

1. Maritime Usage Licence – “Minded To” Determination Case Worker Report	
To	John Evans, Director of Assessment Research and Data
From	Paula O’Toole, Licensing Caseworker
Reviewed by	Jacinta Ponzi, Head of MUL Unit
Date	16/10/2025
Maritime Usage Licence Application:	
Applicant Name	Port of Cork Company
Applicant Address	Tivoli Terminal Building, Tivoli Dock & Industrial Estate, Tivoli, Cork, T23YNT9
Application Received	14/03/2025
MUL Reference Number	MUL250008
Decision sought	Approval sought for issuance of notice to the Applicant in accordance with Section 119(6)(b) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021, to inform that: The Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) is minded to GRANT a Maritime Usage Licence in respect of their application and the reasons why MARA is so minded.
Description of works	Deposit of dredged material to facilitate berth extensions with capacity to support ORE
Term of Licence	8 Years from the MUL Commencement Date
Schedule 7 activity	7(6) Deposit of any substance or object on or under the seabed
Additional section 7 activity (if applicable)	Choose an item.
Documents submitted with application	☒ Application Form ☒ Maritime Usage Map & GIS Shape files ☒ Other Maps & Drawings ☒ Appropriate Assessment Screening Report ☒ Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species Report ☒ Compliance with Objectives of National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF) ☒ Compliance with Objectives of Water Framework Directive (WFD) ☒ Compliance with Objectives of Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) ☐ Natura Impact Statement (NIS) Report ☐ Other: list document(s) If older application, AIMU will need to be listed here as other
Section 117(3) notice issued:	☒ YES ☐ Not required

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Request for Additional Information -RAI		
1st RAI	Issued: 31/03/2025	Received: 01/04/2025
Document(s) submitted: MUL250008 – MUL Map, Licence Map, Herring Spawning Beds Proposed Maritime Usage Area Map.		
2nd RAI	Issued: 17/09/2025	Received: 19/09/2025
Document(s) submitted: information on method for deposit of material, daily load to be deposited, sediment dispersion modelling, Derogation Licence not required. GIS Shapefiles.		
3rd RAI	Issued: 01/10/2025	Received: 02/10/2025
Document(s) submitted: Updated MAPS & GIS Files		

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Assessment, Research & Data (ARD) Assessment:	
Screening for EIA: Section 117(5)(a)	☒ Screening for EIA: NOT REQUIRED ☐ Screening for EIA: REQUIRED Date of Report: 22/09/2025 Signed by: Dr. Alison McCarthy John Evans - Director
Screening for Appropriate Assessment: Regulation 42 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011)	☐ Screened IN ☒ Screened OUT Date of AA Screening Report & Determination: 07/10/2025 Signed by: Dr. Alison McCarthy John Evans - Director
If SCREENED IN : Was NIS/updated NIS requested in accordance with Section 117(6)(a)?	☐ YES: New NIS requested ☐ YES: Updated NIS requested Date Requested: DD MM YYYY Date Received: DD MM YYYY ☒ NO: Not Required
AA Screening Report and Determination published on MARA website:	Date: 07/10/2025

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Referral to Notified Consultees, as directed by Assessment, Research & Data (ARD) Team:	
☐ Bord Iascaigh Mhara ☐ Commissioners of Irish Lights ☐ Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine ☐ Dept. of Environment, Climate & Communications ☐ Dept. of Housing, Local Government & Heritage ☐ Dept. of Transport - Marine Survey Office ☐ Environmental Protection Agency ☐ Geological Survey of Ireland ☐ Health and Safety Authority ☐ Inland Fisheries Ireland ☐ Marine Institute ☐ National Monuments Service ☐ National Parks and Wildlife Service ☐ Relevant Local Authority ☐ Relevant Harbour Authority ☐ The Sea Fisheries Protection Authority ☐ Other:	
Date of Referral to notified consultees	N/A
Observations from notified consultees received?	☐ YES: Number received XX ☒ NO – Not requested by Marine Advisor
ARD MUL Assessment Report:	
Final ARD MUL Assessment Report <i>includes environmental & engineering reports</i>	Date of final report: 13/10/2025 Signed by: Dr. Alison McCarthy
Public Submissions taken into account in Final ARD MUL Assessment Report:	☐ YES ☐ NO <i>insert reason why not</i> ☒ N/A
Notified Consultees Responses taken into account in Final ARD MUL Assessment Report:	☐ YES ☐ NO <i>insert reason why not</i> ☒ N/A
Upon completion of the ARD MUL Assessment Report the following conditions and reasons for conditions are RECOMMENDED by ARD:	
Recommended Term of licence to be 8 years from date of commencement	
Reason: To ensure the orderly administration of licensed maritime usages in the maritime area.	

