

Shared Environmental Service
Silverwood Business Park
190 Raceview Road
Ballymena
Co. Antrim
BT42 4HZ

03/07/2024

Planning Reference: LA02/2023/1849/F

Location: 37 Shore Road West Division Carrickfergus Antrim BT38 8UA

Proposal: Proposed Replacement Slipway

Consultation: This planning application was considered in light of the assessment requirements of Regulation 43 (1) of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended) by Shared Environmental Service on behalf of Mid and East Antrim Borough Council which is the competent authority responsible for authorising the project. The assessment which informed this response is attached at Annex A.

Outcome: Having considered the nature, scale, timing, duration and location of the project, it is concluded that it would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European site, either alone or in combination with any other plan or project and therefore an appropriate assessment is not required. In reaching this conclusion, no account was taken of measures intended to avoid or reduce potential harmful effects of the project on any European site.

Reason No Likely Significant Effect: Based on the nature and small scale of the proposal it can be concluded the proposal will not have a significant effect on any European site features or supporting habitats.

Advice for planner: On consideration and agreement, the following may be included in the planning report: Mid and East Antrim Borough Council *in its role as the competent Authority under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended), and in accordance with its duty under Regulation 43, has adopted the HRA report, and conclusions therein, prepared by Shared Environmental Service, dated 03/07/2024. This found that the project would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European site.*

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ANNEX A

Habitats Regulations Assessment

Carried out by Shared Environmental Service, adopted by Mid and East Antrim Borough Council.

Date Completed: 03/07/2024

Planning Reference: LA02/2023/1849/F

Location: 37 Shore Road West Division Carrickfergus Antrim BT38 8UA

Proposal: Proposed Replacement Slipway

Grid Reference: 337698 384563

Assessment stage completed

- 1. Assessment resulting in exemption
- 2. Assessment resulting in elimination
- 3. Assessment demonstrating no likely significant effect
- 4. Interim Assessment to inform e.g. EIA determination, PAD
- 5. Further information requested
- 6. Draft appropriate assessment referred to SNCB
- 7. Appropriate assessment complete, no adverse effect on site integrity without conditions
- 8. Appropriate assessment complete, no adverse effect on site integrity with conditions to mitigate
- 9. Appropriate assessment complete, adverse effect on site integrity

Summary of findings

No Likely Significant Effect Reason: Based on the nature and small scale of the proposal it can be concluded the proposal will not have a significant effect on any European site features or supporting habitats.

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Abbreviations/Glossary

AESI	Adverse effect on site integrity	NIW	Northern Ireland Water
DfI	Department of Infrastructure	PAD	Pre-application discussion
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	RLB	Red line boundary
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment	SAC	Special Area of Conservation
LSE	Likely significant effect	SES	Shared Environmental Service
NA	Not applicable	SPA	Special Protection Area
NIEA	Northern Ireland Environment Agency	SNCB	Statutory Nature Conservation Body

Mitigation For the purposes of this report ‘mitigation’ includes measures to avoid, cancel or reduce effects

STAGE ONE ASSESSMENT

Note, in light of the April 2018 ruling of the European Court of Justice Case C323/17 (People over Wind and Sweetman), a cautious approach has been taken. Stage One Assessment does consider essential features and characteristics of the project but does not consider measures envisaged to avoid or prevent what might otherwise have been significant adverse effects on the integrity of European Sites. Assessment will therefore progress to Stage Two Appropriate Assessment unless there is certainty that it can be exempted, eliminated or screened out at Stage One. Incorporated and additional measures to avoid or reduce significant adverse effects will be assessed at Stage Two Appropriate Assessment.

A. Description and potential effects of the proposal

Description		
<i>Heading</i>	<i>Short description</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Proposal	Proposed Replacement Slipway	
Location	37 Shore Road West Division Carrickfergus Antrim BT38 8UA	
Type of Development	Other	
Size and Scale	Site plan drawing 01 rev 01 - the red line boundary encompasses the entire dwelling and garden with the slipway highlighted in purple. Slipway is 4.2m wide and approximately 16m long.	The slipway covers a small area approximately 67m ² .
Land-take	The proposal site is within Belfast Lough SPA/Ramsar.	
Resource requirements (water etc.)	N/A	
Emission (disposal to land, water or air)	N/A	
Excavation requirements	The existing slipway will remain in situ.	Agents email 10/01/24 – The existing slipway will be retained with the new slipway constructed on top of this. The existing slipway has degraded over time, but it will be utilised as the base for the new slipway, with a new reinforced surface. It is not intended that the proposal will require any new foundations.
Transportation requirements	N/A	
Duration	Not specified	
Frequency	Not specified	
Timing	Not specified	

