

Addendum to the  
Environmental Impact  
Assessment Report

**NISA**  
*North Irish Sea Array*

Volume 9 - Offshore Appendices

# Appendix A18.3

## Marine Archaeology Management Plan





# North Irish Sea Array Windfarm

Appendix A18.3: Marine Archaeology Management Plan

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# North Irish Sea Array Windfarm

## Appendix A18.3: Marine Archaeology Management Plan

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Report background

1.1.1 North Irish Sea Array Windfarm Ltd (NISA Ltd, hereafter referred to as “the Developer”) has been considering the Request for Further Information (RFI) issued by An Bord Pleanála (now An Coimisiún Pleanála- ACP) as well as the third-party submissions received following public consultation. At ACP’s behest, the Developer has also continued to consult with stakeholders in respect of the 2024 planning application throughout 2024-2026. The Developer has refined elements of the design to respond to the third-party submissions, the continued public and stakeholder consultation and the RFI. Full details of consultation undertaken can be found in Appendix A1.2: Consultation Report

1.1.2 For the purposes of clarity, this document shall be read in conjunction with the Chapter 18: Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage submitted as part of the 2024 Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)

1.1.3 Any cross reference to a chapter, section, table, image, figure or appendix within this document is to another location within the Addendum to the EIAR unless explicitly stated otherwise. Any cross reference to anything included in the 2024 EIAR will be clearly labelled as such.

1.1.4 Only tables and figures which have been updated from the 2024 EIAR, or entirely new tables and figures, have been included in the Addendum to the EIAR. These can be identified by the “A” prefix in the caption. Any changes within an updated table, in comparison to tables within the 2024 EIAR, are indicated by grey shading in the relevant cell, column or row, as necessary.

1.1.5 The sections relevant to Appendix A18.3 Marine Archaeology Management Plan (MAMP) in the RFI are included in Table 1.

Table 1: RFI references

RFI Section	RFI	Relevance to Chapter
14 (a)	Chapter 18 of the EIAR relates to Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage. Section 18.3.2.5 states that at the time of writing of the EIAR the results of an additional intertidal and shallow water marine geophysical survey at the nearshore of the ECC was unavailable to determine the AEZ of the recorded wreck of the Belle Hill which is a national monument located c. 150m north of the EEC. The Developer is requested to submit the results of the referenced geophysical survey and update	In accordance with RFI Section 14 (a), as part of the updates to the 2024 EIAR, further consultation with the National Monuments Service, (NMS) was undertaken, and a Marine Archaeology Management Plan was requested.



RFI Section	RFI	Relevance to Chapter
	the chapter and associated analysis accordingly.	

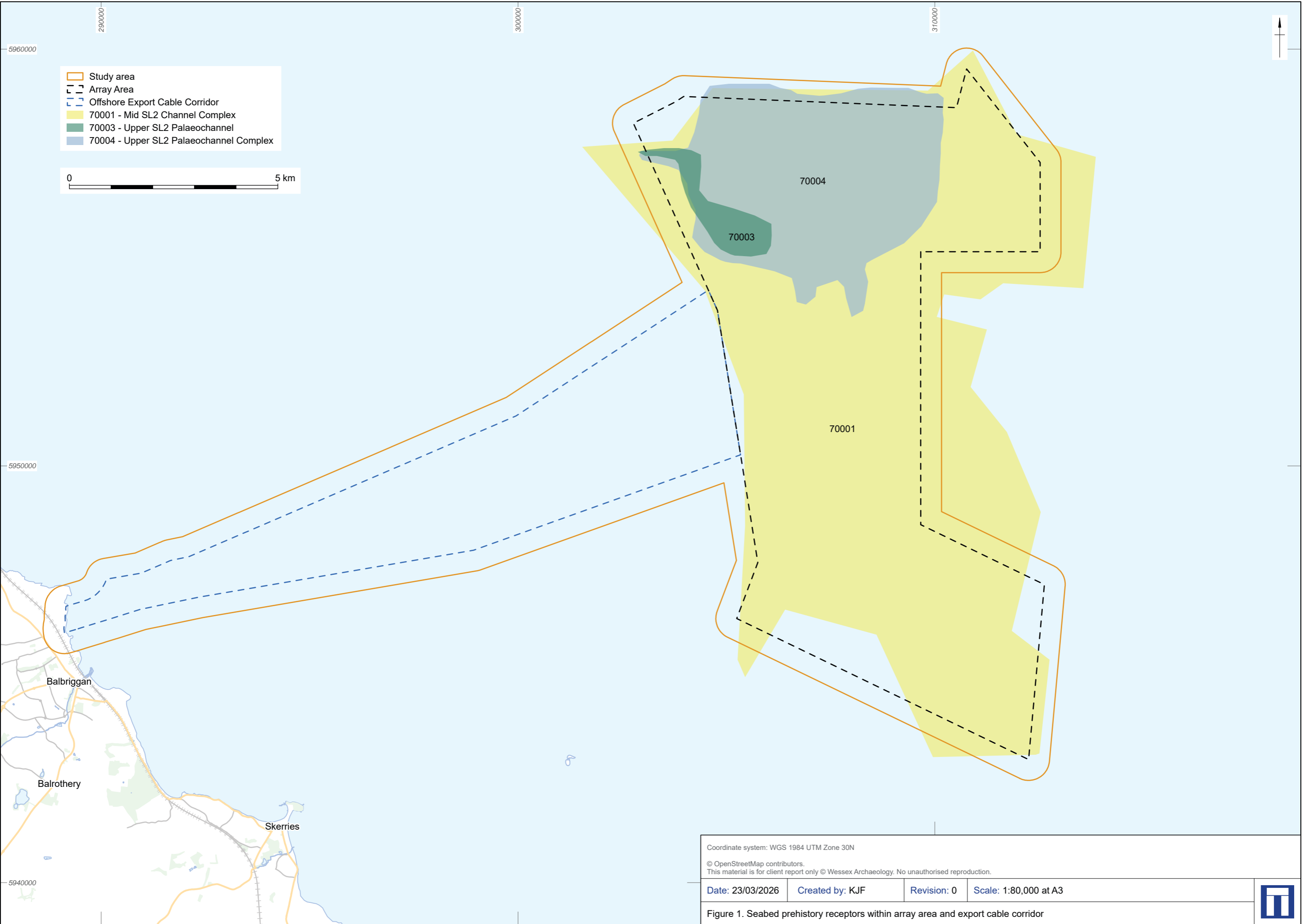


## 1.2 Project and planning background

- 1.2.1 The Developer is proposing to develop the North Irish Sea Array (NISA, hereafter the 'proposed development'), an offshore wind farm located in the western Irish Sea, approximately 13 - 22 km off the east coast of Ireland, offshore of Counties Dublin, Meath and Louth (**Figure 1**). The proposed development area is located within Irish territorial waters (up to 12 nautical miles (nm)) and the Irish Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).
- 1.2.2 In response to An Bord Pleanála's RFI regarding the offshore elements of the proposed development, the Developer has proposed design refinements to address the issues raised. These refinements are detailed in Appendix A5.1 Design Refinements, Chapter 6, Description of the Proposed Development, and Chapter 8, Construction Strategy – Offshore.
- 1.2.3 Under RFI Section 14 (a) An Bord Pleanála requested inclusion of further geophysical survey for archaeological assessment and an intertidal archaeological survey. As part of the updates to the 2024 EIAR to satisfy that RFI, further consultation with the National Monuments Service, (NMS) was undertaken and a Marine Archaeology Management Plan was requested. This MAMP is for the proposed offshore works within the array area, the Export Cable Corridor (ECC) and any temporary works related to the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of the proposed development, seaward side of the High Water Mark (HWM). For completeness archaeological mitigation related to pre-construction geotechnical works and geoarchaeological investigations under Maritime Usage Licence 230001 are also included within this MAMP, albeit it is acknowledged these are licensed under a separate licencing regime with agreed conditions.
- 1.2.4 The purposes of the MAMPs are to provide an overarching framework by which the Developer will manage potential risks to marine archaeological cultural heritage from the proposed development throughout its lifetime.
- 1.2.5 As an overarching framework this MAMP will cover the following licences as part of the proposed development including:
- (extant) Foreshore Investigation Licence Application (FILA) under the Foreshore Act 1933<sup>1</sup> (FS007031 and FS0007358);
  - Maritime Usage Licence MUL LIC 230001;
  - the Principal Development Consent issued by ACP; and
  - ancillary Archaeological Licences and Consents.
- 1.2.6 Maritime Usage Licence MUL LIC 230001 includes condition 2 *Prior to the commencement of the Permitted Maritime Usage the Holder shall consult and comply with the requirements of the Underwater Archaeology Unit of the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage. National Monuments Service, G37, Custom House, Custom House Quay, Dublin 1, D01 W6X0. This MAMP has been provided (and will be updated when relevant) to satisfy that condition*
- 1.2.7 An EIAR was undertaken highlighting the potential interaction of the proposed development with the known and potential marine archaeology and cultural heritage resource below HWS (Arup 2024). This was submitted to ACP under Section 291 of the Planning and

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<sup>1</sup> To the extent that survey activities and data gathered under this licence has informed the Development Consent Application



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Figure 1. Seabed prehistory receptors within array area and export cable corridor





Development Act 2000, as amended. An update to this EIAR is in preparation and will be submitted to ACP with this MAMP as a supporting document (Arup 2026a).

- 1.2.8 The EIAR and subsequent update were supported by baseline studies into the known and potential marine archaeological resource within the proposed offshore development and its associated study area, including the archaeological assessment of geophysical datasets and an intertidal walkover (ADCO 2021; 2022; 2023a; 2023b; 2024; 2026; Wessex Archaeology 2024).
- 1.2.9 As part of the submission process, observations were provided on the proposed development's planning application from relevant coastal planning authorities and other stakeholders. As part of the recommended conditions made by the Development Applications Unit (see **Section 2.3**), was the request for a AMP to be collated and provided to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, for review and approval. This Draft MAMP is being submitted as part of this response and outlines elements relevant to the offshore development boundary.
- 1.2.10 This Draft MAMP will be updated and finalised pre-construction following development of the final project design and in consultation with the National Monuments Service (NMS), regulatory bodies and relevant stakeholders.

### 1.3 Development description

- 1.3.1 The proposed development consists of an array area, within which the Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs), inter-array cables, interconnector cables and the offshore substation structure are proposed. An ECC connects the array area to the landfall location north of Balbriggan, County Dublin and represents the area below the HWM within which the offshore export cables will be installed.
- 1.3.2 Two WTG layout options are proposed:
- WTG layout Option A, consisting of 49 WTGs with a rotor diameter of 250 m; and
  - WTG layout Option B, consisting of 35 WTGs with a rotor diameter of 276 m.
- 1.3.3 At landfall, the offshore export cables will be brought ashore through the trenchless methodology of Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) with one entry/exit pit offshore of the landfall location and one onshore from the landfall location. The onshore export cables are routed south to an onshore substation located at the Belcamp substation in County Dublin.
- 1.3.4 The proposed development activities covered in this MAMP consist of the following phases: construction, operation (including maintenance and repair), and decommissioning as part of the offshore development area which includes infrastructure seaward of the HWM.

### 1.4 Site Investigation Activities to date

The study area has been subject to site investigation activities to date, which have been licensed under the extant FILAs FS007031 and FS0007358 respectively), under the Foreshore Act 1933, and a Maritime Usage Licence, MUL LIC 230001. An overview of site investigation work carried out to date is shown below in **Table 2**.



