

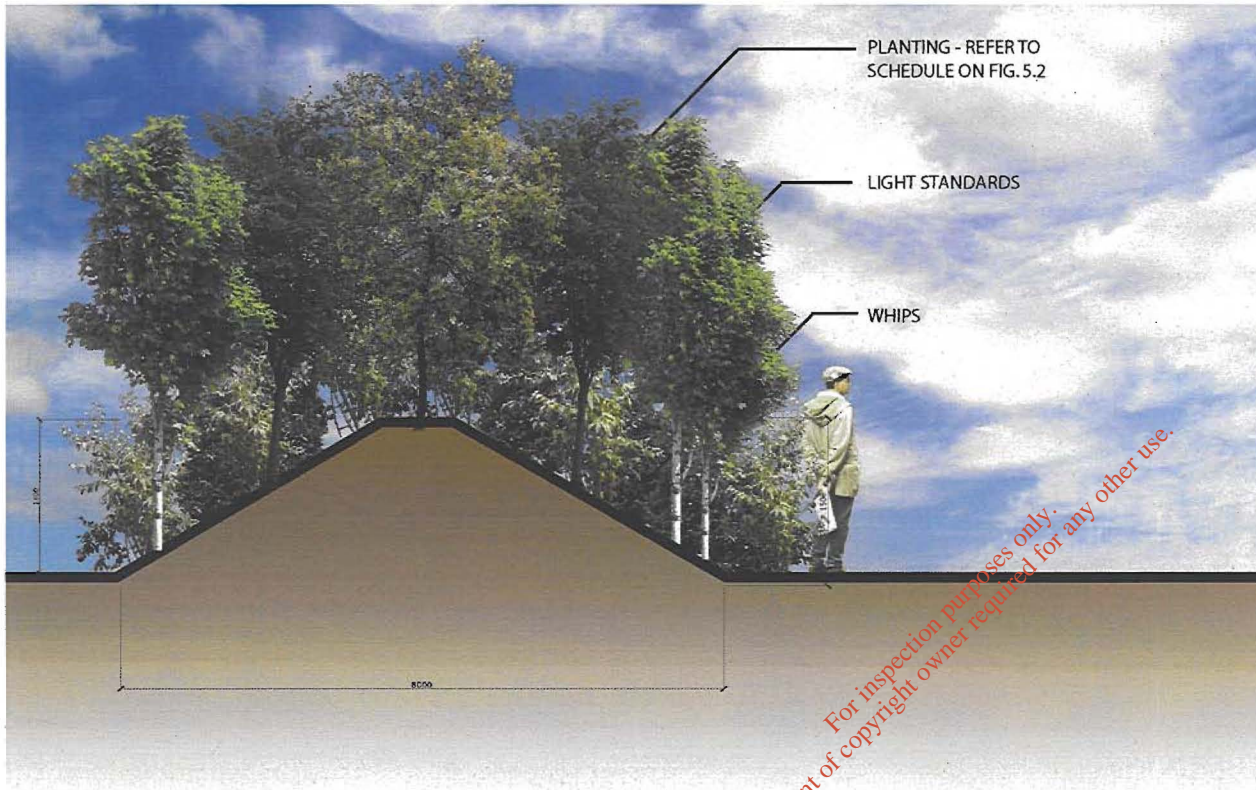
1. PRELIMINARY TREATMENT (SCREENING, GRII REMOVAL & PRE-AERATION)
2. PRIMARY SETTLEMENT TANKS
3. STORMWATER SETTLEMENT TANKS
4. AERATION TANKS
5. SECONDARY SETTLEMENT TANKS
6. TREATED EFFLUENT MONITORING CHAMBER
7. PRIMARY SLUDGE THICKENER TANK
8. ACTIVATED SLUDGE BUILDING (CONTAINING WASTE ACTIVATED SLUDGE BELL THICKENER)
9. ANEROBIC SLUDGE DICESTERS
10. DIGESTED SLUDGE STORAGE TANK
11. BIOGAS HOLDER
12. SLUDGE TREATMENT BUILDING (HOUSING THE DIGESTED SLUDGE DEWATERING SYSTEM AND THE SLUDGE DRYING PLANT)
13. DRIED SLUDGE STORAGE SILD
14. ADMINISTRATION / CONTROL BUILDING
15. PRELIMINARY TREATMENT ODOUR CONTROL UNIT
16. PRIMARY SLUDGE ODOUR CONTROL TREATMENT UNIT
17. SECONDARY SLUDGE ODOUR TREATMENT UNIT

