amp;lid=EPA:LEMA_Facilities_Extractive_Facilities">https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/default?zesting=7&amp;northing=7&amp;lid=EPA:LEMA_Facilities_Extractive_Facilities</a> <a href="https://www.epa.ie/enforcement/mines/">https://www.epa.ie/enforcement/mines/</a>
Tellus	Geochemical data: multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754</a>
Tellus	Airborne geophysical data including radiometrics, electromagnetics and magnetics	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754</a>
Tellus	urban geochemistry mapping (Dublin SURGE project).	Land & Soils	Regional		<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754</a>

- Notes:  
**1. The maps and data listed above are available on the Geological Survey Ireland map viewer <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx>**  
**2. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data**  
**3. Geological Survey Ireland and Irish Concrete Federation published guidelines for the treatment of geological heritage in the extractive industry in 2008.**