**Table 2: Previous site investigation campaigns**

Campaign	Contractor	Date	Scope of Work	Marine License and associated archaeological reporting
Preliminary Geophysical Campaign - Array	Fugro Marine GB Ltd.	Q2 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Primary lines were oriented roughly north to south with line spacing of 500 m and crosslines every 2 km roughly east to west</li><li>• Multibeam echosounder (MBES) bathymetry,</li><li>• Side scan sonar (SSS),</li><li>• Sub bottom profiler (SBP),</li><li>• Magnetometer (MAG),</li><li>• Single-channel sparker (SCS) acquisition, and UHRS multi-channel seismic acquisition.</li></ul>	FS007031  ADCO (2022). North Irish Sea Array Marine Geophysical Survey Array area, archaeological interpretation 22R0074. Unpublished Client Report, Bray.
Preliminary Geophysical Campaign - Export Cable Corridor	N-Sea Offshore Wind BV	Q3 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MBES bathymetry</li><li>• Side scan sonar (SSS),</li><li>• Sub bottom profiler (SBP),</li><li>• Magnetometer (MAG),</li><li>• Shallow geology (low penetration: SBP);</li><li>• Shallow geology (medium penetration: Sparker; offshore only).</li></ul>	FS0007358  ADCO (2023b). North Irish Sea Array Marine Geophysical Survey Export Cable Corridor archaeological interpretation 22R0263. Unpublished Client Report, Bray
Preliminary Geotechnical Campaign - Array	Fugro Marine GB Ltd.	Q4 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nine boreholes with downhole push sampling to depths ranging between 17.5 m and 69.3 m below seafloor (BSF)</li><li>• Five boreholes with rotary core sampling from top of bedrock to depths ranging between 47.0 m and 59.8 m BS, including geophysical logging.</li></ul>	FS007031



Campaign	Contractor	Date	Scope of Work	Marine License and associated archaeological reporting
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16 down-the-hole cone penetrometer tests (CPT), ranging between 2.9 m and 70.1 m.</li> </ul>	
Interim Geotechnical Campaign - Array	Geoquip Marine Operations AG	Q4 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three boreholes with rotary coring of rock samples only; rock sockets depths ranging from 32.5m to 54.5 m BSF.</li> <li>Five down-the-hole CPT boreholes ranging from 37m to 49.2m BSF</li> </ul>	FS007031
Shallow Geotechnical Campaign - Array and ECC	N-Sea Offshore Wind BV	Q4 2023	<p>Split scope comprising of investigations within:</p> <p><b>Export cable routes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>44 CPT locations</li> <li>44 VC locations, all of them including TRT measurements</li> </ul> <p><b>Array area:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19 CPT locations</li> <li>19 vibrocore (VC) locations,</li> </ul> <p>Nominal depth of investigation was 6m, with five locations extending to 10m depth BSF.</p>	FS007031 and FS0007358
Nearshore Geophysical Infill Campaign	SEP Hydrographic Ltd.	Q4 2023	<p>Split scope comprising of:</p> <p><b>Marine Geophysical:</b> Full coverage Multibeam bathymetry (MBES) data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Side Scan Sonar (SSS) data.</li> <li>Magnetometer.</li> <li>Shallow-penetration, hull/pole mounted high frequency sub bottom profiler (HF-SBP)</li> </ul>	<p>FS0007358</p> <p>ADCO (2024). North Irish Sea Array Marine Geophysical Survey Nearshore and intertidal archaeological interpretation 23D0104, 23R0459. Unpublished Client Report, Bray.</p>



Campaign	Contractor	Date	Scope of Work	Marine License and associated archaeological reporting
			<b>Intertidal Infill:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Topographic/Bathymetric survey.</li><li>▪ Photogrammetry.</li><li>▪ Magnetometry.</li><li>▪ Land Seismic</li></ul>	
Detailed Geophysical Survey - Array	PGS Geophysical AS	Q3 2024	Split scope comprising of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Analogue geophysical sensors on a full site coverage approach within the study area (MBES, SSS, SBP, Mag)</li><li>▪ 3D UHRS Geophysical Survey of entire study area on a 62.5m line spacing.</li></ul>	FS007031  ADCO (2026). North Irish Sea Array Marine Geophysical Survey 2024 Archaeological Interpretation 24D0246, 24R0392. Unpublished Client Report, Bray.



## 1.5 Construction programme

- 1.5.1 The offshore construction phase is expected to take approximately three years to complete. There are a number of pre-installation activities which will be undertaken along the offshore development area, including further site investigation activities to comprise of geophysical, geotechnical and unexploded ordinance (UXO) surveys. These will help identify, in detail, seabed conditions and morphology, and the presence or absence of any potential obstructions. Depending on survey results, the following seabed preparation activities may be undertaken: UXO clearance, boulder clearance, and pre lay grapnel run (PLGR).

## 1.6 Scope of document

- 1.6.1 This MAMP sets out the aims, the methodologies and standards that will be employed by the Developer and the Project Archaeologist to implement the mitigation strategy set out in the MUL application (NISA 2023) EIAR (Arup 2024) and update to the EIAR (Arup 2026a).

- 1.6.2 This MAMP sets out the baseline resource for the known and potential archaeological assets within the proposed development, supports compliance with relevant legislation regarding archaeology and cultural heritage (see **Section 2.1**) and Guidance (see **Section 2.2**) and, defines the archaeological mitigation strategies proposed to address the known and potential impacts as set out in the EIAR (Arup 2024) and EIAR update (Arup 2026a) and agreed proposed principal Consenting Licence conditions (see **Section 2.3**).

- 1.6.3 The principal archaeological mitigation strategies that apply to the proposed development are:

- to avoid impacts to seabed features of known archaeological interest (see **Section 4.2** and **Section 4.3**),
- to archaeologically review geophysical survey and geotechnical investigation datasets (see **Section 4.4**), and
- to archaeologically monitor areas where there is likely to be direct impact to unknown and potential archaeology from activities, where practicable (see **Section 4.8**).

- 1.6.4 Throughout the construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed development a Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries (PAD - **Section 4.9**) will be maintained, as an ongoing measure for unexpected archaeological discoveries of sites, artefacts and other material of archaeological and cultural heritage interest more generally, encountered by Project activities.

## 1.7 Addressing questions from the Research Agendas

- 1.7.1 Research Agendas provide research priorities that should be considered during archaeological research. Research frameworks are designed to be the go-to research resource for archaeology, providing an overview of the subject but also setting out useful and relevant research questions to be applied in any future work, including strategies on how to carry out the research.

- 1.7.2 Frameworks are developed to build current research priorities and normally organised by either geographical areas, periods, or themes. As part of the Discovery Programme, a Strategic Archaeological Research Framework for Ireland is being developed. The Framework for Archaeological Research (FAR) project is funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and supported by the Heritage Council and the Department for Communities. The aim of the FAR is to establish the current state of



archaeological research activities, identify gaps, define future research questions, and facilitate collaboration.

- 1.7.3 The FAR is still under development, however, data gathered during the pre-construction and installation works may have the potential to inform research questions that are developed as part of the FAR (The Discovery Programme 2026).



## 2 LEGISLATION, GUIDANCE AND CONSENTING AND THE MAMP

### 2.1 Summary of legislation

- 2.1.1 The *National Monuments Acts 1930-2014* provide specific legislative basis for the protection of archaeological monuments and areas and archaeological objects. The Minister of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands is required to establish and maintain both a 'Register of Monuments and Places' (under section 12 of the 1994 Amendment Act) and 'Record of Historic Monuments' under the terms of the 1987 and 1994 Amendments Acts, respectively. Section 1 of the 1987 Act states that all monuments dating to before AD 1700 and any monument meeting specific criteria of interest are automatically defined as 'historic monuments'. Section 3 states that wrecks greater than 100 years old and archaeological objects found underwater are protected. The Act also allows the imposition of an Underwater Heritage Order to protect sites of historical, archaeological or artistic importance. This can include wrecks less than 100 years old. Furthermore, this Act allows for the regulation of archaeological excavations, the use of detection devices for archaeological purposes and diving on historic wrecks and other underwater archaeological sites, requiring written consent from the Minister prior to undertake any of the above.
- 2.1.2 The *Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023*, when it comes into force, will repeal and replace the National Monuments Acts. The 2023 Act affords protections to underwater cultural heritage to 24 nm (the Continuous Zone) and enables the regulation of activities beyond this limit to the Irish EEZ (extending up to 200 nautical miles) and continental shelf, aligned with the UNESCO 2001 Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage (ratified in December 2025). The 2023 Act introduces new measures to protect archaeological structures and sites, and establishes a single Register of Monuments, a statutory reporting scheme for newly discovered monuments and provisions to prevent the illicit import and possession of stolen cultural property. The Act incorporates historic wrecks and underwater cultural archaeological objects into the new scheme for monument protection. It is anticipated the full enactment of the *Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023* will occur in the course of the installation works. Under this legislation, archaeological discoveries must be reported to the NMS and/or the National Museum of Ireland (NMI) within four days of discovery. Additionally, use of detection devices (e.g. metal detector) to search for archaeological objects requires a consent.
- 2.1.3 The *Merchant Shipping (Salvage and Wreck) Act 1993* defines obligations in relation to 'wreck'. Any person who takes possession of wreck within Irish waters must deliver it to the Receiver of Wreck of the district concerned. The Director of the NMI is notified by the Receiver of unclaimed wreck and may decide to retain it on behalf of the State if it is of archaeological interest. 'Wreck' includes jetsam, flotsam, lagan and derelict found in or on the shores of the sea or any tidal water or harbour.

### 2.2 Guidance

- 2.2.1 Currently, there is no specific best practice guidance relevant to marine archaeology in Ireland. Until such documents are developed, the following archaeological guidance documents inform the archaeological requirements and approaches in Irish jurisdiction:
- *Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage* (Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, 1999);
  - *Policy and Guidelines on Archaeological Excavation* (Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, 1999);



- *Conserving Ireland's Maritime Heritage, Proposing Policies and Priorities for the National Heritage* (The Heritage Council, 2006);
- *Guidelines for the Authors of Reports on Archaeological Excavations* (National Monuments Service, 2006);
- *Standards for the care and treatment of archaeological objects from excavations* (National Museum of Ireland, 2022);
- *Advice to the Public on Use of Metal Detection Devices and their Impact on Our Archaeological Heritage* (Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht & National Museum of Ireland); and
- *Advice to the Public on Ireland's Underwater Archaeological Heritage* (Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, 2022).

## **2.3 Summary of Principal Consenting Licence conditions**

2.3.1 As part of the submission process, observations were received on 2 August 2024 on the proposed development planning application from relevant coastal planning authorities and other stakeholders. **Table 3** presents the archaeological recommendations which relate to marine archaeology.