- LEGEND**
- PROPOSED SITE
 - RISING MAIN
 - FOUL SEWER
 - STORM SEWER
 - PROPOSED BYPASS
 - ESB CABLE
 - INDICATES SPACE AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE EXPANSION

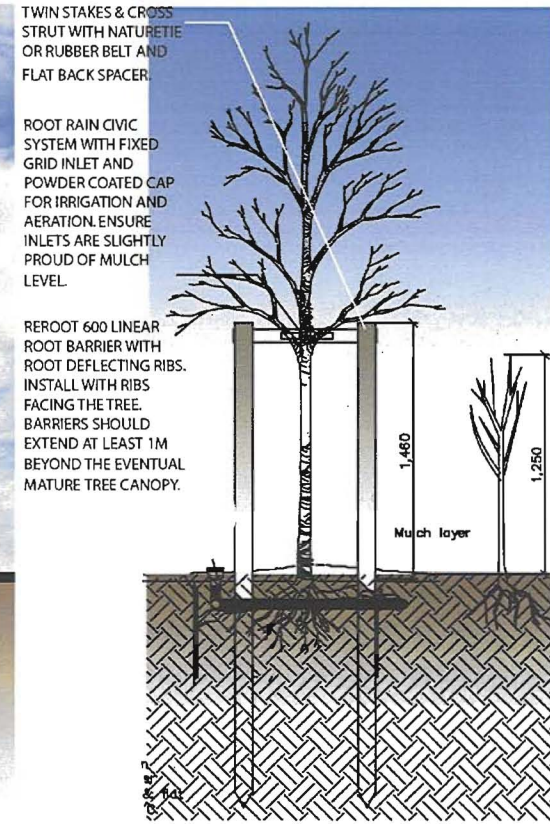
Planting Schedule

Cork Lower Harbour WWTP				
8000m2 of woodland planting				
Whips & feathery				
%	Nr	Species	Size (ht)	Density
20	1025	Alnus cordata	90-120cm	1.2m ctrs
20	1025	Betula pendula	90-120cm	1.2m ctrs
20	1025	Salix alba	90-120cm	1.2m ctrs
10	513	Cistus corbanticola	90-120cm	1.2m ctrs
20	1025	Fraxinus excelsior	90-120cm	1.2m ctrs
5	255	Quercus robur	90-120cm	1.2m ctrs
5	255	Sorbus aucuparia	90-120cm	1.2m ctrs
Shrubs				
%	Nr	Species	Size (ht)	Density
35	5600	Crataegus monogynum	30-40cm	1.0/m2
35	5600	Viburnum tinus	30-40cm	1.0/m2
30	4800	Ribes sanguineum	30-40cm	1.0/m2
Light Standards				
%	Nr	Species	Size (Girth)	Density
34	108	Corylus Avellana	10-12cm	5.0m ctrs
33	106	Quercus robur	10-12cm	5.0m ctrs
33	106	Sorbus Aucuparia	10-12cm	5.0m ctrs

