

## **1.0 Policy Context**

This Appendix lists the principal international, national, regional, and local policy documents, guidelines and plans that have helped inform and guide the preparation of the County Development Plan. While comprehensive, **this list is not exhaustive**. The list presented here should be read in conjunction with the specific policy context that is provided in each chapter of the Plan.

### **1.1 International Policies and Conventions**

#### **UN (2015) Paris Agreement**

The Paris Agreement is an agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which includes a long-term temperature goal to keep the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels; and to pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C.

#### **UN (2015) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development encourages countries to develop national responses to the Sustainable Development Goals and incorporate them into planning and policy.

#### **ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes**

The joint ICOMOS-TICCIH Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Site, Structures, Areas and Landscapes, also known as the Dublin Principles, are aimed at assisting in the documentation, protection, conservation and appreciation of industrial heritage as part of the heritage of human societies around the World.

#### **UN (1992) Framework Convention on Climate Change**

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change is an international environmental treaty aimed at stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.

#### **UN (1992) The Convention on Biological Diversity**

The Convention on Biological Diversity is a multilateral treaty whose objective is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

#### **UNESCO (1972) The Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage**

The World Heritage Convention defines the kind of natural or cultural sites which can be considered for inscription on the World Heritage List. By signing the Convention, each country pledges to conserve not only the World Heritage sites situated on its territory, but also to protect its national heritage.

### **1.2 European Policies and Conventions**

#### **EU Covenant of Mayors (2008) Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy**

The Covenant of Mayors gathers European local governments all of sizes and from all countries around three main objectives: reducing CO2 emissions; increasing their resilience to climate change; and ensuring access to sustainable, secure and affordable energy to all.

**Council of Europe (1996) The Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy.** The Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy is a European response to support implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity. **Council of**

#### **Europe (1996) The European Landscape Convention 2000**

The European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe promotes the protection, management and planning of the landscapes and organises international co-operation on landscape issues.

#### **Council of Europe (1992) The European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage**

The European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (the Valetta Convention) makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies.

### **Council of Europe (1985) Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe**

The purpose of Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (the Granada Convention) is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage.

### **1.3 EU Directives**

#### **EU (2012) Control of Major Accidents and Hazards (Seveso III) Directive (2012/18/EU)**

The Control of Major Accidents and Hazards (Seveso III) Directive provides for measures aimed at preventing major accidents at industrial establishments, and at ensuring appropriate preparedness and response should such accidents nevertheless happen.

#### **EU (2012) Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU)**

The Energy Efficiency Directive mandates energy efficiency improvements within the EU and establishes a common framework for the promotion of energy efficiency within the EU in order to meet its energy efficiency headline target of 30% by 2030.

#### **EU (2011)**

#### **Environmental Impact Assessment Directive**

**(2011/92/EU)** EU Directive 2011/92/EU requires an environmental impact assessment (EIA) to be carried out in respect of planning applications, appeals, strategic infrastructure consents and other developments which may significantly affect the environment.

#### **EU (2010) Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2010/31/EU)**

The Energy Performance of Buildings Directive requires that EU Member States strengthen their building regulations and introduce energy performance certification of buildings.

#### **EU (2009) Renewables Directive (2009/28/EC)**

The European Renewables Directive (recast as EU/2018/2001) specifies national renewable energy targets for 2020 for each country, taking into account its starting point and overall potential for

renewables. The overall EU target for renewable energy sources consumption is 32% by 2030.

#### **EU (2008) Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC)**

The Waste Framework Directive provides the legislative framework for the collection, transport, recovery and disposal of waste, and includes a common definition of waste.

#### **EU (2008) Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC)**

The Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe Directive set down air quality standards in EU member states for a wide variety of pollutants, including rules relating to the monitoring, assessment and management of ambient air quality.

#### **EU (2007) Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)**

The Floods Directive requires EU Member States to assess if all water courses and coast lines are at risk from flooding, to map the flood extent and assets and humans at risk in these areas and to take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this flood risk.

#### **EU (2002) Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)**

The Environmental Noise Directive was introduced in order to ensure that the public had improved access to information about the noise levels in their living environment, and to assess and manage environmental noise.

#### **EU (2001) Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC)**

The Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive aims at introducing systematic assessment of the environmental effects of strategic land use related plans and programs.

#### **EU (2000) Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)**

The Water Framework Directive requires all EU Member States to protect and improve water quality in all waters so that Good Ecological Status is achieved for these waters by 2027.

### **EU (1991) Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (1991/271/EC)**

The Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive sets standards to be met in the collection and treatment of wastewater as well as the monitoring requirements for wastewater discharges from urban areas.

### **EU (1991) Habitats Directives (92/43/EEC)**

The Habitats Directive ensures the conservation of a wide range of rare, threatened or endemic animal and plant species. Some 200 rare and characteristic habitat types are also targeted for conservation in their own right.

### **EU (1991) Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)**

The Nitrates Directive aims to protect water quality across Europe by preventing nitrates from agricultural sources polluting ground and surface waters and by promoting the use of good farming practices.

### **EU (1979) Birds Directive (79/409/EEC)**

The Birds Directive (codified as 2009/147/EC) seeks to conserve all wild birds in the EU by setting out rules for their protection, management and control. The Directive covers birds, their eggs, nests and habitats.

## **1.4 EU Policies and Strategies**

### **EU (2020) Biodiversity Strategy**

The EU 2030 Biodiversity Strategy is a long-term plan for protecting nature and reversing the degradation of ecosystems across the European Union.