**Table 3** Archaeological recommendations relevant to marine archaeology

Reference	Archaeological Recommendations	Addressed in Draft MAMP
Plan 03814/2024 DHLGH  No. 5	All recommendations and mitigation measures in relation to marine archaeology as set out in Vol. 3 Offshore Chapters Chapter 18 Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (Arup and Partners Ltd) shall be implemented in full, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the conditions of this Order. Compliance with this condition shall require a formal statement in writing from the NMS to the Marine Area Regulatory Authority/ An Bord Pleanála that all mitigation measures have been implemented and approved.	This Draft MAMP is being submitted in support of the update to the EIAR and provides the overarching framework for implementing the mitigation strategies set out in the update to the EIAR.
Plan 03814/2024 DHLGH  No. 6	A Project Archaeologist shall be appointed to oversee and advise on all aspects of the Project, including detailed design, construction activities and maintenance.	Roles, responsibilities and communication are discussed in <b>Section 4.1</b> .
Plan 03814/2024 DHLGH  No. 7	<p>An Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment (UAIA) report shall be forwarded by the Developer to the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for review and approval prior to all further geotechnical investigation works taking place. The UAIA shall augment previous archaeological assessments and shall include the following:</p> <p>(a) Results of geophysical survey data sets assessment and archaeological interpretation by a suitably qualified and experienced maritime archaeologist, to ensure that any proposed geotechnical works do not negatively impact on locations where there is known or potential underwater cultural heritage, including historic wrecks, archaeological objects, submerged palaeolandscapes, sites and features, and to ensure no samples or cores are taken from an area where a wreck is located. The archaeologist shall also be suitably experienced, with a track record in dealing with and the interpretation of marine geophysical data for archaeological purposes, including ensuring it is of sufficient specification for the identification of underwater cultural heritage.</p> <p>(b) The geophysical surveys shall be licenced under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2014. A Dive survey licence (Section 3 1987 National Monuments Act) and Detection Device consent (Section 2 1987 National Monuments Act) shall be required. Licence applications, accompanied by Method Statements, shall be sent for approval to the NMS of the DHLGH. Any dive surveys required in connection with proposed geophysical surveys or other works shall also</p>	For works related to this Draft MAMP, as part of individual work packages, a UAIA detailing the activity-specific archaeological method statement will be collated for review and approval by the NMS, as discussed in <b>Section 4.7</b> . Works will be undertaken under the applicable archaeological licence as discussed in <b>Section 4.10</b> .



Reference	Archaeological Recommendations	Addressed in Draft MAMP
	<p>be licenced (Section 3 1987 National Monuments Act). Any dive survey shall be accompanied by a handheld metal detection survey which shall also be licenced (Section 2 1987 National Monuments Act). All archaeological diving shall comply with the Health and Safety Authority's Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Diving) Regulations 2018/2019.</p> <p>(c) Once all geophysical surveys and archaeological interpretations have been completed, the full information shall be compiled into a final UAIA report and submitted to the NMS for review and approval, prior to undertaking any geotechnical works. The UAIA Report shall contain a detailed Archaeological Impact Assessment that addresses all identified or potential impacts on underwater cultural heritage, including on historic wrecks, archaeological objects, submerged palaeolandscapes, sites and features, and shall also make recommendations on measures to avoid (through the institution of Archaeological Exclusion Zones) or, where necessary, mitigate (by archaeological dive surveys/archaeological test excavations/archaeological geophysical surveys/ archaeological monitoring/preservation by record or any other means as recommended by the National Monuments Service) all potential/identified impacts and effects on underwater cultural heritage. The Developer shall be prepared to be advised by the National Monuments Service in this regard or in regard to any subsequent recommendations that may issue. No geotechnical works shall be undertaken until formal approval in writing from the National Monuments Service has been received by the Developer. Compliance with this condition requires a formal statement in writing, from the National Monuments Service to the Marine Area Regulatory Authority/An Bord Pleanála, approving the UAIA report.</p>	
Plan 03814/2024 DHLGH  No. 8	Following the completion of all geotechnical works, the Developer shall furnish the Project Archaeologist with the results of all site investigation works and shall provide access to site investigation works and shall provide access to site investigation cores and physical samples for archaeological and geoarchaeological review by a qualified geoarchaeologist. Where potential submerged palaeolandscape deposits or other anthropogenic materials are identified, they shall be subject to geoarchaeological and	Relevant approaches to archaeological mitigation, including geoarchaeological assessments of existing and future project-specific geotechnical surveys, is discussed in <b>Section 4.4</b> and <b>Section 6</b> .



Reference	Archaeological Recommendations	Addressed in Draft MAMP
	<p>palaeoenvironmental analysis and scientific dating, in agreement with the National Monuments Service and subject for approval of Licences to Alter and Export from the National Museum of Ireland. Following the completion of all geotechnical and archaeological works and any necessary post-excavation specialist analysis, the National Monuments Service shall be furnished with a final archaeological report describing the results of the works. Compliance with this condition requires a formal statement in writing, from the from the National Monuments Service to the Marine Area Regulatory Authority/An Bord Pleanála, approving the geoarchaeological report.</p>	
Plan 03814/2024 DHLGH  No. 9	<p>The Final Design for the offshore windfarm shall be the subject of an Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment (UAIA), to be submitted to the NMS for review and approval, prior to the commencement of any seabed preparation or construction works, The UAIA report shall contain a synthesis of the archaeological outcomes of all prior geophysical, geotechnical, intertidal archaeological investigations and any other relevant investigations. The UAIA report shall contain a detailed Archaeological Impact Assessment that addresses all identified or potential impacts on underwater cultural heritage, including on historic wrecks, archaeological objects, submerged palaeolandscapes, sites and features, and shall also make recommendations through the institution of Archaeological Exclusion Zones) or, where necessary, mitigate (by archaeological dive surveys/archaeological test excavations/archaeological geophysical surveys/ archaeological monitoring/preservation by record or any other means as recommended by the National Monuments Service) all potential/identified impacts and effects on underwater cultural heritage. The Developer shall be prepared to be advised by the National Monuments Service in this regard or in regard to any subsequent recommendations that may issue. No seabed preparation or construction works shall be undertaken until formal approval in writing from the NMS has been received by the Developer. Compliance with this condition requires a formal statement in writing, from the National Monuments Service to the Marine Area Regulatory Authority/An Bord Pleanála, approving the UAIA report.</p>	<p>The final design of the proposed development will be subject to an UAIA under the ACP permission. This will provide the results of all archaeologically assessed survey datasets and relevant investigations and recommendations for any further archaeological mitigation strategies. Furthermore, it will provide map-based presentations of all activities to validate existing archaeological mitigation measures.</p>



Reference	Archaeological Recommendations	Addressed in Draft MAMP
<p>Plan 03814/2024 DHLGH</p> <p>No. 10</p>	<p>Archaeological monitoring shall be undertaken as follows:</p> <p>(a) The services of a suitably qualified and experienced, to the satisfaction of the National Monuments Service, maritime archaeologist shall be engaged to carry out full-time onboard archaeological monitoring of all construction activities that impact on the intertidal/foreshore, seabed and/or on underwater cultural heritage and any works where material of archaeological importance may be uncovered. Archaeological monitoring shall include works for seabed preparation, foundation installation and scour protection installation, offshore export cable - landfall installation punch-out, offshore export cable - offshore installation, inter-array and interconnector cable installation.</p> <p>(b) The archaeological monitoring shall be carried out by a suitably qualified and experienced, to the satisfaction of the National Monuments Service, maritime archaeologist, under Section 26 (National Monuments Act 1930) excavation licence and in accordance with an approved method statement.</p> <p>(c) A Finds Retrieval Strategy shall be implemented and agreed with the National Monuments Service, as part of the archaeological licence application. This shall include for metal detection for finds retrieval, which shall be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist working under a Detection Device consent (Section 2 1987 National Monuments Act). All monitoring works that have the potential to uncover human skeletal remains shall be undertaken in conjunction with a suitably qualified and experienced osteoarchaeologist. Secure finds storage that ensures the protection and conservation of wet and dry finds, including human skeletal remains, shall be provided onboard and within the construction site compound.</p> <p>(d) Sufficient, suitably experienced and qualified, to the satisfaction of the National Monuments Service, maritime archaeologists shall be in place to ensure continuous archaeological monitoring works, including 24-hour onboard archaeological monitoring of construction activities. An archaeological team shall be on standby to deal with any rescue excavation and may be augmented as required. An archaeological dive team shall be on standby in the event that underwater</p>	<p><b>Section 4</b> sets out the approach to implementing specific mitigation measures, including archaeological monitoring where required, and in instances where further archaeological works arise. Specific archaeological work packages will be detailed in an Archaeological Method Statement, as discussed in <b>Section 4.7</b>.</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring is discussed in <b>Section 4.8</b></p> <p><b>Section 4.3</b> discusses measures to offset disturbance where preservation <i>in situ</i> is not possible.</p> <p><b>Section 4.5</b> provides a strategy for non-archaeological diving and ROV survey work that may be carried out on the proposed development.</p> <p><b>Section 4.6</b> provides a strategy in instances where archaeological divers/archaeological ROV surveys are required to undertake further assessment of newly identified archaeological sites/objects.</p> <p><b>Section 5</b> provides a strategy for find retrieval.</p> <p><b>Section 6</b> discusses reporting and data management procedures.</p>



Reference	Archaeological Recommendations	Addressed in Draft MAMP
	<p>archaeological inspection is required by means of archaeological diving. All dive surveys shall be licenced (Section 3 1987 National Monuments Act) and shall include handheld metal detection survey, which shall also be licenced (Section 2 1987 National Monuments Act). All archaeological diving shall comply with the Health and Safety Authority's Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Diving) Regulations 2018/2019.</p> <p>(e) In order to ensure full communication is in place between the monitoring archaeologist(s) and the works contractor(s) at all times, a communication strategy shall be implemented that facilitates onboard direct archaeological monitoring of all construction activities that impact on the seabed/intertidal zone and/or on underwater cultural heritage, and provides the former with adequate notice (minimum eight weeks) of all forthcoming works that require their attendance.</p> <p>(f) Should suspected/verified underwater cultural heritage materials, including wrecks, palaeolandscapes materials, archaeological features or sites and/or archaeological objects be identified during the course of the archaeological monitoring activities, the monitoring archaeologists shall be authorised by the Developer to suspend all construction activities on the affected area (as defined by the monitoring archaeologist). The Developer shall immediately institute a Temporary Exclusion Zone (TEZ) to the proposed find location and its environs (as defined by the monitoring archaeologist) and all construction activities shall immediately cease within the TEZ in order to facilitate investigative assessment protection and prompt notification to the NMS and other statutory authorities, as required.</p> <p>(g) The Developer shall undertake any ensuing mitigating action as is required by the National Monuments Service. Mitigation shall prioritise redesign or partial redesign to facilitate full or partial preservation in situ by the institution of permanent Archaeological Exclusion Zones. Mitigation may also include underwater archaeological inspection by means of archaeological diving, underwater archaeological surveys (geophysical, ROV), underwater archaeological test-excavations, underwater archaeological excavations ("preservation by record"), stabilisation works and/or archaeological monitoring, or any combination of the above or any other mitigation</p>	



Reference	Archaeological Recommendations	Addressed in Draft MAMP
	<p>measures as may be recommended by the National Monuments Service. No construction activities shall commence within the Archaeological Exclusion Zone until formally agreed in writing with the National Monuments Service. Where ensuring mitigation is required, no archaeological works shall be undertaken until after an amended method statement that describes the mitigation strategy has been submitted, reviewed and agreed in writing by the National Monuments Service. All resulting and associated archaeological costs shall be borne by the Developer</p> <p>(h) The planning authority and the National Monuments Service shall be furnished with a final archaeological report describing the results of all archaeological monitoring and any archaeological investigative work/excavation required, following the completion of all archaeological works and any post-excavation analysis, scientific dating programmes, palaeoenvironmental analysis, geoarchaeological analysis and conservation of archaeological objects, as required by the National Monuments Service and the National Museum of Ireland, with all resulting and associated archaeological costs to be borne by the Developer. Compliance with this condition requires a formal statement in writing, from the National Monuments Service to the Marine Area Regulatory Authority/ An Bord Pleanála, approving the final report submission.</p>	
<p>Plan 03814/2024 DHLGH  No. 11</p>	<p>The Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) shall be updated to include the location of any and all archaeological or underwater cultural heritage constraints relevant to the proposed development as set out in the Final Design UAIA and EIAR. The CEMP shall clearly describe all identified likely archaeological impacts, both direct and indirect, and all mitigation measures to be employed to protect the archaeological or underwater cultural heritage environment during all phases of site preparation and construction activity.</p>	<p>A CEMP was submitted with the planning application (Appendix 9.1 of the 2024 EIAR). The CEMP will be finalised once consent is obtained.</p>
<p>Plan 03814/2024 DHLGH  No. 12</p>	<p>An Archaeological Management Plan (AMP) shall be forwarded by the Developer to the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for review and approval prior to all confirmatory investigation and/or construction works taking place. The AMP shall set out the commitments made by the Developer in the EIAR, regarding archaeological procedures and protocols for the archaeological monitoring of construction activities and the recording, reporting of any and</p>	<p>This Draft MAMP provides an overarching framework for implementing the archaeological mitigation strategies below HWM, covers the licences summarised in <b>Section 1.2.5</b>.</p>



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Reference	Archaeological Recommendations	Addressed in Draft MAMP
	all archaeological materials discovered during the construction phase.	

