



Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) Determination under the Habitats Directive¹ (and Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended) for:

Proposed Variation 2 to the Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021

A Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) determination is being made by Kilkenny County Council regarding Proposed Variation 2. In order to comply with the requirements of Section 177U of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and pursuant to Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive as to whether or not a plan or project would adversely affect the integrity of any European site(s), this Appropriate Assessment determination is being made by Kilkenny County Council relating to the potential for Proposed Variation 2 to result in a likely significant effect on any European site.

This Variation is proposed to clarify the settlement hierarchy in relation to small settlements in the City and County Development Plan 2021 (CCDP). Specifically, the changes are as follows:

- to change the terms 'Rural Towns and Villages', and 'Smaller towns and villages', to 'Small towns and villages'
- to remove the term 'Rural Node'
- to include villages previously designated as 'Rural Nodes' as 'Small towns and villages without settlement boundaries' in the settlement hierarchy

These changes primarily affect Chapter 4 Core Strategy, however the changes will be made wherever the terms appear throughout the CCDP.

In carrying out this Screening for AA, the Council is taking into account matters including those specified under Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, including:

- The existing Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021, including all associated AA documentation,
- The Report to inform AA Screening prepared for Proposed Variation 2

The Report to inform AA Screening demonstrates that the implementation of the proposed Variation will not give rise to any likely significant effect on any European site, alone or in combination with any other plans, programmes, projects etc. The Report to inform AA Screening has been carefully considered and its reasoning and conclusion agreed with and adopted, allowing a determination to be made that Proposed Variation 2 will not give rise to any likely significant effect on any European site.

Taking into account all of the above, it is determined that Proposed Variation 2 will not give rise to any likely significant effect on any European Site, and that Stage 2 AA is not required to be undertaken on the Proposed Variation.

¹ Council Directive [Council Directive 92/43/EEC](#)



Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

Halla an Chontae Sraid Eoin Cill Chainnigh
R95 A39T

Pobail agus Áiteanna Inbhuanaithe a Chruthú

Signed

Denis Malone

Acting Director of Services

Date

9/9/2020

Kilkenny County Council

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Creating Sustainable Communities and Places

Kilkenny