

# Draft Westmeath County **Development Plan** **2021 - 2027**

SEA Screening  
Determination

**Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Determination under:**

**The Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)**

**for:**

**Proposed Material Alterations to the**

**Draft Westmeath County Development Plan 2021-2027**

A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Determination is being made by Westmeath County Council regarding Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Westmeath County Development Plan 2021-2027.

Section 12 (7) (aa) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), requires, inter alia, a determination to be made as to whether Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Plan warrant the undertaking of SEA.

Such a determination takes into account relevant criteria set out in Schedule 2A 'Criteria for determining whether a plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment' of the SEA Regulations, as amended. These criteria are considered in an SEA Screening Report for Proposed Material Alterations that has been prepared to inform this determination.

The SEA Screening Report concludes that most Proposed Material Alterations are determined not to result in likely significant effects. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development, the SEA Screening Report identifies that that all potential effects arising from most Proposed Alterations: 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 alterations merely added clarifications or amended context setting text for Plan provisions and these will not result in significant environmental effects. Consequently, these Proposed Material Alterations do not require SEA.

The Proposed Material Alterations identified below are advised as requiring SEA and consideration in an SEA Environmental Report<sup>1</sup>:

- Proposed Amendment CH 9.1
- Proposed Amendment CH 9.5
- Proposed Amendment CH 9.6
- Proposed Amendment BOM 1
- Proposed Amendment BOM 2
- Proposed Amendment BOM 3
- Proposed Amendment BOM 8
- Proposed Amendment BOM 13
- Proposed Amendment BOM 14
- Proposed Amendment BOM 16
- Proposed Amendment BOM 17
- Proposed Amendment BOM 23
- Proposed Amendment BOM 29
- Proposed Amendment BOM 30
- Proposed Amendment BOM 31
- Proposed Amendment BOM 34
- Proposed Amendment BOM 35
- Proposed Amendment BOM 36

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above. The undersigned hereby determines pursuant to Section 12 (7) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that SEA is required for the Proposed Material Alterations listed above and that other Proposed Material Alterations do not require SEA. The SEA will be completed by December 14<sup>th</sup> 2020.

This determination has been informed by: the Proposed Material Alterations; the SEA Screening Report for the Proposed Material Alterations; the Draft Plan; and the SEA Environmental Report for the Draft Plan.

The SEA Environmental Report prepared for the Draft Plan will be finalised in advance of adoption of the Plan. A SEA Statement will be prepared following adoption, which will detail how environmental considerations were integrated into the Plan and how consultations on the SEA and associated Plan-preparation process were taken into account.

Signed: 

**Pat Gallagher  
Chief Executive**

---

<sup>1</sup> For detail on please refer to Proposed Material Alterations document.