### 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BASELINE

#### 3.1 Overview

3.1.1 The results within this baseline are summarised from the EIAR (Arup 2024) and EIAR update (Arup 2026a) which in turn are informed by project-specific surveys and archaeological assessments (ADCO 2021; 2022; 2023a; 2023b; 2024; 2026; Wessex Archaeology 2024).

3.1.2 The following archaeological work has been undertaken in relation to the proposed development:

- a desk-based study of available information, including data from: the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO); the NMS Wreck Inventory of Ireland Database (WIID), Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and topographical files held by the National Museum of Ireland;
- archaeological assessments of marine geophysical survey datasets and reports acquired for the proposed development within the array area and ECC by N-Sea and Fugro in 2022 (ADCO 2022; 2023b; Wessex Archaeology 2024), SEP Hydrographic in 2023 (ADCO 2024) and TGS (2025) in 2024 (ADCO 2026). Datasets variously included sidescan sonar (SSS), magnetometer (Mag.), sub-bottom profiler (SBP) and multibeam echosounder (MBES); and
- an intertidal walkover survey conducted at Bremore Point in 2023 (ADCO 2023a).

#### 3.2 Summary of known and potential archaeological assets

##### *Palaeogeographical assessment*

3.2.1 The appraisal of geophysical data within the study area resulted in the identification of a total of three features of palaeogeographical interest, all within the array area. Full details can be found in Appendix A18.1: Maritime and Aviation Archaeology Baseline (Arup 2026a; Wessex Archaeology 2024) and are presented in **Figure 1**.

3.2.2 These are summarised as follows:

- A total of three features, including two channel complexes (**70001** and **70004**) and one distinct channel (**70003**) were assigned a P1 archaeological rating (feature of probable archaeological interest, either because of its palaeogeography or likelihood for producing palaeoenvironmental material), within the array area.
- An additional channel complex (**70002**) was present within the northeastern extent of the geophysical survey area (outside of the offshore development area and study area). It is mentioned here for additional context of new palaeogeographical knowledge provided by the proposed development but not taken forward as a receptor as it is located beyond the spatial extent of impact pathways identified.

3.2.3 The array area contains extensive sedimentary stratigraphy reflecting the development of a broad post-glacial palaeolandscape through significant phases of palaeo-channel formation, coastal-deltaic development until ultimately being inundated by rising sea levels. The unit with the greatest archaeological interest was observed to be Unit 4a as defined in the palaeolandscapes report (Wessex Archaeology 2024). Relative Sea Level (RSL) data from deeper water locations and corresponding understanding of the archaeological potential of these palaeolandscapes, offshore Ireland, are rare, very poorly constrained and identified as a national priority for study.



3.2.4 Mitigation strategies related to the geoarchaeological studies into these features, including review of existing borehole logs and cores alongside potential future survey datasets are set out in Section 4.4 and the requisite reporting in Section 6.

#### *Seabed features*

3.2.5 A total of 23 anomalies, recorded features or wreck sites with assessed archaeological potential have been identified in the baseline assessments covering the proposed development array area, ECC and intertidal zone at landfall, as illustrated in **Figures 2** and **3**. They are as follows:

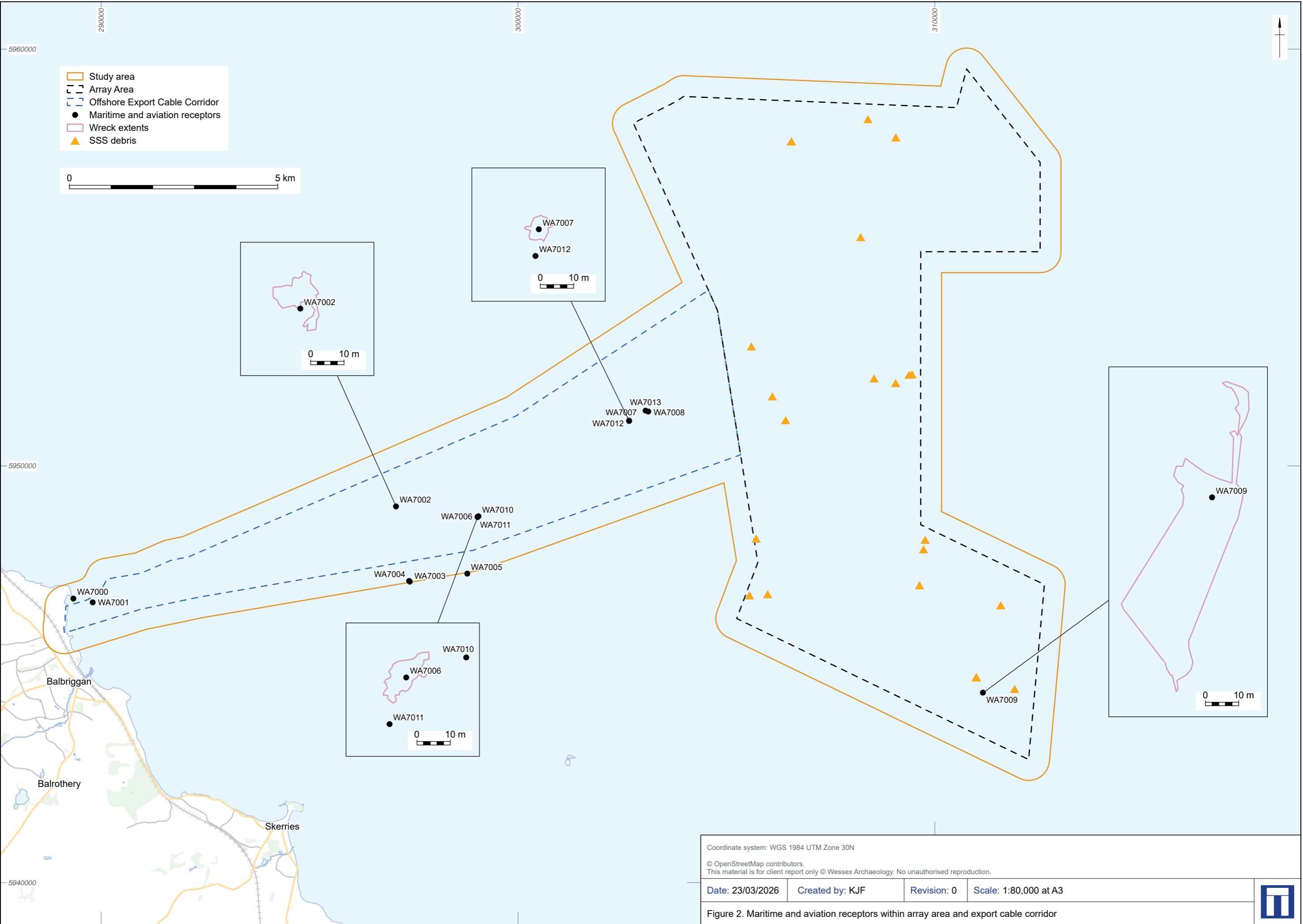
- One possible wreck (debris noted) within the extents of array area – a documented location attributed to the SS *Downshire*;
- Three possible wrecks within the extents of the ECC;
- Three pieces of debris associated with two of the possible wrecks within the ECC;
- Two recorded wreck locations within the ECC with no associated geophysical anomalies;
- One recorded wreck location (that of the *Belle Hill*) outside the extents of the ECC within the study area but with two pieces of identified debris within the extents of the ECC;
- Three recorded wreck locations identified on non-project surveys outside the extents of the ECC but within the study area; and
- Three geophysical anomalies within the intertidal and nearshore area that may be related to either the *Belle Hill* wreck or debris from it.

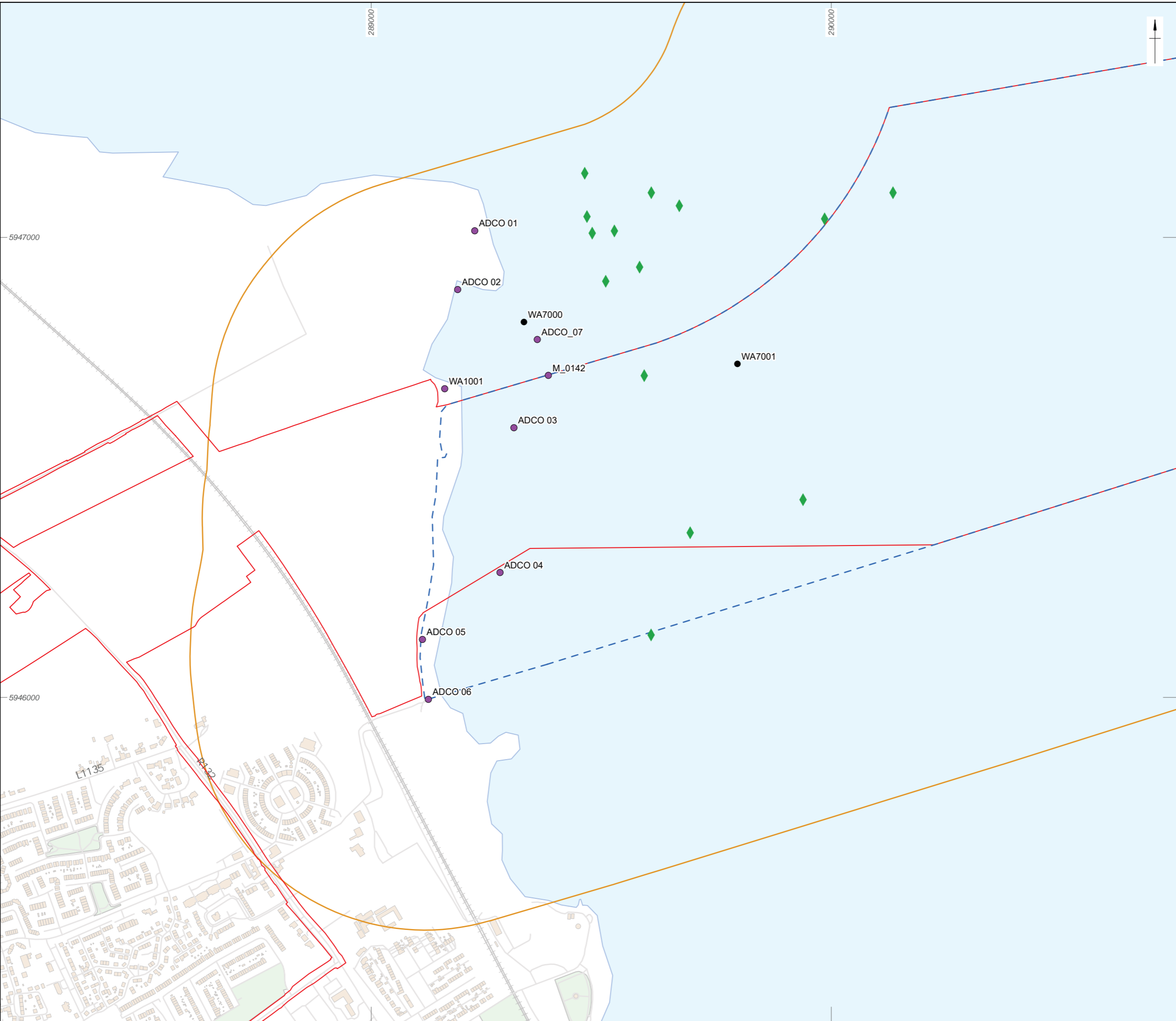
3.2.6 There is currently one wreck within the proposed development proposed offshore development that would be subject to statutory protection. This is the previously documented wreck site of SS *Downshire* (NMS W01996; **WA7009**) within the south-east of the array area. The ship was an iron hulled steam collier built in 1905 sailing from Whitehaven to Dublin with a cargo of coal when it was captured by UB-64 and sunk by gunfire. As a wreck of over 100 years in age it is automatically subject to statutory protection, if confirmed at that location.

