

# **Compliance with the National Marine Planning Framework**

The NMPF sets out Overarching Marine Planning Policies (OMPPs) that will apply to all marine activities or development. These include policies in relation to, inter alia, co-existence with biodiversity, coastal and island communities, and infrastructure.

The proposed project is considered to have limited potential impact on the overarching marine planning policies of the NMPF. Nonetheless, a review of these policies relative to the proposed project has been carried out and is documented in Table 1 which indicates how the proposed project will follow the NMPF. The conclusion of which is that the proposed project is fully compliant with the overall objectives and policies of the NMPF. No element of the proposed project is considered contrary to these policies.

Table 1: Assessment of compliance with the National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF)

Environmental-Ocean Health	
Biodiversity	<p>The project is supported by the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting Information for Screening for Appropriate Assessment (SISAA)</li> <li>• Natura Impact Statement</li> <li>• Annex IV Risk Assessment</li> <li>• Supporting Information for Screening for EIA (SISEIA)</li> </ul> <p>The conclusion of the SISAA, NIS, Annex IV Risk Assessment and SISEIA is that, with mitigation, no impact on any habitat or species will occur. Furthermore, the scale and scope of the project is considered too small to lead to any adverse effects on either the local or wider marine environment.</p>
Protected Marine Sites	<p>The SISAA identified the potential for impacts on a number of European sites without mitigation. The project NIS, Annex IV risk assessment and SISEIA propose mitigation to eliminate impacts on European sites. It is considered that provided the proposed mitigation is implemented no impacts on biodiversity and protected marine sites will occur.</p>
Non-Indigenous Species	<p>The SISAA and SISEIA did not identify any potential for the introduction of nonindigenous species.</p>
Water Quality	<p>The SISAA and SISEIA did not identify potential for impacts on water quality.</p>
Seafloor and Water Column Integrity	<p>The scale and scope of the project does not have the potential to impact Sea-floor and Water Column Integrity as documented in the SISEIA.</p>
Marine Litter	<p>The scale and scope of the project does not have the potential to intentionally or accidentally contribute to the impacts on marine litter policy.</p>
Underwater Noise	<p>The SISIA and Annex IV risk assessment identified the potential for the introduction of underwater noise with potential for adverse effects on Annex IV species, specifically marine</p>

<b>Environmental-Ocean Health</b>	
	mammals, in the absence of mitigation. Mitigation was proposed to eliminate this potential for impact. Provided the mitigation proposed is adhered to, no potential for impact related to underwater noise is considered possible.
Air Quality	Not relevant: The project does not have the potential to impact air quality
Climate Change	Not relevant: The project does not have the potential to impact climate change
<b>Economic – Thriving Maritime Economy</b>	
Co-Existence	No potential for significant impact. The proposed works are temporary in nature. While temporary disturbance to other users, navigating through the area of the MUL, may occur no other significant effects have been identified.
Infrastructure	No potential for impact on the infrastructure policy. No permanent infrastructure is proposed.
<b>Social – Engagement with the sea</b>	
Access	No significant access issues have been identified.
Employment	Not applicable. It is considered the Employment Policy 1 is not relevant to the proposed project.
Heritage Assets	A review of the Historic Environment Viewer and National Monuments Service Wreck Viewer (accessed May 2026) identified one recorded feature within the wider study area listed on the Sites and Monuments Record. In line with the archaeological policies of the National Marine Planning Framework, the proposed site investigation (SI) works have been designed to avoid, where possible, direct impacts on known or potential underwater cultural heritage assets. The inclusion of geophysical surveys (e.g. side-scan sonar, magnetometer and sub-bottom profiling), coupled with targeted archaeological assessments such as walkover surveys, dive inspections and metal detection, will facilitate the identification and mapping of any previously unrecorded features of archaeological interest.
Rural Coast and Island Communities	This policy is not considered relevant to the proposed project.
Seascape and Landscape	No impact possible.
Social Benefits	The proposed project will provide social benefits in the medium to long term by facilitating the provision of flood protection and coastal erosion protection measures.

Environmental-Ocean Health	
Transboundary	There are no transboundary effects possible