Other		
Considerations for Assessment		
Are sea defences proposed/required?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Will there be in river/sea works?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	The slipway is within Belfast Lough.
Is piling required?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable	Piling will not be required as the new slipway is a reinforced concrete ramp to be constructed over the existing slipway.
Is site within a flood plain?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	The site of the replacement slipway by its nature is within the marine environment.
Is site within 30m of Otter SAC river bank?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	N/A
Could there be contaminated land?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Has NIW confirmed capacity for stormwater/sewage to mains?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable	
Potential Effects		
<i>Development Phase</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Pre-construction	Not applicable	
Construction	Wholly/partly in European Site Hydrological Link - Direct	The site of the slipway to be replaced is within Belfast Lough SPA and Ramsar and 30m from East Coast (NI) marine proposed SPA which incorporates Belfast Lough Open Water SPA. The site is also connected through the marine waters to North Channel SAC, The Maidens SAC and Skerries and Causeway SAC (marine mammals) and to Outer Ards SPA/Ramsar. Potential for release of pollutants during the construction phase. Potential for disturbance to mobile features.
Operation	None	This is a small-scale replacement of an existing jetty associated with a domestic dwelling. No anticipated operational effects from this upgrade.
Decommissioning	Not applicable	
Restoration and aftercare	Not applicable	
Unintended events	Not applicable	
Assumptions		
<i>Assumption/s</i>	<i>Impact on potential effects</i>	<i>Comment</i>
All works will be confined within the red-line boundary area.	There should be no works or storage of materials outside of these.	
All construction projects will have competent workers with the correct skills, knowledge, training and experience.	Will ensure all work is carried out by competent people.	This is a legal requirement under The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (NI) 2016. Although these regulations

		relate to Health and Safety the requirement for trained competent personnel will ensure risks to environmental receptors are minimised.
The applicant will comply with all the relevant NIEA Standing Advice documents and Guidance for Pollution Prevention (GPPs) in order to minimise the impact of the project on the environment.	Avoidance of water pollution.	All relevant PPG & GPP'S can be found at: https://www.netregs.org.uk/environmental-topics/pollution-prevention-guidelines-ppgs-and-replacement-series/guidance-for-pollution-prevention-gpps-full-list/ All DAERA Standing Advice documents are available at: https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/standing-advice-development-may-have-effect-water-environment-including-groundwater-and-fisheries
The applicant will apply for a Marine License.	Works will be in accordance with the Marine License.	It is an offence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 to carry out a licensable marine activity except in accordance with a marine licence granted by the DAERA Marine and Fisheries Division. Conviction of such an offence may incur a fine of up to £50,000 and/or two years imprisonment.
Information gaps		
Information gap	Pathway/Receptor	Comment

B. Overview of sites potentially affected

Site Selection				
Proposal type				Site/s potentially affected
Ammonia emitting project?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes is development within 7.5km of European site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Select Site Select Site Select Site
Wind turbine/s	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes is it within NIEA consultation zone for a European site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Select Site Select Site Select Site
All developments – is it hydrologically connected to a European site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes could it have a conceivable impact on any European site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Belfast Lough SPA Belfast Lough Ramsar Site Belfast Lough Open Water SPA East Coast (Northern Ireland) Marine Proposed SPA North Channel SAC The Maidens SAC Skerries and Causeway SAC

Could project increase disturbance to site selection features?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes detail:	Belfast Lough SPA Belfast Lough Ramsar Site Belfast Lough Open Water SPA East Coast (Northern Ireland) Marine Proposed SPA North Channel SAC The Maidens SAC Skerries and Causeway SAC
Any other potential impacts on European sites?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes detail:	Select Site Select Site Select Site