1. The Permitted Maritime Usage shall be carried out in accordance with the plans and particulars submitted in support of the application for this Licence. Reason: To clarify the scope of this licence and ensure protection of the marine environment.
2. Prior to the commencement of the Permitted Maritime Usage the Holder shall consult with the Underwater Archaeology Unit of the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage, National Monuments Service, located at G37, Custom House, Custom House Quay, Dublin 1, D01 W6X0, and comply with all applicable requirements set forth by the Unit. Reason: To ensure protection of maritime heritage.
3. The Holder shall, a minimum 14 days prior to the commencement of the Permitted Maritime Usage, arrange for the publication of a Marine Notice with the Marine Safety Policy Division, Department of Transport. This Marine Notice shall include details of the Licence Holder and the Licence Number as granted by MARA. Reason: To ensure safe navigation.
4. The Holder shall not damage or interfere with any third party’s property while carrying out the Permitted Maritime Usage. Reason: To minimise impact on other users of the marine environment.
5. Prior to the commencement of the Permitted Maritime Usage the Holder shall consult with the Port of Cork Company to plan and schedule the Permitted Maritime Usage in order that any potential disruption to port operations is managed. Reason: To ensure the orderly undertaking of the proposed maritime usage.
6. The Holder shall ensure that all vessels engaged in this Permitted Maritime Usage conform to Irish Certification standards for vessels, as required by the Marine Survey Office. Reason: To ensure protection of the marine environment.
7. The Holder shall demonstrate all reasonable practical measures are taken to ensure that all vessels used in the Permitted Maritime Usage are free of invasive marine species on their hulls and in their ballast water. Reason: To ensure protection of the marine environment.
8. Marine Mammals (i) The Holder shall appoint a marine mammal observer(s) for the purposes of overseeing the Permitted Maritime Usage. The Holder shall ensure the marine mammal observer(s) shall satisfy the requirements of the most up to date national guidance. During the activity the Holder shall comply with the directions of the marine mammal observer(s). (ii) The Holder shall implement risk control and mitigation measures for marine mammals in strict accordance with the most up to date national guidance. (iii) The Holder shall, within 30 days of the completion of the Permitted Maritime Usage, forward a report of the marine mammal observer(s) operations and mitigation undertaken, to offshore@npws.gov.ie and compliance@mara.gov.ie (iv) The Holder shall publish the report and recording and data forms on their website within 60 days of completion of the Permitted Maritime Usage unless otherwise agreed with the Grantor.

Reason: To ensure protection of the marine environment and protected species.											
9. Accidental events The Holder shall ensure that there is an oil pollution emergency plan on-board any survey vessels. This plan should specify: (i) Information on the location and detail of spill response resources on-board; (ii) Information on crew training in relation to oil pollution response; (iii) How crew will interface with other site investigation operators, where applicable. Reason: To provide appropriate controls on the Permitted Maritime Usage to ensure protection of the marine environment.											
10. While conducting the Permitted Maritime Usage the Holder shall not interfere with any fishing gear or obstruct any fishers or fishing vessels engaged in fishing. Reason: To minimise impact on other users of the marine environment.											
11. Marine Litter (i) The Holder shall take all practicable efforts to remove any solid waste collected during the maritime usage activity and return it to shore. (ii) The Holder shall take all practicable efforts to remove floating material collected during the maritime usage activity and return it to shore. (iii) The Holder shall ensure that material dredged by trailing suction hopper dredger or other mechanical dredging is passed through grid screens no larger than 30 cm to minimise the amount of man-made materials disposed of at sea. Any solid waste must be separated from the dredged material and disposed or recovered ashore. (iv) Disposal or recovery of solid waste shall only take place in accordance with the conditions of this licence and in accordance with the appropriate National and European legislation and protocols. Reason: To ensure protection of the marine environment.											
12. The Holder shall ensure that the Permitted Maritime Usage does not take place concurrently with other authorised dredging or deposit (or dumping at sea) campaigns in the deposit site, unless otherwise agreed by the Grantor. Reason: To ensure protection of the marine environment.											
14. Quantities of dredged material associated with the Permitted Maritime Usage The quantities associated with the Permitted Maritime Usage shall not exceed the following: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th><th>Associated activity</th><th>Maximum Quantity over MUL duration (m³)</th><th>Maximum daily load (m³)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Licensed Area</td><td>Deposit of dredged material</td><td>423,217</td><td>28,800</td></tr> </tbody> </table> Reason: To ensure protection of the marine environment.				Location	Associated activity	Maximum Quantity over MUL duration (m ³)	Maximum daily load (m ³)	Licensed Area	Deposit of dredged material	423,217	28,800
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Licensed Area	Deposit of dredged material	423,217	28,800								
15. Fish spawning grounds The Holder shall not undertake the Permitted Maritime Usage during the month of February and during the month of November annually, to ensure least disturbance to known fish spawning along the survey route.											

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Reason: To ensure protection of the marine environment.
16. Deposit of dredged material shall be carried out in a manner that ensures a uniform spread of material in the Licensed Area.
Reason: To ensure protection of the marine environment.

Minded to Determination of Licence Application:	
Case Worker Recommendation	☒ GRANT ☐ PART GRANT ☐ REFUSE
Period Specified to Applicant for submission of supplementary material in relation to the reasons for conditions: Section 119(6)(b)	☒ 21 days ☐ Other:

Signed by (Caseworker) **Paula O'Toole**

Date **16/10/2025**

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Annex 1 – List of Accompanying Documents:		
Screening for AA Report & Determination	☐	Link to document
ARD MUL Assessment Report	☐	Link to document
Proposed Licence	☐	Link to document
Proposed Minded to Notice	☐	Link to document