### **EU (2019) European Green Deal**

The European Green Deal is a set of policy initiatives by the European Commission with the overarching aim of making Europe climate neutral in 2050.

### **EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package**

The clean air package aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU. The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030, and

contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution.

### **EU (2013) Green Infrastructure Strategy**

The EU Green Infrastructure Strategy aims to ensure that the protection, restoration, creation and enhancement of green infrastructure become an integral part of spatial planning and territorial development.

### **EU (2004) to (2020) Water Framework Directive Guidance Documents**

Guidance documents and technical reports have been produced by the European Commission to assist stakeholders to implement the Water Framework Directive (WFD). Guidance Documents are intended to provide an overall methodological approach, but will need to be tailored to the specific circumstances of each EU Member State.

## **1.5 National Legislation**

### **Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended)**

The Planning and Development Act is the basis for the Irish planning code, setting out the detail of regional planning guidelines, development plans and local area plans as well as the basic framework of the development management and consent system.

### **Planning and Development Regulations, 2000 (as amended)**

The principal regulations underpinning the Planning and Development Acts are the Planning and Development Regulations which provide details of various processes and procedures that make up the planning code.

### **Local Government Reform Act, 2014 (as amended)**

Government policy on local government reform was set out in Putting People First, Action Programme for Local Government published in 2012. A programme to implement these reforms is underway under the Local Government Reform Act 2001, which was revised and updated by the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

### **Affordable Housing Act 2021**

The purpose of the Act is to provide the legislative and policy framework for a number of schemes aimed at making housing for purchase and rent more affordable for eligible households.

### **Water Services Acts, 2007 (as amended)**

Water supplies in Ireland are governed by the Water Services Acts of 2007 which also specifies the role of Irish Water in the provision of water and wastewater services.

### **Protection of the Environment Act, 2003**

The Protection of the Environment Act transposed the EU Directives on Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) and on End of Life Vehicles into Irish law and resulted in changes to the EPA Act 1992 and to the Waste Management Act 1996 (relating, inter alia, to the preparation of waste management plans).

### **Wildlife Acts, 1976 (as amended)**

The Wildlife Act provides protection for certain wildlife and flora in Ireland and, with the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000, is the principal national legislation for the protection of wildlife species and habitats in Ireland.

### **Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1999**

The Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act established the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) on a statutory basis.

### **Heritage Acts, 1995 and 2018**

The aim of the Heritage Act is to promote public interest in and knowledge, appreciation and protection of the National Heritage. The 1995 Act also provided for the establishment of the Heritage Council.

### **National Monuments Acts, 1930-1994**

The National Monuments Acts relate to the protection of archaeological and architectural heritage by a number of means including the

Register of Historic Monuments, the Record of Monuments and Places as well as Preservation Orders.

### **Waste Management Acts 1996 (as amended)**

The Waste Management Acts provide for a general duty on everyone not to hold, transport, recover or dispose of waste in a manner that causes or is likely to cause environmental pollution.

### **Air Pollution Act, 1987 (as amended)**

Under the Air Pollution Act 1987, local authorities have the primary responsibility for monitoring air quality, including the nature, extent and effects of emissions. Local authorities are also given powers under the Act to take measures to prevent or limit air pollution in their area.

### **Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011**

The Air Quality Standards Regulations transpose the Directive on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe into Irish law. They introduce a limit value to PM2.5 in addition to the existing limit values for PM10, nitrogen dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, sulphur dioxide, lead, ozone, carbon monoxide and benzene.

### **Litter Pollution Act 1997 (as amended)**

The Litter Pollution Act 1997, which defines litter as a substance or object that, when deposited in a place other than a litter receptacle, is likely to become unsightly, deleterious, nauseous or unsanitary, allows local authorities to impose penalties on people who litter.

### **Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations 2009**

The Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations 2009 are designed to promote segregation and recovery of food waste arising in the commercial sector and reduce disposal to landfill.

## **1.6 National Policies**

### **DHLGH (2022) National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 – 2027**

The National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 – 2027 sets out the Government's vision for

delivering housing and related supports for disabled people

#### **DECC (2022) National Retrofit Plan**

The Plan is designed to address barriers to retrofit across four key pillars: driving demand and activity; financing and funding; supply chain, skills and standards; and governance.

#### **DHLGH (2022) Heritage Ireland 2030**

Heritage Ireland 2030 is Ireland's new national heritage plan. It is built around a vision of our heritage – in all its forms – being at very centre of local and national discourse, valued by all and cared for and protected for future generations.

#### **DRCD (2022) Town Centre First – A Policy Approach for Irish Towns**

The Town Centre First policy aims to create town centres that function as viable, vibrant and attractive locations for people to live, work and visit, while also functioning as the service, social, cultural and recreational hub for the local community.

#### **DECC (2021) Climate Action Plan 2021**

The Climate Action Plan 2021 provides a detailed plan for taking decisive action to achieve a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and setting us on a path to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Programme for Government and set out in the Climate Act 2021.

#### **Department of Transport (2021) Code of Best Practice for National and Regional Greenways**

The Code provides information on the planning, designing and constructing of Greenways. It includes an overview of the public consultation processes, constraints study, route selection and statutory processes. It also includes information on the use of State-owned lands and the acquisition of private lands for developing Greenways.