Site name	Relative Location of proposal	Pathway	Comment
Belfast Lough SPA Belfast Lough Ramsar Site Belfast Lough Open Water SPA East Coast (Northern Ireland) Marine Proposed SPA	Within designated site. 27m north	Proposal site is within the European site. Direct run-off of pollutants. Disturbance.	Potential for disturbance and release of pollutants during construction.
North Channel SAC The Maidens SAC Skerries and Causeway SAC	12km west however features present within Belfast Lough. 30km south west however features present within Belfast Lough (measured via marine waters). 96km south however features present within Belfast Lough (measured via marine waters).	Direct run-off of pollutants. Disturbance.	DAERA recommends the following ranges should be used when screening for either Harbour (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>) or Grey seals (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>) and Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all SACs within 100km of the project should be screened for Grey seals (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>). • all SACs within 50km should be screened for Harbour seals (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>). • all SACs within 100km should be screened for Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>).
Sites considered but excluded from further assessment			
Site name	Reason excluded		
Outer Ards SPA Outer Ards Ramsar	The proposal site is 8km west of Outer Ards SPA/Ramsar on the opposite shore of Belfast Lough. No conceivable pathway for disturbance or direct impact to Outer Ards. The nature and scale of the proposal is such that there can be no indirect impacts due to water quality in light of the separation distance and small scale of the proposal.		

C. Detail of sites potentially affected

Belfast Lough SPA		Pathways: Direct run-off, disturbance.					
Overall Objective		To maintain each feature in favourable condition					
Feature	Grade	Feature Objective	Construction	Operation	Other		
Qualifying Feature	Cited feature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To maintain or enhance the population of the qualifying species. ▪ To maintain or enhance the range of habitats utilised by the qualifying species. To ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained; ▪ To ensure there is no significant disturbance of the species and to ensure that the following are maintained in the long term: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Population of the species as a viable component of the site; □ Distribution of the species within site; □ Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species; □ Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the Species. 	Potential Impacts				
Redshank wintering population			<u>No Likely Significant Effect</u>			N/A	N/A
Condition Assessment			<p>The proposal is for replacement of an existing slipway within Belfast Lough. As such the site lies within the SPA boundary. The agents email confirms the existing slipway will be retained with the new slipway constructed on top of this.</p> <p>The existing slipway has degraded over time, but it will be utilised as the base for the new slipway, with a new reinforced surface. It is not intended that the proposal will require any new foundations.</p> <p>No SPA habitat or supporting habitat for feature species will be lost or altered.</p> <p>No significant disturbance is likely as the proposal does not involve piling or significant earthworks. Beach stones will be used to blend the level between the bottom of the slipway and the shore. The agent has confirmed these are in situ and no material will be sourced from elsewhere.</p> <p>Considering the nature and location of the proposal the risk of spread of invasive species is low.</p> <p>Construction works carry risk of release of pollutants. The contractor has a legal obligation to comply with the Water (NI) Order 1999. The construction works will be small scale and short term in nature and unlikely to cause any deterioration in water quality within Belfast Lough such that it could undermine the Conservation Objectives for the site.</p> <p>Based on the nature and scale of the proposal it can be concluded the proposal will not have a significant effect on feature species of the SPA.</p>				
Unfavourable							
Qualifying Feature	Cited feature		Potential Impacts				
Common tern & Arctic tern Breeding population			<u>No Likely Significant Effect</u>			N/A	N/A

Condition Assessment			<u>As above</u>		
Favourable					
Qualifying Feature	Cited feature		Potential Impacts		
Bar-tailed godwit (not breeding)			No Likely Significant Effect	N/A	N/A
Condition Assessment			<u>As above</u>		
Favourable					
Qualifying Feature	Cited feature		Potential Impacts		
Black tailed godwit			<u>No Likely Significant Effect</u>	N/A	N/A
Condition Assessment			<u>As above</u>		
Favourable					

Belfast Lough Ramsar		Pathways: Direct run-off, disturbance.			
Overall Objective	Not published - assumed to be to maintain or enhance the population of the qualifying species, to maintain or enhance the distribution, extent, structure, function and supporting processes of the qualifying habitats.				
Feature	Qualifying Feature/s	Construction		Operation	Other
Criterion	Common redshank , <i>Tringa totanus tetanus</i> Black-tailed godwit , <i>Limosa limosa islandica</i>	Potential Impacts			
6		<u>No Likely Significant Effect</u>	N/A	N/A	
		<u>As above for SPA.</u>			

