

**Appropriate Assessment Determination under the  
European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 (as amended)  
for the  
Burren and Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience Development Plan**


An Appropriate Assessment (AA) Determination, pursuant to Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive, as to whether a plan or project would adversely affect the integrity of a European Site, and Regulation 42 (11) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended), is being made by Fáilte Ireland.

In carrying out this AA, Fáilte Ireland is taking into account the relevant matters specified under Regulation 42 (12) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended). The AA Natura Impact Statement (which considers other plans and projects) has been carefully considered and its reasoning and conclusion agreed with and adopted. All other documents prepared and submitted during the preparation process for the Burren and Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience Development Plan were also considered in making this determination, including the Plan to be finalised and written submissions made on the Draft Plan and associated documents while they were on public display.

It is determined that the risks to the safeguarding and integrity of the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of the Natura 2000 network have been addressed by the inclusion of achievable mitigation measures that will prioritise the avoidance of impacts in the first place and reliably mitigate these impacts where they cannot be avoided. Furthermore, in order to be realised, projects included in the Plan will have to comply, as relevant, with the various provisions of legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier AA) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework, of which the Plan is not part and does not contribute towards.

Having incorporated these mitigation commitments; it is determined that implementation of the Burren and Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience Development Plan will not have a significant adverse effect on the ecological integrity of any European Site, either individually or in combination with any other plan or project<sup>1</sup>. Therefore, no further assessment is required.

Date: 28.01.20 \_\_\_\_\_

Signed:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Signatory  
Approved Officer

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<sup>1</sup> Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be:

- a) No alternative solution available,
- b) Imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and
- c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.