3.2.7 A second recorded location of a wreck site over 100 years in age, that of the *Belle Hill* (NMS W00543; **WA7000**), is located outside the northern extent of the ECC close to the landfall location, however the archaeological assessment of the nearshore geophysical surveys identified anomalies which may relate to this wreck or associated debris (report identifiers **ADCO 03**, **ADCO 07** and **M 0142**) and any of this material forming a coherent site would be subject to statutory protection. The ship was an 800-ton iron barque built in 1866 and was wrecked at Bremore Point in February 1875 while on passage from Liverpool to Valparaiso with a general cargo, including a large quantity of iron products.

3.2.8 An anomaly **WA7001** identified in the MBES dataset as a mound within a depression is located towards the end of a suspected trawl scar in the nearshore part of the ECC. A magnetic response is associated with this anomaly. The ADCO assessment suggested this could either be lost trawl gear or material associated with the Belle Hill wreck, which is located 470m to the WNW. This feature has also been identified within the nearshore geophysical survey Mag. and SSS datasets (SEP Hydrographic 2023; ADCO 2024).

3.2.9 Three debris fields are also visible in the SSS dataset located within the ECC and have been identified as potential wrecks by ADCO (ADCO 2023b). These anomalies have no





- Study area
- Proposed Development Boundary
- - - Offshore Export Cable Corridor
- Intertidal receptors
- Maritime and aviation receptors
- ◆ Mag anomalies

0 250 m

Coordinate system: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 30N  
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Date: 23/03/2026 Created by: KJF

Scale: 1:8,000 at A3 Revision: 0



Figure 3. Intertidal receptors to HMW



corresponding UKHO or NMS record and so it is unclear whether they are wrecks or areas of debris, but they have been discriminated as high value as a precaution.

- 3.2.10 **WA7002** measures 17.8 x 13.7m and is visible in the SSS dataset as a debris field with numerous dark reflectors, and within the MBES dataset as an oval depression indicating a possible scour surrounding three mounds. It also has an associated response on multiple lines of Mag. data, indicating the presence of ferrous material.
- 3.2.11 **WA7006** measures 18.5 x 10.5m and is visible in the SSS dataset as a debris field comprising multiple numerous angular and elongate dark reflectors. It is visible in the MBES dataset as an oval depression which may be a scour containing several small mounds along the south-eastern side. It also has a magnetic response within nearby lines of Mag. data. Two additional SSS anomalies which may be debris associated with this anomaly have also been identified: **WA7010** 12.7 m to the east and **WA7011** 5 m to the south.
- 3.2.12 **WA7007** is noted to be a mound with possible associated scour from the MBES dataset. The SSS dataset shows a poorly defined seabed disturbance of considerable height with a large distinct dark reflector in the centre. Mag. anomalies suggest the presence of ferrous material, which would suggest an anthropogenic origin. The ADCO assessment suggests this might be related to a UKHO record located 46m to the north-east (UKHO 7057, identified in this assessment as WA70013) which was listed as a known obstruction in 1977 made up of a substantial quantity of metal, probably iron. An additional SSS anomaly **WA7012** has been identified 7.5 m south of the mound, which could be associated debris.
- 3.2.13 The two records which do not have geophysical anomalies associated with them are a UKHO record (UKHO 7057) and an NMS record (W00523) which may be for the same feature but are c.75m apart and so have been allocated separate entries (respectively **WA7008** and **WA7013**). Due to the location methodology for these records being less accurate than modern methods it may be that these relate to the material identified at **WA7007** and **WA7012**, 470 m to the WSW.
- 3.2.14 Two iron barges (**WA7003** and **WA7004**) are outside the southern extent of the ECC but within the study area. These have been identified by previous surveys up to 2015 (unrelated to the proposed development) in UKHO records (6952 and 69594 respectively) and have NMS records (W00471 and W00472 respectively). They are listed as being upright and intact, lying side by side E–W on the seabed within scour pockets in 19m of water. Each wreck is around 30 m long by 8 m wide and up to 4 m high.
- 3.2.15 A third wreck, **WA7005**, is located outside the southern extent of the ECC but within the study area has been mapped on the NMS via the National Seabed Survey. It is described as measuring 16 x 5 x 2 m and lying at a depth of -21 m.
- 3.2.16 Full details can be found in Section 18.3 and illustrated in Figures 18.3 and 18.4 of Chapter 18 (Arup 2026a).
- 3.2.17 In addition to these anomalies identified as having archaeological potential, a further 22 Mag. anomalies with peak-to-peak values equal to and greater than 100 nanoTeslas (nT) have been identified within the nearshore and intertidal geophysical surveys (SEP Hydrographic 2023), alongside ADCO 07, M 0142 and WA 7001. Three of these have corresponding SSS anomalies, including WA 7001.

- 3.2.18 Within the high-resolution datasets surveyed within the array area in 2024 (TGS 2025) a total of 22 SSS anomalies are noted in the archaeological assessment (ADCO 2026) as having low archaeological potential.

*Marine recorded losses*

- 3.2.19 The WIID lists 527 documented losses within waters around the proposed development. These consist of post-medieval and modern vessels, consisting of barges, barques, coasters, frigates and fishing boats along with two aircraft dating to the 20th century.

- 3.2.20 Recorded Losses can be considered as an indication of the potential for archaeological maritime remains to exist within the proposed offshore development and the type and number of wrecks that could be present. There will be a bias in these records towards vessels dating to the post-medieval period and later. While this to some extent could represent a significant increase in shipping during the post medieval period, it also reflects the fact that reports of shipwreck events in Ireland were not systematically recorded until the 18th century. There will also be a bias towards vessels that sank in inshore waters.

- 3.2.21 Full details can be found in Appendix A18.1 (Arup 2026a).

*Intertidal features*

- 3.2.22 A total of seven features were identified within the intertidal zone, in addition to the geophysical anomalies from the intertidal and nearshore geophysical survey discussed above (and illustrated in **Figure 3**). These include:

- Three artefacts identified through the intertidal walkover survey below the HMW which may relate to wreck material; and
- Four terrestrial features below or on the HMW at the landfall.

- 3.2.23 The three artefacts identified in the intertidal walkover include a ceramic sherds (**ADCO 02**), iron bar or banding (**ADCO 03**) and a brass tap (**ADCO 04**) which could relate to the wreck of the *Belle Hill* or from one of the many Recorded Losses wrecked on the Cardy Rocks.

- 3.2.24 The remaining four receptors are located on the landward edge of the intertidal zone and include the concrete base for a coastal defence lookout post (**ADCO 01**), a small memorial constructed in 2018 (**ADCO 05**), a stone culvert (**ADCO 06**) thought to relate to the construction of the Great Northern Railway and a small stone cairn known as the Sailor's Grave (**WA1001**), thought to have been built in remembrance of those lost on the *Belle Hill*.

### **3.3 Potential impacts on archaeological receptors**

- 3.3.1 The EIAR (Arup 2024) and update to the EIAR (Arup 2026a) have identified the potential effects on marine archaeology and cultural heritage, which might occur from the installation, operation (including maintenance and repair), and decommissioning of the proposed development. The impact on marine archaeological receptors may result from both direct and indirect impacts.

- 3.3.2 Direct impacts may result from activities involving contact with the seabed or the removal of seabed sediments. Marine archaeological receptors with height, such as shipwrecks, may also be impacted by activities that occur within the water column.

- 3.3.3 There could be permanent physical loss or disturbance of potential seabed receptors in shallow sediments from seabed preparation, other installation activities, operation (including maintenance and repair), and decommissioning works. These receptors could



include shallowly buried shipwrecks or aircraft crash sites. Areas of particular concern would include areas of concentration of geophysical anomalies (particularly buried magnetic anomalies with no surface expression).

- 3.3.4 There could also be permanent physical loss or disturbance of known and potential palaeogeographic features from the installation, operation (including maintenance and repair), and decommissioning works where activities penetrate the surface.
- 3.3.5 Permanent physical loss or disturbance of known and potential seabed prehistory receptors, and marine and aviation receptors can also occur from the use of jack-ups or mooring system anchors used by vessels during installation, operation (including maintenance and repair), and decommissioning activities. The use of HDD to install marine cables under the intertidal area removes any direct impact on receptors within the intertidal area, leaving only the potential for direct impact on geophysical anomalies located within the entry/exit pits in the nearshore area.
- 3.3.6 Indirect impacts occur as a result of changes to sedimentation and erosion patterns during installation, operation (including maintenance and repair), and decommissioning, associated with dredging and disposal works, and the placement of non-burial protection. The physical processes assessment undertaken and presented in Chapter 10 Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes (Arup 2026b) indicates that no significant effects are anticipated.



## 4 MITIGATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MAMP

### 4.1 Roles, responsibilities and communication

4.1.1 The archaeological resource of Ireland is protected and managed by various stakeholders. The Draft MAMP sets out how mitigation measures recommended for archaeological receptors, as set out in the MUL application (NISA 2023) EIAR (Arup 2024) and EIAR update (Arup 2026a), will be undertaken and implemented.

4.1.2 The primary responsibility for implementing the mitigation strategy lies with the Developer who is responsible for engaging with all relevant stakeholders. **Table 4** lists the key roles, responsibilities and lines of communication.