East Coast (Northern Ireland) Marine pSPA (Includes Belfast Lough Open Water SPA)		Pathway/s: Hydrological connection, disturbance.				
Overall Objective	To maintain each feature in favourable condition					
Feature	Status	Feature Objective	Construction		Operation	Other
Qualifying Feature		To maintain or enhance the population of the qualifying species. To maintain or enhance the range of habitats utilised by the qualifying species. To ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained; To ensure there is no significant disturbance of the species and to ensure that the following are maintained in the long term:	Potential Impacts			
Wintering populations of Great Crested Grebe, Red-throated Diver, Eider Duck			<u>No Likely Significant Effect</u>	N/A	N/A	
Condition Assessment			<u>As above for Belfast Lough SPA.</u>			
Not assessed to date. (Great Crested Grebe wintering population, unfavourable in Belfast						

Lough Open Water SPA)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population of the species as a viable component of the site; Distribution of the species within site; Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species; Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the Species.				
Qualifying Feature			Potential Impacts			
Breeding populations of Sandwich Tern, Common Tern, Arctic Tern, Manx Shearwater			<u>No Likely Significant Effect</u>	N/A	N/A	
Condition Assessment			<u>As above</u>			

Marine mammal SACs		Pathway/s: Direct run-off, disturbance.				
North Channel SAC						
Overall Objective		To ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained and that it makes the best possible contribution to maintaining Favourable Conservation Status (FCS) for Harbour Porpoise in UK waters.				
Feature	Grade	Feature Objective	Construction	Operation	Other	
Qualifying Feature	B	In the context of natural change, this will be achieved by ensuring that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Harbour porpoise is a viable component of the site; There is no significant disturbance of the species; and The condition of supporting habitats and processes, and the availability of prey is maintained. 	Potential impacts			
Harbour Porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)			The DAERA Marine map viewer confirms presence of Harbour porpoise within Belfast Lough. As detailed above it is not intended that the proposal will require any new foundations. No significant disturbance is likely as the proposal does not involve piling or significant earthworks.	N/A	N/A	
Condition Assessment			The construction works will be small scale and short term in nature therefore it can be concluded that Harbour porpoise will not be impacted by disturbance.			
None available			Construction works carry risk of release of pollutants. The contractor has a legal obligation to comply with the Water (NI) Order 1999. The construction works will be small scale and short term in nature and unlikely to cause any deterioration in water quality			

			within Belfast Lough such that it could undermine the Conservation Objectives for the site. Based on the nature and scale of the proposal it can be concluded the proposal will not have a significant effect on this feature.		
Skerries and Causeway SAC					
Overall Objective		To maintain (or restore where appropriate) the			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>) to favourable condition. 			
Feature	Grade	Feature Objective	Construction	Operation	Other
Qualifying Feature	C	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the species is a viable component of the site. Ensure there is no significant disturbance of the species. Ensure the supporting habitats and processes relevant to harbour porpoises and their prey are maintained. 	Potential impacts		
Harbour porpoise <i>Phocoena phocoena</i>			As above	N/A	N/A
Condition Assessment					
None available					
The Maidens SAC					
Overall Objective		To maintain (or restore where appropriate) the			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grey Seal <i>Halichoerus grypus</i> to favourable condition. 			
Feature	Grade	Feature Objective	Construction	Operation	Other
Qualifying Feature	C	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain (and if feasible enhance) population numbers and distribution of Grey Seal. Maintain and enhance, as appropriate, physical features used by Grey Seals within the site. 	Potential impacts		
Grey Seal <i>Halichoerus grypus</i>			The DAERA Marine map viewer confirms presence of Grey seal within Belfast Lough. The consultation response of DAERA MFD confirms the nearest haul out site for Grey seal is approximately 1.52km from the site.	N/A	N/A
Condition Assessment					
None available				As detailed above it is not intended that the proposal will require any new foundations. No significant disturbance is likely as the proposal does not involve piling or significant earthworks.	