#### **DHLGH (2021) Housing for All: A New Housing Plan for Ireland**

Housing for All is a multi-annual, multi-billion-euro plan which will improve Ireland's housing system and deliver more homes of all types for people with different housing needs. The government's vision for the housing system over the longer term is to achieve a steady supply of housing in the right locations with economic, social and environmental sustainability built into the system.

#### **DFHERIS (2021) Ireland's National Skills Strategy 2025 – Ireland's Future**

'Ireland's National Skills Strategy 2025 – Ireland's Future' is designed to benefit all people living in Ireland, companies operating here or planning to establish here, those working here, and those hoping to work here. It recognises the role that skills can play in the improvement of all and in supporting people here to grow as global citizens.

#### **Department of Transport (2021) National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland**

The National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) is the Department of Transport's high-level strategic framework to support the consideration and prioritisation of future investment in land transport. It represents the Department's contribution to Project Ireland 2040, Government's long-term, overarching strategy to make Ireland a better country for all and to build a more sustainable future.

#### **DRCD (2021) Our Rural Future: Rural Development Policy 2021-2025**

The vision of this policy is for a thriving rural Ireland which is integral to our national economic, social, cultural and environmental wellbeing and development. An Ireland which is built on the interdependence of urban and rural areas.

#### **DTCAGSM (2021) Sports Action Plan 2021 – 2023**

The plan outlines over 40 specific initiatives intended to ensure the sports sector's continued recovery from the impact of COVID-19, its development over the next three years and the actions required to

achieve the target of 60pc of the population participating in sport and physical activity.

#### **DECC (2021) Whole of Government Circular Economy Strategy 2022 – 2023 'Living More, Using Less'**

The Whole of Government Circular Economy Strategy is Ireland's first national circular economy strategy. The Strategy is a key addition to Government's drive to achieve a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and to get on a path to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050, as per commitments in the Programme for Government and the Climate Act 2021.

**DCCAE (2020) Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy** <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/4221c-waste-action-plan-for-a-circular-economy/> The Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy is Ireland's National Waste Policy for 2020-2025. The policy document shifts focus away from waste disposal and moves it back up the production chain and contains over 200 measures across various waste areas.

**DCCAE (2020) National Energy and Climate Plan** <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/0015c-irelands-national-energy-climate-plan-2021-2030/> The National Energy and Climate Plan incorporates all relevant EU policies and measures as of 2019 which deliver a 30% reduction by 2030 in (non-emissions trading system) greenhouse gas emissions from 2005 levels.

#### **Government of Ireland (2020) Roadmap for Social Inclusion**

The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025 sets out the Government's ambition for Ireland to become one of the most socially inclusive States in the EU and to reduce the number of people in consistent poverty to 2% or less.

#### **DCYA (2019) The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People**

Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014-2020, sets out the government's key

commitments to children and young people up to the age of 24.

#### **DHPLG (2019) Draft Marine Planning Policy Statement**

The Draft Marine Planning Policy Statement reflects the comprehensive updating and renewal now underway of Ireland's marine planning system, setting out core principles to inform evolving marine planning and development management process.

#### **DTaS (2019) National Sports Policy**

The National Sports Policy 2018-2027 sets out a Vision for Irish Sport including an aim to increase participation in sport to 50% of the population by 2027.

#### **DTaS (2019) People, Place and Policy: Growing Tourism to 2025**

People, Place and Policy: Growing Tourism to 2025 is a policy statement centred on Ireland achieving its full potential as a destination for overseas tourism.

#### **Government of Ireland (2019) Housing Options for Our Aging Population**

Housing Options for Our Aging Population reaffirms Government commitment to policies that support older people to live in their own homes and communities with dignity and independence for as long as possible.

#### **Government of Ireland (2019) National Student Accommodation Policy**

The National Student Accommodation Strategy complements the initiatives being taken by the Minister for Housing to increase housing supply under Rebuilding Ireland.

#### **Government of Ireland (2019) Climate Action Plan to Tackle Climate Breakdown**

Ireland's Climate Action Plan lays out the institutional and policy structure, including specific policy proposals or planning processes, that a state will use to develop and implement a climate change mitigation strategy.

### **Housing Agency (2019) Designing Housing to Meet the Needs of All**

Designing Housing to Meet the Needs of All provides details of the information, standards and guidance required to make informed design decisions to ensure that homes meet the needs of all members of society.

### **Government of Ireland (2018) Project Ireland 2040 – National Development Plan**

The National Development Plan, 2018-2027, sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the implementation of the National Planning Framework, through a total investment of approximately €116 billion.

### **Government of Ireland (2018) Project Ireland 2040 – National Planning Framework**

The National Planning Framework was introduced to guide strategic planning and development for the country to ensure that as the population grows, this growth is sustainable in economic, social and environmental terms.

### **Government of Ireland (2018) Implementation Roadmap for the National Planning Framework**

The roadmap document addresses a number of important issues that have emerged subsequent to the publication of the NPF, that arise as part of its implementation through the forthcoming Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy process and the operation of our planning process more generally.

### **Government of Ireland (2018) Investing in Our Culture, Language and Heritage**

Investing in our Culture, Language and Heritage 2018-2027 is a ten-year plan setting out the Government's objectives for capital investment in Ireland's culture, language and heritage.

### **Government of Ireland (2018) National Vacant Housing Reuse Strategy**

The Vacant Housing Reuse Strategy 2018-2021 is an overarching strategy which sets out a vision for tackling residential vacancy issues.

