

**Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Determination
under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) for:
Proposed Amendments to the Carlow-Graiguecullen Joint Urban Draft Local Area Plan 2024-2030**

A Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Determination is being made by Carlow and Laois County Councils regarding Proposed Amendments to the Carlow-Graiguecullen Joint Urban Draft Local Area Plan 2024-2030. Section 20 (3) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, requires, inter alia, a determination to be made as to whether Proposed Amendments to the Draft Plan warrant the undertaking of SEA.

In carrying out this Screening for SEA, the Council is taking into account the following:

- Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Amendments to the Carlow-Graiguecullen Joint Urban Draft Local Area Plan 2024-2030, including consideration of criteria set out in Schedule 2A 'Criteria for Regulations, as amended;
- Proposed Amendments to the Carlow-Graiguecullen Joint Urban Draft Local Area Plan 2024-2030;
- Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report for Proposed Amendments to the Carlow-Graiguecullen Joint Urban Draft Local Area Plan 2024-2030;
- SEA Environmental Report for the Carlow-Graiguecullen Joint Urban Draft Local Area Plan 2024-2030;
- AA Natura Impact Report for the Carlow-Graiguecullen Joint Urban Draft Local Area Plan 2024-2030; and
- Carlow-Graiguecullen Joint Urban Draft Local Area Plan 2024-2030.

The Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Amendments demonstrates that the Proposed Amendments are not likely to result in significant environmental effects. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan and the existing Carlow and Laois County Development Plans that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development, it is identified that all potential effects arising from the Proposed Amendments: either are present already (beneficial) and will be further contributed towards; or will be mitigated so as not to be significant (adverse). In addition, some amendments merely added clarifications or amended context setting text for Plan provisions and these will not result in significant environmental effects. Consequently, the Proposed Amendments do not require SEA.

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above and in the Screening for SEA Report. The undersigned hereby determines pursuant to Section 20 (3) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that SEA is not required for any Proposed Amendment.

Signatories:



Carlow County Council Director of Services



Laois County Council Director of Services

7th May 2024

Date