FIGURE 3.9.2 PLANTING SCHEDULE

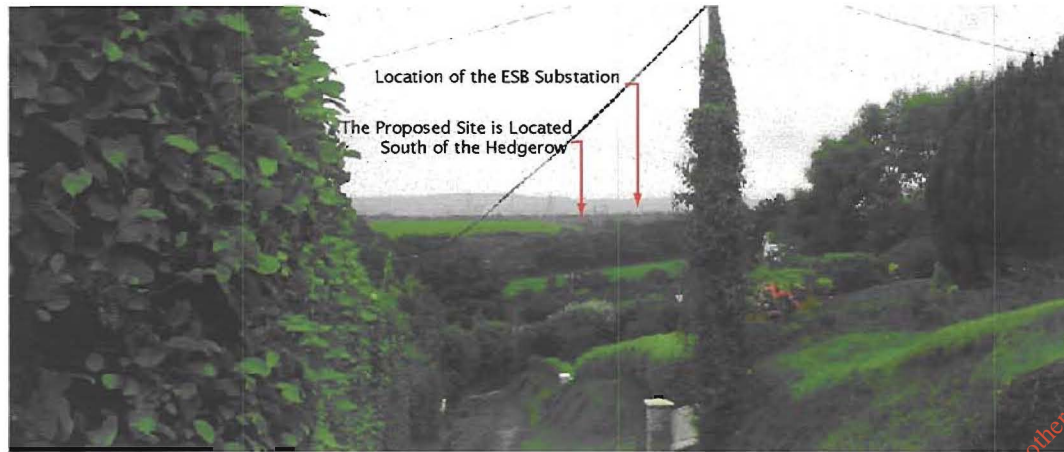


Section A-A'
Proposed Boundary (5-10 years)



Detail 1
Tree & whip planting

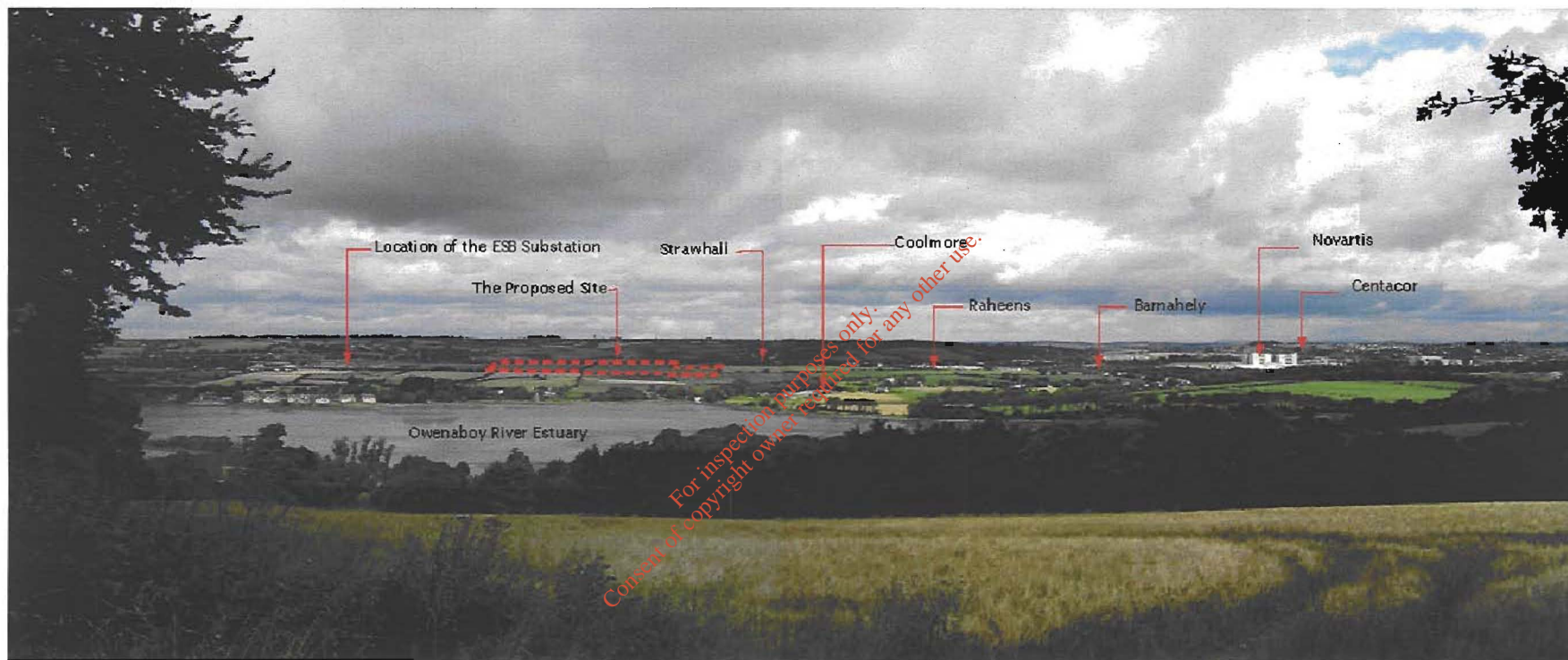
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Photograph View 1 - View From the North Towards the Site Which is Barely Visible on the Riddeline.