### **Government of Ireland (2018) River Basin Management Plan**

The River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021, sets out the actions that Ireland will take to improve water quality and achieve 'good' ecological status in water bodies (rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal waters) by 2027.

### **Government of Ireland (2018) Action Plan for Jobs**

The Action Plan for Jobs is a whole-of-Government initiative under which all Government Departments and Agencies work together to deliver on a series of agreed action points for each year.

### **DBEI (2018) Enterprise 2025 Renewed**

Enterprise 2025 Renewed: Building resilience in the face of global challenges sets out Ireland's medium-term national enterprise strategy.

### **Housing Agency (2018) Rebuilding the Irish Neighbourhood**

Rebuilding the Irish Neighbourhood is a report which examines mixed tenure developments and looks at evidence in Ireland and internationally, as well as opportunities to progress mixed tenure developments.

### **Housing Agency and Urban Agency (2018) Quality Apartments and Urban Housing**

Quality Apartments and Urban Housing is a handbook which provides architects, planners, developers and other housing professionals in the private and public sector with an introduction to the elements that contribute to the design of good quality apartments and urban housing.

### **DCCA (2018) National Adaptation Framework**

The National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland sets out the national strategy to reduce the vulnerability of the country to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of positive impacts.

**DCCAE (2017) National Mitigation Plan**

Ireland's first National Mitigation Plan provides a framework to guide investment decisions by the Government in domestic measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**DCCAE (2017) National Energy Efficiency Action Plan**

The National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP) set out the obligations and targets for public bodies to enable the public sector to improve its energy efficiency by 33% by 2020.

**DOJE (2017) National Strategy for Women and Girls**

The National Strategy for Women and Girls 2017-2020: Creating a Better Society for All, is the key policy document in relation to the advancement of women in Irish society, across all facets of the economy and society.

**DOJE (2017) National Disability Inclusion Strategy**

The National Disability Inclusion Strategy 2017 - 2021 is the key framework for policy and action to address the needs of people with disabilities. DCCAE

**(2016) Our Sustainable Future (Progress Report 2015)**

Our Sustainable Future, the Framework for Sustainable Development in Ireland, was launched in 2012 and identifies some 70 measures to be implemented across Government to achieve more sustainable development.

**DHPCLG (2016) Strategy for the Rental Sector**

The Strategy for the Rental Sector introduced Rent Pressure Zones to provide rent predictability in areas of unsustainable rental inflation.

**DOH (2016) Obesity Policy and Action Plan**

The Obesity Policy and Action Plan – a Healthy Weight for Ireland, was developed to address policy and intervention options in the context of prevention and management of overweight and obesity.

**Government of Ireland (2016) Rebuilding Ireland**

Rebuilding Ireland: An Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness provides a multi-stranded, action-oriented approach aimed at significantly increasing the supply of social housing, doubling the output of overall housing, servicing all tenure types, and tackling homelessness in a comprehensive manner.

**DOH (2016) National Physical Activity Plan**

The aim of the National Physical Activity Plan is to increase physical activity levels across the whole population and to get at least half a million more Irish people taking regular exercise within ten years.

**DCENR (2015) Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future**

The Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future is White Paper on Ireland's transition to a low carbon energy system, providing secure supplies of competitive and affordable energy to our citizens and businesses.

**DCYA (2015) National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision Making**

The National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision Making is aimed at ensuring that that children and young people will have a voice in their individual and collective everyday lives.

**Irish Water (2015) Water Services Strategic Plan**

This Water Services Strategic Plan sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040.

**DAHG (2014) National Landscape Strategy for Ireland**

The National Landscape Strategy aims to implement the European Landscape Convention in Ireland by providing for specific measures to promote the protection, management and planning of the landscape.

**DECLG (2014) Social Housing Strategy**

The Social Housing Strategy 2020: Support, Supply and Reform sets out plans for the delivery of more

social housing and for a range of changes to various aspects of social housing assessment, delivery and financing.

#### **Government of Ireland (2014) Towards a Resource Efficient Ireland**

Towards a Resource Efficient Ireland, A National Strategy to 2020 sets out the aims for the National Waste Prevention Programme which is a Government of Ireland initiative, led by the EPA, which supports national-level, strategic programmes to prevent waste and drive the circular economy in Ireland.

#### **Government of Ireland (2014) National Hazardous Waste Management Plan**

The National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2014-2020 sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next number of years to continually improve the management of Ireland's hazardous waste.

#### **DCENR (2013) National Digital Strategy for Ireland**

The National Digital Strategy: Doing More with Digital sets out a vision and a number of practical actions and steps to encourage and assist more citizens and small businesses to get on line.

#### **DECLG (2013) Homelessness Policy Statement**

The Homelessness Policy Statement places the rapid provision of appropriate accommodation, with support as needed to ensure sustainable tenancies, as a key solution to ending homelessness.

#### **DOH (2013) National Physical Activity Plan**

The National Physical Activity Plan – Get Ireland Active, is aimed at increasing the number of people taking regular exercise by 1% per annum over the life of the plan.

#### **DOH (2013) National Positive Aging Strategy**

The National Positive Aging Strategy is a high-level document outlining Ireland's vision for ageing and older people and the national goals and objectives required to promote positive ageing.

#### **DECLG (2012) A Resource Opportunity – Waste Management Policy in Ireland**

A Resource Opportunity – Waste Management Policy in Ireland sets out a range of measures aimed at reducing our reliance on landfill and minimising the impact of waste on our environment.

