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CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

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Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Determination under:

Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (SI No. 436 of 2004), as amended by the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (SI No. 201 of 2011)

for:

Proposed Variation No. 1 to the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028

An SEA Screening determination as to whether Proposed Variation No. 1 to the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 is likely to have significant effects on the environment is being made under Article 7 (13K) of the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004 (SI No. 436 of 2004) as amended by the Planning and Development (SEA) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (SI No. 201 of 2011).

In making the determination, the information contained in the accompanying Screening for SEA Report (including information provided by environmental authorities and an examination of the need to undertake SEA against relevant criteria set out in Schedule 2A '*Criteria for determining whether a plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment*' of the above Regulations) is being taken into account. That information has been carefully considered and its reasoning and conclusion agreed with and adopted – allowing a determination to be made that Proposed Variation No. 1 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

The Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 has been subject to SEA, which identified various environmental effects arising from implementation. Proposed Variation No. 1 would contribute towards the proper planning and sustainable development of the County and consequential environmental effects that have been identified by the SEA for the existing Plan. Taking into account the measures that have already been integrated into the Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development, any potential effects arising from Proposed Variation No. 1, would either: be present already (beneficial) and would be further contributed towards, but not to a significant extent; and/or would be mitigated so as not to be significant (adverse).

Furthermore:

- The accompanying Screening for AA Report identifies that Proposed Variation No. 1 is not foreseen to have any likelihood for significant effects on any European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects – and therefore any potential for a significant effect to any European site as a result of implementing Proposed Variation No. 1 can be ruled out; and
- The Stage 1 SFRA Report appended to the Screening for SEA Report demonstrates that there are no flooding or surface water management issues related to the areas subject to land use zoning change that would warrant further investigation as part of the Proposed Variation process.

Taking into account all of the above, it is determined that Proposed Variation No. 1 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects and, consequently, that SEA is not required to be undertaken on the Proposed Variation.

Signatory:

Date:

21/25