



KILKENNY
COUNTY COUNCIL



CARLOW
COUNTY COUNCIL

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA) DETERMINATION OF **MATERIAL ALTERATIONS** TO THE DRAFT JOINT GRAIGUENAMANAGH-TINNAHINCH LOCAL AREA PLAN

I refer to the requirement under article 14A(2) of the Planning and Development Regulations (Strategic Environmental Assessment) 2004 in relation to considering whether or not implementation of a Local Area Plan would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.

In accordance with the requirements of Article 14A, a 'Screening' of the Material Alterations to the proposed Draft Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Joint Local Area Plan was undertaken in respect of SEA.

None of the alterations are considered to have significant impacts on the environment.

Recommendation

I therefore recommend that a Strategic Environmental Assessment is **not required** for the Material Alterations to the Draft Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Joint Local Area Plan, as per the provisions of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2018.

The Environmental Authorities shall be informed of this decision, as per Article 14(A)(6)(b) of the 2001-2018 Regulations.

Signed

Denis Malone
A/Director of Services
Kilkenny County Council

Signed

Michael Rainey
Director of Services
Carlow County Council

Date

31st March 2021

Date

31st March 2021



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COUNTY COUNCIL**



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**APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT (AA) SCREENING DETERMINATION UNDER THE PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000-2017 FOR: MATERIAL ALTERATIONS TO THE DRAFT JOINT
GRAIGUENAMANAGH-TINNAHINCH LOCAL AREA PLAN**

An Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening determination has been made by Kilkenny and Carlow County Councils regarding Material Alterations to the Draft Joint Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Local Area Plan in accordance with the EU's Habitats Directive 6(3) and Section 177U of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

The Draft LAP sets out the vision and direction for the future development of the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch area. Proposed land use plans must undergo a formal 'test' or 'screening' to ascertain whether they are likely to result in any significant adverse effects on specific sites designated for their nature conservation importance. These sites are those designated under the European Commission's Natura 2000 network of sites (hereafter termed 'European sites'). European sites are designated on the basis of the presence of certain habitats and species that are deemed to be of international importance. The Irish Government, and planning authorities, have a legal obligation to protect these sites. The Habitats Directive requires the screening of plans and projects. If the screening process results in a judgement that likely significant effects may occur or cannot be ruled out, then a more detailed assessment is required.

The AA screening process for the Material Alterations to the Draft LAP has found that the Material Alterations do not require any further assessment to demonstrate compliance with the Directive in accordance with the methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.

Taking into account the findings of the AA process that are detailed in an AA Screening Report that accompanies this Determination, Kilkenny and Carlow County Councils have determined that Material Alterations to the Draft LAP, either independently or in combination, will not result in any effects on European Sites and consequently Stage 2 AA is not required.

Signed

Denis Malone
A/Director of Services
Kilkenny County Council

Signed

Michael Rainey
Director of Services
Carlow County Council

Date

31st March 2021

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31st March 2021