#### **DECLG (2012) Our Sustainable Future – A Framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland**

Our Sustainable Future, the Framework for Sustainable Development in Ireland, was launched in 2012 and identifies some 70 measures to be implemented across Government to achieve more sustainable development.

#### **DECLG (2012) Putting People First. Action Plan for Effective Local Government**

Putting People First. Action Plan for Effective Local Government sets out Government policy for reforms across all the main areas of local government including the merging of a number of local authorities and the replacement of town and borough councils by a system of municipal districts.

#### **DCENR (2012) Strategy for Renewable Energy**

The Strategy for Renewable Energy 2012-2020 sets out five strategic goals for government namely: increasing on and offshore wind; building a sustainable bioenergy sector; fostering R&D in renewables; growing sustainable transport and building out robust and efficient networks.

#### **DoT (2012) Smarter Travel: A New Transport Policy for Ireland**

Smarter Travel 2009-2020 is the transport policy for Ireland for the period 2009-2020 which sets out a vision, goals and targets as well as 49 actions that form the basis of achieving a more sustainable transport future for the country.

#### **DoT (2012) Traffic Management Guidelines**

The Traffic Management Guidelines provides guidance on a variety of issues including traffic planning, traffic calming and management, incorporation of speed restraint measures in new residential designs and the provision of suitably

designed facilities for public transport users and for vulnerable road users.

**NDA (2012) Building for Everyone: A Universal Design Approach**

Building for Everyone: A Universal Design Approach provides comprehensive best practice guidance on how to design, build and manage buildings and spaces so that they can be readily accessed and used by everyone, regardless of age, size, ability or disability.

**DECLG (2011) Managing and Resolving Unfinished Housing Developments**

Managing and Resolving Unfinished Housing Developments is a best practice guidance manual which addresses site resolution planning and is coupled to an agreed Code of Practice and a Guide for Residents.

**DECLG (2011) National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability**

The National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability 2011-2016 set out the Government's broad framework for the delivery of housing for people with disabilities through mainstream housing options.

**DAHG (2011) Access: Improving the Accessibility of Historic Buildings and Places**

Access: Improving the accessibility of historic buildings and places is intended to guide those responsible for historic buildings on how best to maintain, repair and adapt their properties.

**NTA (2011) National Cycle Manual**

The National Cycle Manual offers guidance on integrating the bike in the design of urban areas.

**DEHLG (2010) Guidance Note on Core Strategies**

The Guidance Note on Core Strategies provide additional information to Planning Authorities as to the scope and content of Development Plan core strategies.

**Government of Ireland (2010) National Renewable Energy Action Plan**

In accordance with EU Directive 2009/28/EC, Ireland's National Renewable Energy Action Plan sets out our national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020.

**DEHLG (2009) Government Policy on Architecture**

The Government Policy on Architecture 2009-2015 Towards a Sustainable Future: Delivering Quality within the Built Environment provides the framework for the implementation of architectural policy in Ireland.

**DOT (2009) National Cycle Policy Framework**

The National Cycle Policy Framework outlines specific objectives, and details actions aimed at ensuring that a cycling culture is developed in Ireland to the extent that, by 2020, 10% of all journeys will be by bicycle.

**DEHLG (2007) Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities**

Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities provides guidance to designers by providing principles and criteria that are important in the planning and design of housing.

**DEHLG (2007) National Climate Change Strategy**

The National Climate Change Strategy 2007-2012 set out a range of measures to meet Ireland's commitments under the Kyoto Protocol to reduce greenhouse emissions.

**DAST (2004) Public Art: Per Cent for Art Scheme**

The Per Cent for Art scheme is a government initiative, first introduced in 1978, whereby 1% of the cost of any publicly funded capital, infrastructural and building development can be allocated to the commissioning of a work of art.

**NDA (2004) National Disability Strategy**

The National Disability Strategy was launched by the Government in 2004 with the overall aim of

supporting equal participation of people with disabilities in society.

#### **DAHGI (2002) National Heritage Plan**

The National Heritage Plan set out a comprehensive strategy and framework for the protection and management of heritage for the period 2002-2007.

#### **DAHGI (1999) Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage**

Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage is a comprehensive statement of national policy on the protection of the archaeological heritage, setting out principles for its protection in the face of increasing development.

### **1.7 Guidelines**

#### **DHLGH (2022) Strategic Environmental Assessment Guidelines for Regional Assemblies and Planning Authorities**

These Guidelines provide advice on carrying out SEA in the land-use planning sector for those plans listed in S.I. No.436 of 2004, as amended. They replace previous guidance for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities published in 2004.

#### **DHLGH (2021) Guidance on the Preparation of a Housing Need and Demand Assessment**

National Policy Objective 37 of the National Planning Framework (NPF) provides for a Housing Need and Demand Assessment (HNDA) to be undertaken in each local authority area. The objective is to ensure long-term strategic housing needs are met.

#### **Draft (2021) Development Plans Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

These Guidelines, when finalised, will assist Planning Authorities in the preparation of city and county development plans, including the incorporation of a wide range of legislative and policy requirements relevant to the development plan review and variation processes.

#### **DHPLG (2019) Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines**

The Draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines, when finalised, will affect future planning

applications and considerations for future wind energy development proposals.