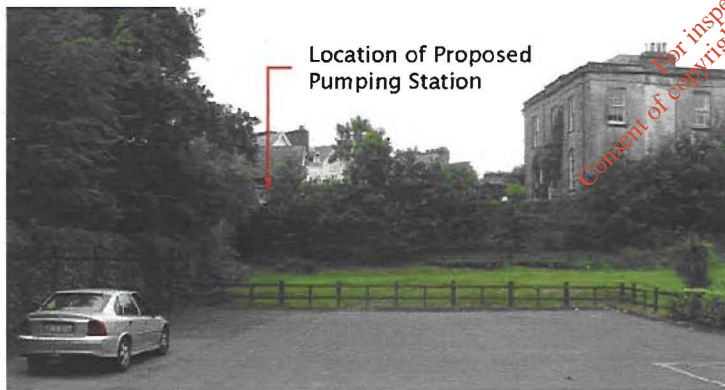
Photograph View 2 - View From the East at Raheens/Barnaheely, Local Hedges Screen the Site.



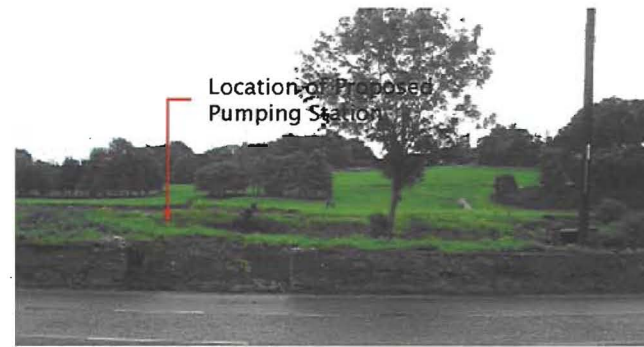
Photograph View 3 - View from the South at Frenchfurze Across the Owenaboy River to the Site
Relevant Local Locations are Highlighted.



Photograph View 4 View from the West at the Eastern Extents of Carrigaline. The Site is Barely Visible Beyond Existing Vegetation



Photograph View 5 - Proposed Location of the Monkstown Pumping Station



Photograph View 6 - Proposed Location of the Rafeen Pumping Station



Photograph View 7 View from the harbour wall at West Beach, Cobh towards the old Post Office Building



Photograph View 8 - View from Pearse Square to the harbour at West Beach, Cobh

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4 Interactions of the Foregoing

This section describes the interactions between the various impacts identified in the previous sections of the present statement during both the construction and operational phases of the proposed development.

While all environmental factors are inter-related to some extent, the significant interactions and inter-dependencies were taken into consideration by the specialist environmental consultants when drafting their technical reports. Consequently these interactions were integrated into the individual sub-sections in Section 3.0 of this EIS.

A simple matrix method has been used (Introduction to Environmental Impact Assessment, Glasson, Therivel and Chadwick, 1999), in which the environmental components addressed in the previous sections of this statement have been placed on both axes of a matrix, and interactions between the various components have then been identified and given a significance rating. It must be noted that each impact is therefore identified twice in the symmetric matrix (refer to the following Table 4.1 Interaction of Impacts during Construction and Operational Phase).

4.1 Human Beings Interactions

Human Beings and Water Quality

It is expected that during the operational phase the development of development there will be a positive impact on human beings due to the improvement in infrastructure and water quality associated with the development.

Human Beings and Material Assets

During the construction phase of the development, there will be short-term, slight negative impact on human beings, due to increased traffic, short-term nuisance impacts to nearby recreational facilities and natural amenities. Human beings will be positively impacted by the improved resource of Cork Lower Harbour during the operational phase of the development, due to improved water quality which will facilitate continued growth and development in the surrounding towns and villages. The improved water quality will also positively impact the recreational value of the waters, fishing and shellfish production.

Human Beings and Air Quality, Odour and Climate

Due to the scale of the proposed development, neither during the construction phase nor operational phases are impacts identified on climate. As such, consequently there are no envisaged interactions between the regional and local climate with human beings.

The primary interaction between air quality and human beings will be the release of odour from the waste water treatment process and traffic emissions from vehicles travelling to and from the facility. However, on effective implementation of the proposed mitigation measures, no residual impacts to the air quality due to the proposed development are envisaged.

Predicted vehicle exhaust emissions as a result of the average vehicle movements to and for the proposed development will be significantly below the relevant limits, as contained in the national Air Quality Standards Regulations 2002 (S.I. No. 271 of 2002) and indicate an imperceptible air pollution impact as a result of increased traffic volumes.