**Table 4** Key roles, responsibilities and communication

Role	Responsibility
Developer	<p>The responsibility for implementing the MAMP rests with the Applicant. The Developer will be responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensuring compliance with the marine licence conditions relevant to marine archaeology, to the satisfaction of the NMS and planning authorities (ACP and MARA);</li> <li>• will comply with the relevant legislations set out in <b>Section 2</b>;</li> <li>• will seek curatorial advice from the NMS and NMI as appropriate;</li> <li>• will commission the services of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeological contractor (Project Archaeologist) to ensure the effective implementation of the MAMP and other contractual commitments in relation to marine archaeology;</li> <li>• will notify the Project Archaeologist during the planning stages for any further work that may impact the seabed;</li> <li>• will commission Archaeological Method Statements as appropriate for works pertaining to archaeological features, prior to such works being undertaken;</li> <li>• will ensure that the Project Archaeologist is provided with all relevant project datasets, to ensure that they are in an informed position to advise the Applicant. This is particularly important between the planning and construction phase, and at any stage if the Project Archaeologist changes, to ensure consistency; and</li> <li>• will ensure that Contractor(s) make project personnel aware of the MAMP, active Archaeological Method Statements, and any Archaeological Exclusion Zones (AEZs) in force.</li> </ul>
Contractor(s)	<p>All relevant Contractors engaged in the construction of the proposed development shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• familiarise themselves with the requirements of the MAMP and make them available to all of their staff working on the project;</li> <li>• communicate with the Project Archaeologist in the planning stages of survey work, to ensure archaeological objectives are included, as appropriate;</li> </ul>



Role	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• obey legal obligations in respect of ‘wreck’ under the <i>National Monuments Acts 1930-2014</i>, the <i>Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023</i> and the <i>Merchant Shipping (Salvage and Wreck) Act 1993</i>;</li> <li>• respect constraint maps and AEZs and seek approval from the NMS prior to any alterations to AEZs or Temporary Exclusion Zones (TEZs);</li> <li>• assist and afford access to the Project Archaeologist and the NMS;</li> <li>• inform the Project Archaeologist of any environmental constraint or matter relating to health, safety and welfare of which they are aware that is relevant to the archaeologists’ activities; and</li> <li>• implement the PAD.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Archaeological Curator(s)</b></p>	<p>The NMS are the statutory body within the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage responsible for regulating archaeological licensing and consent, for compliance and enforcement with the <i>National Monuments Acts 1930-2014</i> and conditions of licences, and for liaising with planning authorities (ACP and MARA) on compliance with planning conditions. In relation to marine archaeology, the NMS is represented by the Underwater Archaeology Unit (UAU).</p> <p>The NMI are the statutory authority responsible for regulating the curation and archiving of archaeological finds. The NMI is represented by the Irish Antiquities Division.</p>
<p><b>Project Archaeologist</b></p>	<p>The Project Archaeologist (also referred to as Retained Archaeologist) will oversee archaeological mitigation to provide consistency throughout the construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed development, as required. The Project Archaeologist will be the primary point of contact with the NMS for the proposed development. The Project Archaeologist is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• advising the Developer on necessary interaction with third parties with archaeological interest, and the NMS and NMI;</li> <li>• advising on statutory responsibilities and obligations, particularly regarding licensing and consent requirements;</li> <li>• advising the Developer and appropriate Contractor(s) on which elements warrant archaeological investigation and provide archaeological advice at the planning stages for any further surveys, such as geophysical, geotechnical, Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), ROV or diver, to ensure data collection is optimised so that it can be used to identify and characterise features of archaeological importance that could be impacted by development works and inform mitigation proposals such as avoidance of wrecks and wreck debris;</li> <li>• will produce archaeological method statements if required for applicable works;</li> <li>• will act as the first contact for any unexpected archaeological discoveries. The Project Archaeologist will cover the administration of the reporting of discoveries and provide immediate actions, including recording, handling and storage, and introduction of measures to prevent or reduce damage if the presence of a significant archaeological site is suspected;</li> <li>• will produce reports post fieldwork for review by the Applicant, prior to issuing to the NMS;</li> </ul>



Role	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>will prepare project archives in consultation with the appropriate repository/museum; and</li> <li>will disseminate and publish research and discoveries derived from archaeological investigations.</li> </ul>
<b>Archaeological Contractor(s)</b>	Archaeological Contractor(s) may be appointed to carry out specific packages of work, for example works beyond the in-house capabilities of the Project Archaeologist, or additional works, as required. The Archaeological Contractor(s) may be appointed by the Applicant. In these instances, the Archaeological Contractor will ensure that works are specified, planned, undertaken, and reported in accordance with the approved MAMP and in line with requirements of the NMS and the Project Archaeologist.

## 4.2 Archaeological Exclusion Zones

- 4.2.1 The primary mitigation for the protection of known archaeological assets is avoidance. This is achieved through the implementation and monitoring of Archaeological Exclusion Zones (AEZs), which are proposed for seabed features of known archaeological interest such as identified wrecks and geophysical anomalies with high archaeological potential.
- 4.2.2 The implementation of AEZs prevents direct impact from development activities on these seabed features and a buffer around their position or extent. All project development and related activities that could impact the seabed are prohibited within the boundaries of an AEZ, however, AEZs do not restrict remote survey work (e.g. vessels entering the zone to acquire geophysical datasets).
- 4.2.3 The AEZs recommended for seabed features of known archaeological interest located within the proposed development are summarised in **Table 5** and illustrated in **Figure 4**.

**Table 5** Recommended AEZs within the proposed development

ID	Description	Position (WGS84 UTM31N)		Exclusion Zone	Location
		Easting	Northing		
<b>WA7000</b>	High value, potential for impact	289332	5946816	100m, clipped to MHW and overlapping AEZs	ECC
<b>ADCO03</b>	High value, potential for impact	286121	5901164	100m, clipped to MHW and overlapping AEZs	ECC
<b>ADCO07</b>	High value, potential for impact	289361	5946778	100m, clipped to MHW and overlapping AEZs	ECC
<b>M 0142</b>	High value, potential for impact	289385	5946700	150m, clipped to MHW and overlapping AEZs	ECC
<b>WA7001</b>	High value, potential for impact	289796	5946725	100m	ECC
<b>WA7002</b>	High value, potential for impact	297073	5949027	100m	ECC
<b>WA7003</b>	High value, no potential for impact	297403	5947223	None: outside the ECC boundary by c.450m	ECC
<b>WA7004</b>	High value, no potential for impact	297387	5947239	None: outside the ECC boundary by c.450m	ECC
<b>WA7005</b>	High value, no potential for impact	298783	5947415	None: outside the ECC boundary by c.450m	ECC

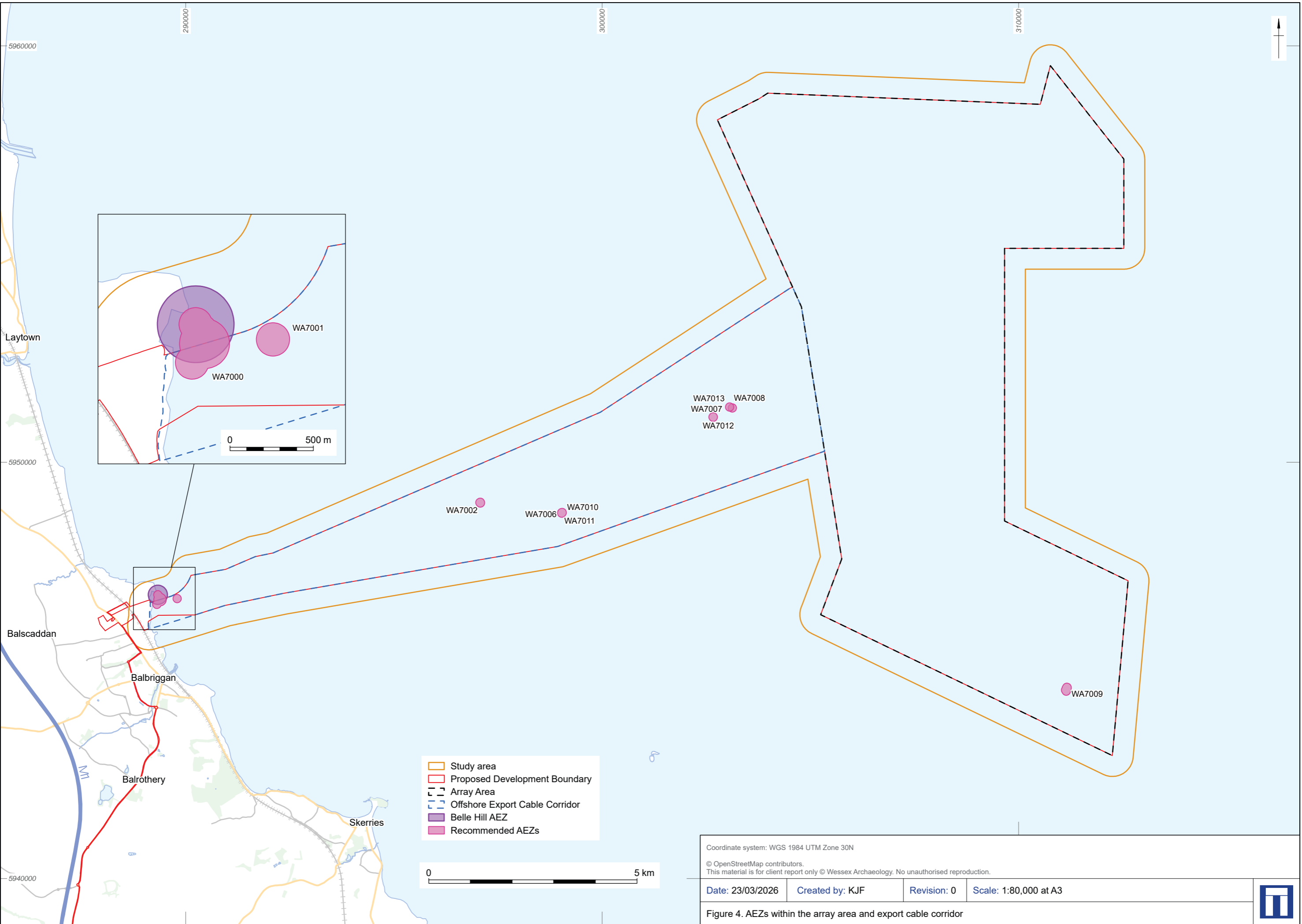


ID	Description	Position (WGS84 UTM31N)		Exclusion Zone	Location
		Easting	Northing		
WA7006	High value, potential for impact	299034	5948785	100m	ECC
WA7007	High value, potential for impact	302666	5951085	100m	ECC
WA7008	High value, potential for impact	303126	5951304	100m	ECC
WA7009	High value, potential for impact	311154	5944559	100m	Array
WA7010	High value, potential for impact	299052	5948791	None, covered by AEZ for WA7006	ECC
WA7011	High value, potential for impact	299029	5948771	None, covered by AEZ for WA7006	ECC
WA7012	High value, potential for impact	302665	5951077	None, covered by AEZ for WA7007	ECC
WA7013	High value, potential for impact	303061	5951326	100m	ECC

- 4.2.4 The final project design will take into account the locations of all AEZs. The Developer will require its Contractor(s) to conduct all construction activity in such a way as to prevent any impacts by construction or related works within any AEZs, and keep records that this can be evidenced, if required.
- 4.2.5 The establishment of additional AEZs may also occur following the archaeological assessment of further geophysical data acquired for the proposed development (see **Section 4.4**) and as detailed in project-related archaeological method statements (see **Section 4.7**) produced under this MAMP. The establishment of appropriate AEZs depends on sufficient geophysical data of good enough quality having been acquired to enable the identification of assets and delineation of appropriate AEZs around the buffered extents of these anomalies.
- 4.2.6 Once established, AEZs may be altered (enlarged, reduced, moved or removed) as a result of further archaeological assessment of data or field evaluation, however, the alteration of AEZs will only be undertaken with the agreement of the NMS. Further surveys could include geophysical, Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) or diver surveys. To maximise the archaeological benefits of these surveys, any surveys covering AEZs should include archaeological advice in the planning stages. Following any alteration to an AEZ, a new plan giving details of the current AEZs will be drawn up and issued to each relevant project Contractor(s) that will require this information for adhering to constraints maps, along with the NMS and other relevant stakeholders.
- 4.2.7 If it becomes apparent that activities have taken place within any AEZ without prior consent, the party responsible will obtain advice from the Project Archaeologist in accordance with their obligations with respect to the approved MAMP, and the AEZ may require monitoring to determine the level and extent of potential impact.