#### **DHPLG (2019) Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets**

The Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets which was originally published in 2015 and updated in 2019, offers a holistic approach to the design of urban streets in cities, towns, suburbs and villages in Ireland and promotes a collaborative and consultative design process.

#### **DHPLG (2018) Urban Development and Building Heights: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Urban Development and Building Heights: Guidelines for Planning Authorities set out new and updated national planning policy on building heights in relation to urban areas, elaborating on the strategic policy framework set out in Project Ireland 2040 and the National Planning Framework.

#### **DHPLG (2018) Sustainable Urban Housing, Design Standards for New Apartments: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Sustainable Urban Housing, Design Standards for New Apartments: Guidelines for Planning Authorities set out standards for apartment development and update previous 2015 guidelines in the context of greater evidence and knowledge of current and likely future housing demand in Ireland.

#### **DHPLG (2018) Guidelines for Local Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on Carrying Out Environmental Impact Assessments**

The Guidelines for Local Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on Carrying Out Environmental Impact Assessments replace previous Guidelines published in March 2013.

#### **DHPLG (2018) Draft Water Services Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Draft Water Services Guidelines for Planning Authorities set out a clear structure for actively managing the interface between spatial planning and development and water services planning.

### **DHPCLG (2017) Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000 – Guidelines**

The Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000 – Guidelines January 2017 Guidelines, deal with specific issues, largely in relation to the making of the Part V agreements, having regard to the 2015 legislative changes, which have been raised in discussions with developers, local authorities and other stakeholders.

### **DHPCLG (2017) Interim Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Statutory Plans, Renewable Energy and Climate Change**

The Interim Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Statutory Plans, Renewable Energy and Climate Change focus on administrative procedures which should be carried out by planning authorities in the context of any review or variation to a development plan that may arise pending the adoption of updated Wind Energy Development Guidelines.

### **EPA (2016) Green Infrastructure: A How To Guide for Disseminating and Integrating the Concept into Spatial Planning Practice**

This document seeks to relieve such pressures for those involved in the formulation of spatial plans by presenting a “How To” guide on disseminating and integrating the green infrastructure (GI) concept – an approach that addresses multiple issues in an environmentally sensitive manner by promoting spatial connectivity and multifunctionality.

### **DECLG (2015) Sustainable Urban Housing, Design Standards for New Apartments: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments Guidelines 2015 update previous 2007 guidelines. The Guidelines promotes sustainable urban housing by specifying the design and layout of new apartments to ensure they provide accommodation for a range of household types.

### **DECLG (2013) Local Area Plans: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Local Area Plans: Guidelines for Planning Authorities highlight best practice and improve the quality of local area plans.

### **DECLG (2013) Manual for Local Area Plans**

The Manual for Local Area Plans which accompanies the Local Area Plans Guidelines for Planning Authorities outlines some good examples in relation to innovative and participative approaches to local area planning.

### **DECLG (2013) Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on Carrying Out Environmental Impact Assessment**

The Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on Carrying Out Environmental Impact Assessment to provide practical guidance to planning authorities and the Board on legal and procedural issues arising from the requirement to carry out an EIA in relevant cases.

### **DECLG (2013) Development Contributions: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Development Contributions: Guidelines for Planning Authorities provide non-statutory guidance aimed at achieving greater level of consistency in development contribution schemes on a national basis.

### **The Heritage Council (2013) Historic Landscape Characterisation in Ireland, Best Practice Guidance**

Drawing on a variety of disciplines such as archaeology, geography and architecture, Historic Landscape Characterisation attempts to describe and document the character of different landscapes in order that they may be valued for the social resource that they are and managed as historical capital.

### **DECLG (2012) Spatial Planning and National Roads: Guidelines for Local Authorities**

The Spatial Planning and National Roads: Guidelines for Local Authorities set out planning policy considerations relating to development affecting national roads (including motorways, national

primary and national secondary roads) outside the 50/60 km h speed limit zones for cities, towns and villages.

**DECLG (2012) Retail Planning: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The purpose of the Retail Planning: Guidelines for Planning Authorities is to provide an updated and comprehensive retail planning and development framework.

**DECLG (2012) Retail Design Manual**

The Retail Design Manual, which is a companion document to the Retail Planning: Guidelines for Planning Authorities, provides a robust framework to aid a systematic analysis of most retail developments.

**DECLG (2012) Section 261A of the Planning Act and Development Act: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Section 261A of the Planning Act and Development Act: Guidelines for Planning Authorities provide an overview of, and implementation guidance relating to new legislative provisions in relation to quarries as introduced by the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010 and the Environment (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2011.

**EPA (2021) Integrating Ecosystems Approaches, Green Infrastructure and Spatial Planning**

This report examines potential avenues for the Irish planning system to deliver sustainable and ecologically sound outcomes through principles developed from the ecosystem approach and mobilised through the green infrastructure (GI) concept.

**DAHG (2011) Architectural Heritage Protection: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Architectural Heritage Protection: Guidelines for Planning Authorities, which are a reissue of guidelines first adopted in 2005, provide detailed advice in relation to: the protection of structures, or parts of structures, which are of special

architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social, or technical interest; and for the preservation of the character of architectural conservation areas.

**DECLG (2011) Drainage and Reclamation of Wetlands: Draft Guidance for Planning Authorities**

The Drainage and Reclamation of Wetlands: Draft Guidance for Planning Authorities provides guidance in relation to deciding whether drainage and reclamation of wetlands require a planning application and/or EIA.