Odour and pollutant emissions have the potential to cause the nuisance to human beings; however, since there are no significant impacts envisaged in relation to odour due to the proposed development, interactions between odour and human beings are considered to be imperceptible.

Human Beings and Noise and Vibrations

During construction and operation of the WWTP noise levels are predicted to have negligible impacts on human beings. During the construction of the major pumping stations, noise impacts will be slight at the nearest houses, however, should not exceed the NRA 70dB(A) criterion. During construction of the pipelines the noise levels will be typically less than 65dB(A), however, occasionally levels of over 70dB(A) may be reached but only for short periods and therefore residences in close proximity may experience short periods of noise levels over 70dB(A). Impacts from vibration at residences in proximity to pumping stations will be mitigated for by incorporation of suitable vibration isolation as appropriate.

Human Beings and Landscape and Visual Assessment

The proposed development is likely to have slightly or moderately negative impacts on visual amenity in the short term during the construction phase, but no significant medium or long term impacts on the landscape or visual amenity of the area are anticipated.

4.2 Terrestrial and Marine Ecology Interactions

Terrestrial and Marine Ecology and Water Quality

During construction of the marine crossing, increased sedimentation will result in temporary slight impacts on water quality. During the operation of the WWTP and collection system, water quality in Cork Lower Harbour is expected to improve, which will affect the type of organisms present in the water. Species diversity in the Lower Harbour is expected to increase with improved water quality resulting in a moderate positive impact in terms of ecology.

Terrestrial and Marine Ecology and Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology

During the construction phase of the development, the removal of soils and overburden for the construction of the WWTP will result in the loss of some hedgerow and improved agricultural grassland. However, these impacts are deemed slight to imperceptible following the implementation of mitigation measures.

Terrestrial and Marine Ecology and Material Assets

During the construction phase, there will be slight negative impacts on ecology and the natural heritage and natural resources adjacent to construction works. However, the proposed development will result in improved water quality in the Lower Harbour, thus positively impacting on the ecology of the harbour environment. This in turn will have a positive effect on fish and shellfish in the harbour waters. Thus the value of this natural resource will increase during the operational phase of the proposed development.

Terrestrial and Marine Ecology and Air Quality, Odour and Climate

During construction of the WWTP and increase in dust may alter soil and water chemistry, which may have impacts on the composition of plant and invertebrate communities. Dust can have direct impacts on insect and other invertebrate populations. Impacts on plant and invertebrate communities may result in knock-on effects further up the food chain. However, upon the implementation of mitigation measures, impacts of dust on ecology will be temporary and slight.

Terrestrial and Marine Ecology and Noise and Vibration

During construction activities, noise and movement created by people and machinery will generate a certain amount of disturbance to local mammals and birds. The disturbance, if any, is likely to be limited to the construction phase of the proposed development. Birds are able to acclimatise to regular patterns of noise disturbance. However, due to the proximity of some of the works to pNHAs and Cork Harbour SPA, method statements for works along the foreshore and for the marine crossing will be developed in consultation with the NPWS, DAFF and SWRFB. The NPWS will be consulted with respect to the protection of the badger sett to the north east of the WWTP site. It is not anticipated that there will be any significant negative impacts on ecology resulting from the operation of the proposed development.

Terrestrial and Marine Ecology and Landscape

The removal of trees, hedgerow and agricultural grassland will alter the landscape at the WWTP site. However, upon implementation of mitigation measures, the amount of hedgerow to be removed will be minimised and as the proposed screen planting on the northern boundary of the site matures visual impacts will reduce from slight negative to imperceptible.

4.3 Water Quality Interactions

Interactions between water quality and human beings and ecology have previously been discussed in Sections 4.1 and 4.2.

Water Quality and Material Assets

During the construction phase there will be temporary slight negative impacts on water quality in Cork Lower Harbour, due to increased sedimentation, thus temporarily affecting this natural amenity and resource. Cork Lower Harbour is a major natural resource and is used extensively for recreational purposes as well as for fishing and shellfish production and the operation of the proposed development will result in improved water quality in the Lower Harbour thus positively impacting on the recreational and economic value of the harbour.