#### *Monitoring of AEZs*

- 4.2.8 The effectiveness of the AEZs will be periodically monitored by the Project Archaeologist in consultation with the Applicant, and details and frequency of such will be specified in an Archaeological Method Statement when a programme of works is established and will be agreed between the Developer and the NMS. Monitoring may occur following construction



- Study area
- Proposed Development Boundary
- Array Area
- Offshore Export Cable Corridor
- Belle Hill AEZ
- Recommended AEZs

0 5 km

Coordinate system: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 30N  
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Date: 23/03/2026 Created by: KJF Revision: 0 Scale: 1:80,000 at A3

Figure 4. AEZs within the array area and export cable corridor



and decommissioning, with occasional monitoring during the operations phase where required.

#### *Temporary exclusion zones*

- 4.2.9 The MAMP provides for Temporary Exclusion Zones (TEZs) to be introduced when discoveries of archaeological material or sites are made. These operate in a similar way to the fixed AEZs but may be lifted once further mitigation has been completed, with the agreement of the NMS.

### **4.3 Avoidance and micro-siting**

- 4.3.1 The proposed development infrastructure that could impact the seabed will be micro-sited to avoid AEZs and all other seabed features of likely/possible archaeological interest (i.e. previously identified geophysical anomalies with unconfirmed archaeological potential). No AEZs are currently recommended for such anomalies.
- 4.3.2 It is possible that these seabed features could represent material from wreck or aviation sites of archaeological value and importance, and therefore further AEZs could be instituted if required. However, it is also possible that these seabed features could comprise modern debris or geological formations of no archaeological significance.
- 4.3.3 If there is potential for these anomalies/features to be impacted by the proposed development activities and infrastructure, they will need to be assessed on a case-by-case basis, in order to accurately position the site and effectively confirm its character. This will allow an assessment of the anomaly's relative value. The methodologies for assessing the features could include further geophysical survey (see **Section 4.4**), ROV survey, for example in combination with an Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) survey, or diver survey (see **Section 4.5** and **4.6**). Should any further surveys be planned, archaeological advice should be included at the planning stage, to maximise results for archaeological assessment.

#### *Preservation by record*

- 4.3.4 If it is not possible to preserve *in situ* seabed features or findspots, disturbance will be offset by appropriate measures, also known as, 'preservation by record'. In these circumstances, the extent of the further survey required will be determined based on the assessed value or importance of the feature, and through discussions with the NMS. Further works could include survey, recording and/or excavation, to any depth likely to be impacted, prior to the impact occurring and will be detailed in a specific archaeological method statement (see **Section 4.7**).
- 4.3.5 Preservation by record will only be undertaken with the consent of the NMS and in accordance with an agreed archaeological method statement and applicable archaeological licences. If preservation by record is to be applied, the Developer will accept responsibility for the costs of archaeological excavation, assessment, post excavation and reporting. The NMS will be furnished with a final archaeological report that describes the results of all archaeological fieldwork (see **Section 6**).

### **4.4 Marine geophysical and geotechnical investigations**

- 4.4.1 For all aspects of investigations, the Developer will consider applicable standards and guidance, for example *Marine Geophysics: Data Acquisition, Processing and Interpretation Guidance Notes* (2nd edition) (Historic England 2025) and *Offshore Geotechnical Investigations and Historic Environment Analysis: Guidance for the Renewable Energy Sector* (Gribble & Leather 2011).



- 4.4.2 Geotechnical cores and core logs from previous project-specific geotechnical campaigns (as laid out in **Table 2**) should be made available for geoarchaeological assessment by a suitably qualified archaeological contractor. The scope of any geoarchaeological assessment will be set out in a separate archaeological method statement, prepared by the Project Archaeologist and methodology reviewed by the NMS.
- 4.4.3 Targeted geoarchaeological work may aid in refining the interpretation of identified features (see **Section 3.2**) and therefore help determine the archaeological potential of the area. For future campaigns therefore, where appropriate, the Developer will allow for archaeological involvement in the planning, acquisition and review of geophysical and geotechnical surveys, should they be undertaken. The scope and methodology of any archaeological component to further geophysical and geotechnical works will be set out in a separate archaeological method statement, prepared by the Project Archaeologist and methodology reviewed by the NMS.
- 4.4.4 Should any surveys be carried out primarily for archaeological purposes, the specification should be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist or marine geophysicist. In addition, the survey should be carried out by a survey company with appropriate archaeological expertise and including geophysicists with appropriate archaeological expertise on board, if required.

#### **4.5 Non-archaeological diver and/or ROV surveys**

- 4.5.1 Archaeological advice should be sought at the early planning stages for any ROV and/or diver surveys, undertaken primarily for engineering, ecological, or other purposes, in order to maximise the potential benefits. Archaeological input could include advice from the Project Archaeologist on whether the surveys are likely to cover any areas of archaeological interest, such as AEZs, geophysical anomalies, areas where unexpected discoveries have been made, and areas of archaeological potential, or whether the surveys are not likely to be of archaeological interest.

#### **4.6 Archaeological investigations using divers and/or ROVs**

- 4.6.1 Archaeological investigations will take place where the primary objectives are archaeological, and the diving is led by suitably qualified and experienced archaeologists.
- 4.6.2 Archaeological diver or ROV surveys can be employed in order to gather archaeological data concerning wreck/aircraft sites and geophysical anomalies to safeguard the archaeological record or to alter (enlarge, reduce, move or remove) existing AEZs or TEZs. Specifically, an archaeological diver or ROV-based assessment may be required where it is not possible to protect an archaeological site through the implementation of an AEZ or where visual clarification is sought in order to confirm or amend an AEZ or TEZ.
- 4.6.3 These surveys could be used to validate, alter or remove existing AEZs, in conjunction with discussions with the NMS, or to identify and characterise material on the seabed, for example geophysical anomalies or unexpected discoveries.
- 4.6.4 Archaeological diver or ROV investigations will be undertaken by an Archaeological Contractor with a marine archaeological team with the appropriate expertise and experience of the environment/conditions likely to be encountered. Such works will require appropriate archaeological licences and approval from the NMS, with a scope of work defined in an archaeological method statement.



#### **4.7 Archaeological method statements**

- 4.7.1 All works will be undertaken in accordance with the methodology set out within this MAMP and in compliance with the standards and guidance referred to.
- 4.7.2 Detailed archaeological method statements will be produced by the Project Archaeologist, as required, for archaeological works that require archaeological licence applications, such as those identified in the above sections and detailed in **Section 4.10**.
- 4.7.3 Each archaeological method statement will correspond to a package of works, for example, archaeological assessment of marine geophysical/geotechnical investigations, archaeological assessment of ROV data from the UXO survey, and archaeological investigation using divers and/or ROVs.
- 4.7.4 Archaeological method statements will provide details about:
- form of commission and contractual relationship with the Applicant;
  - relation between the method statement, the MAMP and the license condition(s);
  - the required archaeological licensing type;
  - context in terms of relevant construction works;
  - specific objectives of archaeological works;
  - extent of investigation;
  - investigation methodology
  - anticipated post-investigation actions, including processing, assessment and analysis of finds and samples;
  - reporting;
  - timetable;
  - monitoring arrangements; and
  - health, safety and welfare.
- 4.7.5 Archaeological method statements will be provided to the Developer for comment. On receipt of comments from the Applicant, the Project Archaeologist will produce a final method statement addressing these comments.
- 4.7.6 Archaeological method statements will be submitted to the NMS for approval and will include provision for the NMS to monitor the progress of the archaeological works, as appropriate, be that through site visits or meetings with the Applicant, the Contractor(s), and the Project Archaeologist.

#### **4.8 Archaeological monitoring**

- 4.8.1 Archaeological monitoring will be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced marine archaeologist who will operate under the required licences issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Archaeological monitoring facilitates the identification and immediate protection of unexpected archaeological discoveries and ensures that preventative measures such as preservation *in situ*, or further investigation is undertaken as required.



- 4.8.2 Archaeological monitoring would require a works specific archaeological method statement, which would be based on the specifics in the approved MAMP and would be undertaken in line with relevant guidance (see **Section 2.2**) and should be approved by the NMS prior to works being undertaken.
- 4.8.3 Archaeological monitoring will be conducted during construction works with potential for the discovery of archaeological material on the seabed and/or recovery of archaeological material to the surface. Relevant work packages may include:
- UXO target investigation; and/or
  - Seabed preparation activities within previously unimpacted areas, such as boulder clearance using a grab, dredging of seabed sediments and/or pre-lay grapnel run.
- 4.8.4 In the event of an archaeological discovery, the onsite/onboard archaeologist will be authorised to issue an immediate stop-work notice in the affected area and immediate environs, and a TEZ implemented. The archaeologist will immediately inform the Developer, the NMS and other relevant statutory authorities, and a strategy to offset any potential impact to the site will be agreed and set out in an archaeological method statement. No further activities will proceed in the TEZ without formal approval, in writing, by the NMS.
- 4.8.5 The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken in a safe working environment that will facilitate archaeological observations and the retrieval of objects that may be observed during the works.
- 4.8.6 A finds retrieval strategy will be in place for the duration of the works, in compliance with requirements of the NMI and in agreement with the NMS. Finds that are exposed in the course of the proposed development activities will be recovered by the Project Archaeologist or Archaeological Contractor. Where recovery is impracticable, preservation by record (**para. 4.3.4**) is undertaken, with prior approval from the NMS.

#### **4.9 Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries**

- 4.9.1 In instances where archaeological monitoring is not required, with the agreement of the NMS, a protocol for archaeological discoveries (PAD) will be implemented as best practice to ensure that the proposed development is prepared for unexpected discoveries of archaeological material - including shipwreck material, aircraft remains, submerged prehistoric material or other archaeological material - and are addressed in a timely and appropriate manner.
- 4.9.2 The PAD provides a project-wide system for reactive mitigation measures following unexpected archaeological discoveries. The impacts on the historic environment should be considered and addressed in the earliest stages of the development process, with a PAD implemented as a last resort. In such instances, the PAD does not act as a substitute for onboard archaeological monitoring or proactive measures such avoidance by design and AEZs.
- 4.9.3 The implementation of the PAD will be initiated by a visit by the Project Archaeologist to the relevant vessels to ensure that all Project Staff are aware of what constitutes an appropriate find, understand how to record them, and are aware of the reporting process. There is the likelihood that Project Staff will work on shifts/rotations, therefore, it is important that PAD Awareness Training is provided to all relevant Project Staff. The Project Archaeologist will keep a log of the delivered PAD Awareness Training, which will be communicated with the Applicant.