**Comhar Sustainable Development Council (2010) Creating Green Infrastructure for Ireland, Enhancing Natural Capital for Human Wellbeing**

The document sets out a broad definition of Green Infrastructure and explores and proposes an approach and a set of principles that should be followed in Green Infrastructure planning, as well as describing a planning process to support the implementation of the Green Infrastructure approach.

**DEHLG (2009) Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities**

The Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities is intended to assist and guide planning authorities in the application of the EU Habitats Directive as it relates to their roles, functions and responsibilities in undertaking Appropriate Assessment of plans and projects.

**DEHLG (2009) The Planning System and Flood Risk Management: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Planning System and Flood Risk Management: Guidelines for Planning Authorities introduce comprehensive mechanisms for the incorporation of flood risk identification, assessment and management into the planning process.

**DEHLG (2009) Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas (Cities, Town and Villages):**

**Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas (Cities, Town and Villages): Guidelines for Planning Authorities set out the key planning principles which should be reflected in development plans and local area plans, and which should guide the preparation and assessment of planning applications for residential development in urban areas.

**DEHLG (2009) Urban Design Manual A Best Practice Guide**

The Urban Design Manual: A Best Practice Guide was published as a companion reference on best practice for the implementation of the Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas.

**DEHLG, DES (2008) The Provision of Schools and the Planning System: A Code of Practice**

The Provision of Schools and the Planning System: A Code of Practice provides guidance relating to the development of schools and schools related infrastructure within the planning system.

**DEHLG (2007) Development Management: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Development Management: Guidelines for Planning Authorities are intended to promote best practice at every stage in the development management process.

**DEHLG (2007) Development Plans: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Development Plans: Guidelines for Planning Authorities set out a framework within which development plans will achieve high standards in: how they set out their aims and objectives; how they are produced; how they are presented; and how they are implemented and monitored.

**DEHLG (2006) Wind Energy Development: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Wind Energy Development: Guidelines for Planning Authorities offer advice to planning authorities on planning for wind energy through the development plan process and in determining applications for planning permission.

**DEHLG (2005) Sustainable Rural Housing: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines seek to support sustainable housing development patterns in rural areas which take account of the needs of rural communities.

**DEHLG (2004) Implementation of the SEA Directive: Guidelines for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities**

The Implementation of the SEA Directive: Guidelines for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities are intended to assist regional and planning authorities, and any development agency responsible for preparing a planning scheme in respect of a Strategic Development Zone, in implementing the requirements of the SEA Directive which relates to the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment.

**DEHLG (2004) Quarries and Ancillary Activities: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Quarries and Ancillary Activities: Guidelines for Planning Authorities offer guidance on planning for the quarrying industry through the development plan and determining applications for planning permission for quarrying and ancillary activities.

**DEHLG (2003) Architectural Heritage: Protection for Places of Public Worship: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Architectural Heritage: Protection for Places of Public Worship: Guidelines for Planning Authorities are intended as a practical guide to planning authorities and others on the provisions of the Planning and Development Act as they relate to protected structures which are regularly used as places of public worship.

**DEHLG (2003) Funfair and Fairground Equipment: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Funfair and Fairground Equipment: Guidelines for Planning Authorities provides guidance in relation to matters to be taken into account in determining applications for certificates of safety, including guidance on compliance of fairground equipment with safety standards, codes of practice or related documents as may be considered necessary for the granting of a certificate of safety.

**DOELG (2001) Childcare Facilities: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Childcare Facilities: Guidelines for Planning Authorities provide a framework to guide both local authorities in preparing development plans and assessing applications for planning permission, and developers and childcare providers in formulating development proposals.

**DEHLG (2000) Draft Landscape and Landscape Assessment: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Draft Landscape and Landscape Assessment: Guidelines for Planning Authorities were intended to heighten awareness of the importance of landscape in all aspects of physical planning, to provide guidance to planners and to others as to how landscape considerations should be dealt with and to indicate specific requirements for Development Plans and for development control.

**DOELG (1996) Telecommunications Antennae Support Structures: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Telecommunications Antennae Support Structures: Guidelines for Planning Authorities deal with those telecommunications installations which form part of the requirements for licensed, public mobile telephony and which are considered to be development in accordance with the Planning and Developments Act.

**DOE (1994) Tree Preservation: Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The Tree Preservation: Guidelines for Planning Authorities provide guidance to planning authorities

in relation to the identification and protection of trees, either through a tree preservation order or development control.

**1.8 Regional Policies and Strategies**

**Southern Regional Assembly (2020) Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region (RSES)**

The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region 2020-2032 is a strategic plan which identifies regional assets, opportunities and pressures and provides appropriate policy responses in the form of Regional Policy Objectives.

**DETE (2020) South-East Regional Enterprise Plan**

The South-East Regional Enterprise Plan builds on the success of the South-East Regional Action Plan for Jobs (2015–2017) to ensure that it remains effective and that it continues to deliver jobs across the South-East region and can be robust to address the challenges we face, including Brexit.

**SRWMO (2015) Southern Regional Waste Management Plan**

The Southern Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021 is the framework for the prevention and management of wastes in a safe and sustainable manner in 10 local authority areas.

**OPW (2011-2016) South-Eastern CFRAM Study**

The EU Floods Directive (2007/60/EC) is the driving force behind flood management throughout Europe and requires a catchment-based approach to assessing and managing flood risks. The South Eastern CFRAM study has been commissioned in order to meet the requirements of the Floods Directive, as well as to deliver on core components of the 2004 National Flood Policy in the South Eastern district.