4.4 Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology Interactions

Interactions between Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology and Terrestrial and Marine Ecology have been previously discussed in Section 4.2.

Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology and Material Assets

The permanent removal of soil and overburden for the construction of the WWTP will result in an imperceptible impact in both a local and regional context, for both the construction and operational phases of the development.

Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology and Air Quality, Odour and Climate

Following the implementation of dust suppression mitigation measures the removal of topsoil and stockpiled material will result in a temporary slight to imperceptible negative impact on air quality (particulates) during the construction phase. No impacts are predicted for the operation phase.

Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology and Landscape

There may be a temporary impact on soils arising from the storage of topsoil material for re-use, the view of which will have a slight negative impact on the landscape. The interaction will be temporary only during the construction phase.

4.5 Material Assets Interactions

Interactions between Material Assets and Human Beings, Terrestrial and Marine Ecology and Water Quality have been previously discussed in Sections 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 respectively.

Material Assets and Air Quality, Odour and Climate

Dust impacts during construction and odour impacts during the operational phase can cause a reduction in amenity value, in the proximity of developments of this nature. With appropriate design and effective management in addition to the implementation of the mitigation measures, odour and air impacts on recreational and amenity assets is predicted to be imperceptible during both construction and operational phases.

4.6 Air Quality, Odour and Climate Interactions

Interactions between Air Quality, Odour and Climate and Human Beings, Terrestrial and Marine Ecology, Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology and Material Assets have been described in Sections 4.1, 4.2, 4.4 and 4.5 respectively.

4.7 Noise and Vibration Interactions

Interactions between Noise and Vibration and Human Beings and Terrestrial and Marine Ecology have been described in Sections 4.1 and 4.2 respectively.

Noise and Vibration and Cultural Heritage

During the construction phase, the potential exists for the vibration of machinery to negatively impact on nearby extant archaeological features. However, following the implementation of mitigation measures the impact is deemed to be imperceptible.

4.8 Cultural Heritage Interactions

As specified in section 3.8 *Cultural Heritage*, there exists the potential for previously un-recorded findings of cultural heritage value to be discovered during the construction phase of the proposed development. In the event of the excavation of a cultural heritage finding being required, this activity could result in environmental impacts on a number of media, e.g. landscape, terrestrial ecology, marine and aquatic ecology. It is inappropriate at this stage to attempt quantification of these impacts due to the lack of specific information. Cultural Heritage and Noise and Vibration interactions have been discussed in Section 4.7.

Cultural Heritage and Landscape and Visual Assessment

The landscape in general is rich in cultural heritage elements with the most important being Cobh Town with its historic past and protected structures. Construction of the collection system and pumping station at West Beach, Cobh will have a significant negative visual impact on this cultural heritage site. This impact will be mitigated by the appropriate design of the building and the loss of views will be mitigated by improved views from the new public amenity area.

4.9 Landscape and Visual Assessment Interactions

Interactions between Landscape and Visual Assessment and Human Beings, Terrestrial and Marine Ecology and Cultural Heritage have been discussed previously in Sections 4.1, 4.2 and 4.8 respectively.

Table 4.1: Interactions of Impacts during Construction and Operation of Proposed Development

	HUMAN BEINGS		TERRESTRIAL AND MARINE ECOLOGY		WATER QUALITY		SOILS, GEOLOGY AND HYDROGEOLOGY		MATERIAL ASSETS		AIR QUALITY, ODOUR AND CLIMATE		NOISE AND VIBRATION		CULTURAL HERITAGE		LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL ASSESSMENT	
	Const.	Oper.	Const.	Oper.	Const.	Oper.	Const.	Oper.	Const.	Oper.	Const.	Oper.	Const.	Oper.	Const.	Oper.	Const.	Oper.
Human Beings			-	-			-	-							-	-		
Terrestrial and Marine Ecology	-	-													-	-		
Water Quality							-	-			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology	-	-			-	-							-	-	-	-		
Material Assets													-	-	-	-	-	-
Air Quality, Odour and Climate					-	-							-	-	-	-	-	-
Noise and Vibration					-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-
Cultural Heritage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						
Landscape and Visual Assessment					-	-			-	-	-	-	-	-				

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LEGEND	
No Interaction	-
Neutral	
Positive	
Imperceptible Negative	
Slight Negative	
Moderate-Significant Negative	

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