

Graiguenamanagh Tinnahinch Draft Joint Local Area Plan 2021





1 INTRODUCTION

This report forms part of the statutory procedure for the making of a Local Area Plan (LAP). It addresses the changes required from a submission received from the Office of Public Works (OPW) during the 4-week public consultation period, from the 9th April to the 7th May 2021, in relation to the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft LAP.

2 Assessment of Changes

2.1 Climate Change

Insert a Section 2.2.2 titled 'Climate Change' to address how climate change has been considered

The CFRAMS flood extent mapping for the current and mid-range future scenarios, as provided by the OPW (See Figure 2.1). Such scenarios were compared as part of the SFRA to establish an indication of future risk in areas using the difference between the flood extents with/without climate change. The review concluded that no proposed highly vulnerable zonings are at risk in the future, however some existing zonings and well-established areas of the settlement could come under increased flood risk.

The CFRAMS flood extent mapping concluded two areas in Tinnahinch would be at vulnerable from the mid-range and high-end future climate change scenarios. Therefore, the proposed flood relief measures will require to be designed for climate change adaptability. Adaptation would require additional height and length of hard defences and additional space for embankments, adaptations could be accommodated at moderate to significant cost and visual impact. Areas at specific risk from potential increases in flood extent due to climate change are discussed in Section 2.2.6 Justification Tests.

Site specific flood risk assessments should address climate change scenarios in relation to FFLs and potential mitigation measures in these areas. "When a site-specific flood risk assessment is being prepared for a parcel of land within the settlement boundary, the respective County Development Plan and SFRA of Kilkenny or Carlow County Council must be consulted as these Plans provide the appropriate overarching policy framework for the approach to site specific FRAs.

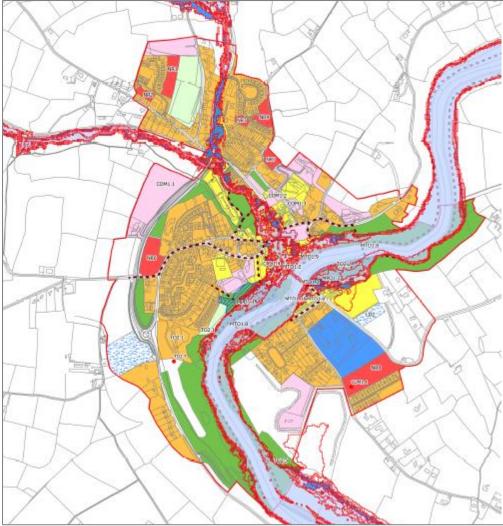


Figure 1.1 Mid and High Range Scenarios

2.2 Justification Tests

Amend Section 2.2.6 of SFRA titled 'Justification Tests' to include following text:

Justification Test for site zoned 'Open Space/Recreation' at 'The Quay' Graiguenamanagh

The subject site is identified for Open Space/Recreation. The land use zoning is intended to facilitate and strengthen the existing tourism industry within the core area of the settlement whilst also providing for overnight accommodation. Such facilities must be provided for adjacent to available services and amenities. As part of the planning application process this site was subjected to a sitespecific flood risk assessment which included a recommendation for the operation of flood evacuation plan and also specifies the location of the camping pods on site. There are no suitable alternative lands in areas at lower risk of flooding within or adjoining the settlement core.

Justification Test for lands identified for MPO 1.1

The subject site is identified for Open Space/Biodiversity Conservation and has been designated a site-specific objective MPO1.1 to provide a high quality community based amenity area. The land use designation and site-specific objective is in accordance with an existing established use on this site. Such designations will aid the development of the tourism industry in the settlement and much

needed community facilities. There are no suitable alternative lands in areas at lower risk of flooding within or adjoining the settlement core.

In this context, this Flood Risk Assessment contains sufficient information appropriate to the scale and nature of the development potential. Mitigation measures will be included in the plan to state that any development proposal within the area of flood risk will be subject to a site-specific Flood Risk Assessment appropriate to the type and scale of the development being proposed. Aside from the completion of a site-specific flood risk assessment additional mitigation measures may be required for the development being proposed on site. The following mitigation measures may be required minimum floor levels, flood resistant construction, flood-resilient construction, emergency response planning and access and egress during flood events.

2.3 Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDs)

Amend Section 3.1 Incorporation into Joint LAP to include following text:

SUDS can be thought of as a move away from the conventional practice of piping all surface water directly to the nearest watercourse or river. Using SUDS techniques, water is either infiltrated or conveyed more slowly to watercourses via ponds, filter drains or other installations. This mimics natural catchment behaviour more closely where rainfall either infiltrates through the soil or runs off slowly over the ground surface to the nearest ditch or watercourse. SUDS also attempt to mimic the natural situation whereby pollutants are filtered through soils or broken down by bacteria.

When a site-specific flood risk assessment is being prepared for a parcel of land within the settlement boundary, the respective County Development Plan of Kilkenny or Carlow County Council must be consulted as regards the best sustainable urban drainage solution, which must form part of the Sitespecific Flood Risk Assessment. These Plans provide the appropriate overarching policy framework for the approach to site specific FRAs.