**1.9 Carlow County Council Policies and Strategies**

**Carlow County Council (2021) Carlow County Renewable Energy Strategy**

The Renewable Energy Strategy has been prepared to accompany this Plan and includes a

comprehensive assessment and spatial evaluation of the County to identify the most suitable locations for renewable energy technologies, taking account of available natural resources, environmental considerations, impacts on local communities and quality of life. The RES provides a robust policy position for the consideration of renewable energy in land-use planning and will allow the County to maximise its contribution to achieving EU and national targets through the optimum use of natural resources.

#### **Project Carlow 2040 (2020), A Vision for Regeneration**

Project Carlow 2040 is a Regeneration Strategy which seeks to achieve a high quality connected urban environment with increased employment opportunities and a better quality of life for all. The Strategy focuses development on Carlow Town Centre and identifies opportunities in the built environment and the public realm which can be developed to the benefit of the community and the local economy.

#### **Carlow County Council (2020) Corporate Plan**

This Corporate Plan 2020-2024 serves as the Council's strategic framework for action during the lifetime of the Council. It outlines Carlow County Council's Strategic Objectives and supporting strategies for the period 2020 - 2024, in relation to the Council's Mission and Core Values.

#### **Carlow County Council (2020) InCarlow Economic Development and Business Support Strategy**

The InCarlow Economic Development and Business Support Strategy was commissioned by Carlow County Council in 2020. The strategy profiles the economic structure of the County, identifies economic opportunities and proposes a range of actions to drive economic recovery and sustainable growth.

#### **Carlow County Council (2020) County Carlow Migrant Integration and Intercultural Strategy**

The Strategy 2020-2024 examines the County's migrant population, identifying their experiences

and attitudes, along with the issues they face in making the County their home. While acknowledging the overwhelming positives associated with migration in the County, the Strategy also highlights challenges faced by migrants, and is underpinned by a needs analysis.

#### **Carlow County Council (2020) County Carlow Tourism Strategy and Action Plan**

County Carlow Tourism Strategy and Action Plan 2020-2025 was commissioned by Carlow Tourism, and has been prepared in the context of Ireland's Ancient East. The purpose of the strategy is to improve the profile of Carlow as a holiday destination, to maximise the economic outputs for tourism, to grow tourism related employment and to improve the product offering and visitor experience.

#### **Carlow County Council (2020) County Carlow Outdoor Recreation Strategy**

The Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2020-2023 provides a framework for the development of Carlow's recreational assets, which will enhance the County as a place to live, work, visit, and play. It recognises that outdoor recreation provides value, by adding to our quality of life and by supporting our local economy via activity tourism. The Strategy's timescale provides a vision for outdoor recreation development to 2040 and identifies the specific objectives between 2020 to 2023, which will bring us closer to our vision of "*Sustainable, Local, Inclusive outdoor recreation*".

#### **Carlow County Council (2020) inCarlow Food and Drink Strategy – The Taste of County Carlow**

The strategy 2020-2025 outlines an industry partnership approach to food and drink development which includes Agri-Food Tourism. It focuses on the development of production, processing, promotion, and consumption of locally sourced food in the County while also exploring cross boundary opportunities for collaborations.

### **Carlow County Council (2019) Carlow Climate Change Adaptation Strategy**

The Carlow Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 guides the process of the Council's climate adaptation planning. This is the first step in increasing knowledge and understanding of the changing climate, growing resilience, and enabling effective responses to the threats posed by climate change.

### **Carlow County Council (2019) Carlow Traveller Accommodation Programme**

The Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act, 1998 places a statutory obligation on the Council to prepare and adopt a Traveller Accommodation Programme, subject to periodic review, to meet the existing and projected needs of the Traveller Community in the County. The current programme is for the period 2019-2024.

### **Carlow County Council (2019) Carlow Socio-Economic Profile**

This socio-economic profile is an important part of the data gathering exercise and provides the LCDC, and the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC, with baseline data on a variety of indicators that will assist them to make well informed decisions and recommendations and provide them with a basis for the measurement of impact of actions and the identification of future needs.

### **Carlow County Council (2018) Healthy Carlow County Plan**

The Plan, 2018-2021, has a vision to achieve "A county where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and well-being to their full potential, where well-being is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone's responsibility". In terms of physical health, the Plan aims to increase participation amongst specific groups that would benefit from additional support and access to sport, recreation and physical activity.

### **Carlow County Council (2017) Carlow Age Friendly Strategy: Strategic Plan**

The Carlow Age Friendly Strategy 2017-2022 outlines Carlow County Council's plan for implementing the Age Friendly County Initiative. This aims for Carlow to be a place where communities are designed to be age friendly and where older people live life to their greatest potential.

### **Carlow County Council (2016) The County Carlow Local Arts Development Plan**

The County Carlow Local Arts Development Plan 2016-2021 sets out strategic objectives and actions aimed at leading, nurturing, and sustaining the arts sector in the County. This includes (inter alia) objectives and actions to maximise opportunities for arts, funding, address artists' working space, provide commissioning opportunities for artists, and nurture professional development.

### **Carlow County Council (2016) Local Economic and Community Plan**

The Carlow Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2016-2021 outlines objectives and actions needed to promote and support economic and community development in the County.