- 4.9.4 An internal reporting chain must be in place in order for the PAD to be operationally effective. Therefore, contact details, including those of the Master/Site Champion, Nominated Contact and the Archaeological Contractor, will be circulated once they have been confirmed.
- 4.9.5 When discoveries are made by Project Staff, either on the seabed or onboard a vessel, they can then be reported to a Master/Site Champion on their vessel. The Master/Site Champion will generally be the vessel Master, or a person nominated by the Master to be the Site Champion, a UXO specialist, a Construction Foreman, or any other person in a position to control the immediate works. The Site Champion then reports to the Nominated Contact, a person who has been formally identified by the Developer to co-ordinate the implementation of the PAD for the Project across all activities and stages of development. The Nominated Contact will then report any discoveries to the Project Archaeologist and the Applicant's Project Manager(s). An example flow chart can be found in **Appendix 1** of this document.
- 4.9.6 Reporting of discoveries should be done immediately for the Project Archaeologist to provide a quick response, notify the NMS and/or NMI (as required), and set out a plan of action and minimise disruption to the work programme. The Project Archaeologist will in turn liaise with the Nominated Contact, the Applicant, the NMS and others, as required. Provision will be made by the Applicant, in accordance with the PAD, for the prompt reporting/recording of archaeological remains encountered or suspected during the works.
- 4.9.7 If the find is a 'wreck' within the meaning of the *Merchant Shipping (Salvage and Wreck) Act 1993* then the Applicant, with advice from the Project Archaeologist, will make a report to the Receiver within four (4) days of discovery. Discoveries of wrecks suspected or confirmed to be over 100 years old will be reported to the NMS or An Garda Síochána within four (4) days of discovery. The discovery of archaeological objects will be reported to the NMI within four (4) days of discovery.
- 4.9.8 A finds retrieval strategy for any recovered objects will be in place for the duration of the works, in compliance with requirements of the NMI and in agreement with the NMS.
- 4.10 Archaeological licensing and consents**
- 4.10.1 Appropriate licences from the NMS will need to be obtained for certain activities, including:
- use of detection equipment (e.g. marine geophysical survey, metal detection surveys) on protected wrecks and which may incur impact on archaeological sites or where the results will be subject to archaeological assessment; and
  - undertaking archaeological survey, archaeological monitoring, archaeological diving or excavation on protected wreck sites or archaeological objects, and excavation for archaeological purposes.
- 4.10.2 Further detail on how to apply for archaeological licences is found on the NMS website ([Apply for Licences and Consents - National Monuments Service](#)). Archaeological licence applications take a minimum of four (4) weeks to process through the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and advance planning is advised for the necessary permits to be in place before works commence.



## **5 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL**

### **5.1 Archaeological sampling**

- 5.1.1 For each package of archaeological works, sampling strategies and methods - including methods for processing, assessing and/or analysing samples - will be set out in an archaeological method statement for the archaeological work.
- 5.1.2 For geotechnical and geoarchaeological samples derived from non-archaeological sampling programmes, where feasible, samples will be made available for geoarchaeological recording and sub-sampling, in accordance with the archaeological method statement, prior to any processes that may render the sample ineffective, such as strength testing. A protocol for allocating a certain number of geotechnical samples for archaeological testing will be agreed with the Developer and set out in the relevant archaeological method statement.

### **5.2 Archaeological discoveries**

- 5.2.1 Secure wet storage facilities will be provided by the Developer or relevant Contractor to facilitate temporary and long-term storage of artefacts that may be recovered during the course of scheme works.
- 5.2.2 Outside of licenced archaeological monitoring programmes, isolated discoveries of artefacts that may come to light during the course of the development will be dealt with through the PAD, with advice provided by the Project Archaeologist.
- 5.2.3 If relevant, artefacts that are exposed in the course of the scheme works will be recovered by the Archaeological Contractor(s) or, where recovery is impracticable, recorded, with approval from the NMS and NMI.
- 5.2.4 From the point of discovery, all finds will be held by the Archaeological Contractor in appropriate conditions as required by the NMI, pending further recording, investigation, study or conservation.
- 5.2.5 Recovered objects will be selected, retained or disposed of in accordance with the policy agreed with the institution receiving the archive, and in consultation with the NMS and NMI.
- 5.2.6 Contingency will be made for specialist advice and conservation needs on-site should unexpected, unusual or extremely fragile and delicate objects be recovered.

### **5.3 Finds**

- 5.3.1 Excavated finds will be treated in accordance with the relevant guidance given in *Standards for the care and treatment of archaeological objects from excavations* (NMI 2022).
- 5.3.2 All archaeological finds from excavated contexts will be recorded. Finds of archaeological objects made in the course of a licenced archaeological excavation are exempt from the requirement under section 23 of the National Monuments Act 1930 (as amended) to report to the Director of the NMI within 96 hours. However, as best practice, it is recommended to report significant archaeological finds to the NMS and NMI. Finds of wrecks (more than 100 years old) or other archaeological objects that is lying on, in or under the sea bed or on or in land covered by water, shall, within four (4) days make a report of the finding to a member of the An Garda Síochána, in accordance with statutory procedures under section 3 of the National Monuments (Amended) Act 1987.



- 5.3.3 Any retrieved finds will be bagged, labelled and recorded, appropriate to facilitating post-excavation assessment. Locations of the finds will be recorded using differential Global Positioning System (dGPS) equipment providing sub-centimetre accuracy where possible.
- 5.3.4 Finds of obvious modern date may be recorded on site and not retained. No finds will be discarded without the prior approval from the NMI.
- 5.3.5 Any finds from terrestrial or marine contexts that require conservation or specific storage conditions will be dealt with immediately in line with the relevant guidance. A full record will be made of any treatment given. Any further conservation beyond first aid must be approved by the NMI and may require licences to alter or export.
- 5.3.6 Metalwork, especially from stratified contexts, will be X-rayed and, along with other fragile and delicate materials, stored in a stable environment. The X-raying of objects and other conservation needs will be undertaken by an appropriate and approved conservation centre.
- 5.3.7 Specialist advice and conservation needs will be sought should unexpected, unusual or extremely fragile and delicate objects be recovered. Advice on dealing with conservation aspects of the archive will be sought from the NMI following guidelines provided by the Irish Professional Conservators and Restorers Association.
- 5.3.8 Artefacts and other finds that do not require specific conservation measures will be suitably bagged and boxed in accordance with national guidance (NMI 2022).
- 5.3.9 Information will be obtained from the NMI concerning conditions and arrangements for the deposition of finds.

## **5.4 Ordnance**

- 5.4.1 If items of ordnance are discovered, they will be treated with extreme care. Company Health & Safety policies and established operational procedures should always take priority over archaeological reporting of munitions and ordnance.
- 5.4.2 Due to the potential danger of unexploded ordnance, if items are encountered it is important to:
- Recognise an item of UXO and accept that it is potentially dangerous;
  - Retreat from the UXO, do not touch, move or disturb and safely leave the area; and
  - Report the UXO location and give a description to the project's Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) or relevant authorities.
- 5.4.3 Any incident causing the recovery of UXO must be reported to the local Coroner (Dublin, Meath or Louth Districts) and Irish Coastguard who will coordinate military Explosives Ordnance Disposal (EOD) support if there is a threat to life.

## **5.5 Human remains**

- 5.5.1 In the event of the discovery of any human remains, an immediate stop-work notice in the affected area and immediate environs will be issued, and it is proposed that these will be left in situ, covered and protected until the NMI, the NMS and the Developer have been informed. Under the Coroners Act 1962, the local Coroner (Dublin, Meath or Louth District) is to be notified of the discovery of any human remains.



5.5.2 Should human remains of an archaeological nature require excavation, all excavation and post-excavation will be in accordance with the standards set out in The Heritage Council document *Human Remains in Irish Archaeology* (2003), and the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland (IAI) *Code of Conduct for the Treatment of Human Remains* (2006).

## **5.6 Wreck and aircraft material**

5.6.1 Archaeological artefacts that have come from a ship are archaeological objects protected by the *National Monuments Acts 1930-2014* and 'wreck' for the purposes of the *Merchant Shipping (Salvage and Wreck) Act 1993*. The Developer will ensure that the NMI, the NMS and Receiver is notified of all items of wreck that have been recovered. For isolated items of wreck reported through PAD this obligation is addressed through the Project Archaeologist.

5.6.2 For material that includes military remains, including aircraft, protection under the *National Monuments Acts 1930-2014* can be instituted, and therefore, such material is reportable to the NMS.

## **5.7 Conservation and storage**

5.7.1 All recovered materials, on land and underwater, will be subject to a Conservation Assessment to gauge whether special measures are required while the material is being held.

5.7.2 This Conservation Assessment will be carried out by the Project Archaeologist or Archaeological Contractor with an appropriate level of expertise, with advice from appropriate specialists.

5.7.3 The Project Archaeologist or Archaeological Contractor with appropriate expertise will implement recommendations arising from the Conservation Assessment.

5.7.4 If no special measures are recommended, finds will be conserved, bagged, boxed and stored in accordance with national guidelines (NMI 2022).



## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORTING, DATA MANAGEMENT AND ARCHIVING

### 6.1 Reporting

6.1.1 Following completion of the fieldwork and/or the assessment of the data, draft report(s) will be submitted for approval to the Developer and the NMS, for comment. Reports may be issued for individual fieldwork or assessment packages with a final close-out report, or the work summarised in a single final report. Once approved, a final version will be submitted.

6.1.2 Reports will follow standards set out in the *Guidelines for Authors of Reports on Archaeological Excavations* (NMS 2006) and will typically include the following elements:

- a non-technical summary;
- the aims and methods of the work;
- the results of the work including finds and environmental remains;
- a statement of the potential of the results;
- proposals for further analysis and publication;
- appendices;
- illustrations; and
- references.

### 6.2 Publication

6.2.1 The results of the fieldwork will be published as one body of work to the standard accepted for publication and on the [www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie) website for the year in which the licence is valid.

### 6.3 Archiving storage and curation

6.3.1 The archive and any finds relating to the archaeological investigations shall be stored in safe keeping and in appropriate conditions either by the Developer or Project Archaeologist.

6.3.2 The complete archive of data related to the archaeological investigations, which will include digital records, digital photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and other digital data, will be prepared in accordance with the NMI guidelines, forms for the Transfer of Excavation Archives to NMS Archive, and guidelines for producing Database Record for archaeological archives presented to NMS Archive.

6.3.3 The archive will be underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (NMS 2022). It should be agreed by all stakeholders and fully documented in the project archive.

### 6.4 Archive and report copyright

6.4.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by the licensee (archaeological licence holder) under the *Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000* with all rights reserved.

6.4.2 As part of archaeological licensing conditions *'the Minister may publish or make generally available in any form (including printed or electronic form which, without prejudice to any other form of publication or making available, may include publishing or making available on the internet), any report, or part thereof, submitted under or in fulfilment of the conditions*



*of an archaeological licence. A copy of a report so published or made available may identify the licensee'.*

- 6.4.3 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Database of Irish Excavation Reports where it can be freely copied without reference to the Project Archaeologist for the purposes of archaeological research, or development control within the planning process.



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## APPENDIX 1: PROTOCOL FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES - FLOWCHART

### Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries: actions for discoveries on the seabed or on-board a vessel