			<p>The construction works will be small scale and short term in nature therefore it can be concluded that Grey seal will not be impacted by disturbance.</p> <p>Construction works carry risk of release of pollutants. The contractor has a legal obligation to comply with the Water (NI) Order 1999. The construction works will be small scale and short term in nature and unlikely to cause any deterioration in water quality within Belfast Lough such that it could undermine the Conservation Objectives for the site.</p> <p>Based on the nature and scale of the proposal it can be concluded the proposal will not have a significant effect on this feature.</p>		
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D. Outcome Stage One

Proposal exempt	
Is the entire project directly connected with or necessary to the management of all the European site(s) potentially affected and listed above?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – project exempt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – further consideration
If 'Yes' justify	Click here to enter text.
Proposal eliminated	
Can any conceivable effect on any European site be objectively ruled out?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – project eliminated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – further consideration
If 'Yes' justify why eliminated	Click here to enter text.
Likely Significant Effect	
Considering the project as proposed, and in the absence of any incorporated or additional measures to avoid, cancel or reduce the effects on a European site, could there be a likely significant effect (LSE) on one or more site selection features of any site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Progress to Stage Two Appropriate Assessment
If 'No' justify why no LSE	Based on the nature and small scale of the proposal it can be concluded the proposal will not have a significant effect on any European site features or supporting habitats.

E. Assessment of In Combination Effects

Does the proposed development have any significant or insignificant effects which could contribute to cumulative effects?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No - <i>assessment complete</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - <i>list additional projects to be considered</i>	Comment: The proposed development has no significant or insignificant effects which could contribute to cumulative effects. Therefore, an in-combination assessment is not required.	
Select Site			
Select Site			
Additional projects to be considered			
Project reference	Project Name	Insignificant AESIs for that project	Could it lead to cumulative impacts?

EVIDENCE USED TO INFORM ASSESSMENT

Title	Date	Source	Comment
Application Documents	03/07/2024	NI Planning Portal	
Conservation Objectives	03/07/2024	NIEA Website	
ArcView Spatial Information	03/07/2024	Spatial NI and NIEA	
Representations	03/07/2024	NI Planning Portal	
Information gap/s		What is the impact of these?	
None			
Uncertainties		What is the impact of these?	
None			

Consultation with Statutory Nature Conservation Body (SNCB)	
Was the SNCB consulted?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – provide date and advice below <input type="checkbox"/> Not necessary as Stage One found appropriate assessment not required
Date	Advice
14/02/2024	<p>Marine Conservation Branch Response</p> <p>Summary</p> <p>Marine Conservation Branch has considered the impacts of the proposal and on the basis of the information supplied is content that there should be no adverse impacts on Marine Protected Areas, marine habitats and marine species, provided conditions and Pollution Standing Advice (DAERA Standing Advice - WTR – Pollution Prevention Guidance - Sept 2022 Final.pdf (daera-ni.gov.uk)) are adhered to.</p> <p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure invasive non-native species biosecurity measures are in place for all stages of the project and all equipment used. Reason: To prevent the introduction and/or spread of invasive non-native species. • Marine Wildlife Disturbance standing advise must be adhered to. Reason: To prevent potential adverse impacts to marine mammals. • If the Piling construction method is required, Marine Conservation Branch must be reconsulted. Reason: To fully assess the potential impact to marine mammals. <p>Considerations</p> <p>Marine Protected Areas</p> <p>The application site is within (unless stated) the following MPAs, which could potentially be impacted by this proposal by construction pollution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belfast Lough SPA, Belfast Lough Open Water SPA (adjacent) and East Coast Marine pSPA (adjacent), which are designated under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended); • Outer Belfast Lough ASSI, which is declared under the Environment Order (Northern Ireland) 2002, and

<p>• Belfast Lough Ramsar site, which is designated under the Ramsar Convention. Please refer to the Biodiversity – Protected Areas layer in the DAERA Marine Map Viewer for details. However, provided Pollution Standing Advice (DAERA Standing Advice - WTR - Pollution Prevention Guidance - Sept 2022 Final.pdf (daera-ni.gov.uk)) is adhered to, we do not anticipate any significant adverse impacts.</p> <p>Marine Habitats</p> <p>This proposal has the potential to have an adverse impact on the following Annex I habitats by causing pollution (from concrete and other construction materials) during construction and maintenance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Within) Large shallow inlets and bays <p>However, provided Pollution Standing Advice (DAERA Standing Advice - WTR - Pollution Prevention Guidance - Sept 2022 Final.pdf (daera-ni.gov.uk)) is adhered to, we do not anticipate any significant adverse impacts. In addition, we do not anticipate physical disturbance to the Annex I habitat as the ‘existing slipway will be retained with the new slipway constructed on top of this’ and ‘it is not intended the proposal will require any new foundations’ (Additional information from agent detailed 12/01/2024). Please refer to the Biodiversity – Habitats – Annex I Habitats layer in the DAERA Marine Map Viewer for details.</p> <p>Marine Mammals</p> <p>This proposal has the potential to have an adverse impact on the following protected species by causing pollution (from construction materials such as concrete and machinery such as oil and fuel leaks) during construction and maintenance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harbour seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>) and Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>), which are protected under The Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 (as amended) • Cetaceans (whales, dolphins, porpoise) which are protected under The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended) <p>Furthermore, in relation to the Habitats Regulations Assessment required for this application, recent advice, relating to MPAs which have marine mammals as a site selection feature, recommends the following ranges should be used when screening for either Harbour (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>) or Grey seals (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>) and Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all SACs within 100km of the project should be screened for Grey seals (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>) • all SACs within 50km should be screened for Harbour seals (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>) • all SACs within 100km should be screened for Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>) <p>Therefore, the North Channel SAC (~12.3km) and the Skerries and Causeway SAC (~97km) should be considered for potential impacts to Harbour porpoise and the Maidens SAC (~26.8km) should be considered for potential impacts to Grey seals. Please refer to the Biodiversity – Protected Species – Sea Mammal Research Unit layer in the DAERA Marine Map Viewer for details. The agent provided additional information (12/01/2024) stating that the new slipway will be constructed on top of the existing slipway and that no new foundations will be required. It is assumed that Piling will not be required which reduces the potential for marine mammal disturbance. If, however, Piling is required, Marine Conservation Branch must be reconsulted.</p>

<p>In addition, the likely occurrence of significant marine mammal disturbance is reduced by ‘concrete [being] laid during low tide’ as works will not be directly into the water column.</p> <p>The applicant should be made aware that the nearest seal haul-outs are located ~0.7km and ~1.52km for Harbour and Grey seals respectively. Therefore, Marine Wildlife Disturbance standing advice must be adhered to.</p> <p>Marine Invasive Non-Native Species</p> <p>The agent has stated (email dated 09/02/24) that stones will not be imported from the site or taken from elsewhere on the beach. We welcome this as this will reduce the potential to spread invasive non-native species. In addition, we welcome that the ‘existing slipway will be retained’ (Additional information from agent dated 12/01/2024) as there is the potential for the removal of the existing slipway to spread attached invasive non-native species. Due to the potential for invasive species to be present on the existing slipway Marine Conservation Branch advises that biosecurity measures are in place for the proposed works and all equipment used (https://invasivespeciesni.co.uk/biosecurity/) and that Marine Non-Native Species standing advice is adhered to.</p> <p>Marine Pollution</p> <p>This proposal has the potential to create marine pollution due to the close proximity of construction materials such as concrete with the marine environment. Therefore, it is essential that Pollution Standing Advice (DAERA Standing Advice - WTR - Pollution Prevention Guidance - Sept 2022 Final.pdf (daera-ni.gov.uk)) is adhered to.</p> <p>In addition, we advise that the use of eco-concrete should be considered. Marine Conservation Branch welcomes the following statements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Concrete will be water resistant and laid during low tide’ • ‘To prevent pollution all fresh concrete must be kept from coming in contact with the sea until adequate curing is achieved. The formwork must be constructed with tight joints to prevent leakage and all necessary precautions taken to prevent spillage of concrete in or near the sea. Dumping of concrete or washing tools and equipment is prohibited. The refuelling of construction machinery and the storage of fuel/chemicals/construction materials will be a minimum of 10m from the sea wall.’ (Additional information from the agent dated 12/01/2024) <p>Marine Monitoring and Assessment Team (MAT) Response</p> <p>The measures to protect from concrete pollution are acceptable to MAT.</p> <p>The applicant should also be aware of DAERA standing advice and the Guidance for Pollution Prevention (GPPs), particularly works and maintenance in or near water (GPP5)</p> <p>https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/standing-advice-development-may-haveeffect-water-environment-including-groundwater-and-fisheries</p> <p>https://www.netregs.org.uk/environmental-topics/guidance-for-pollution-prevention/gpp-documents/guidance-for-pollution-prevention-gpps-full-list/</p> <p>Marine Licensing Response</p>

	Marine Licensing Team has considered the impacts of the proposal on the replacement slipway at 37 Shore Road, Carrickfergus and on the basis of the information provided is content that a marine licence will be required.
Does the HRA outcome fully reflect this advice?	Yes
If no provide justification for why it was not followed.	

