

Proposed Material Alterations to Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029

28th SEPTEMBER 2022

Volume 1



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Section 1

1.1 Introduction

The Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 was placed on public display from Monday 14th March to Tuesday 24th May 2022. The Chief Executive's Report on submissions and observations received in respect of the Draft Plan was submitted to the Elected Members of Kildare County Council for their consideration on 19th July 2022.

Having considered the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 and the Chief Executive's Report, it was resolved by the Elected Members at a Special Meeting of Kildare County Council on Monday 12th September 2022 and Tuesday 13th September 2022 to alter the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029, and that these alterations constitute a material alteration to the Draft Plan.

In accordance with Section 12(7)(b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the Proposed Material Alterations are hereby published for public consultation for a minimum period of 4 weeks.

1.2 How to Read the Proposed Material Alterations

The Proposed Material Alterations are referred to as **Proposed Material Alterations**. They are detailed in Section 2 of this report in the order of the Volume 1 chapters, Volume 2 and the Appendices of the Draft Plan to which they relate. They are accompanied by associated maps, where appropriate, with changes cross-referenced.

Where Proposed Material Alterations (PMA) affect land use zonings, the subject lands have been identified on associated maps with their relevant PMA reference, the detail of which is then set out in detail in Section 2 of this report.



For the purposes of reading **SECTION 2** of this report please note the following:

- The existing text of the Draft Plan as published is shown in **BLUE**.
- Text proposed to be deleted from the Draft Plan is shown as **STRIKETHROUGH**.
- Proposed new text is shown in **RED**.

NOTE: It is important to note that many of the Proposed Material Alterations, if adopted, will necessitate amendments to other sections/policies/actions of the Plan which will be made once the Proposed Material Alterations are considered by the Elected Members of Kildare County Council. Should any of the Proposed Material Alterations listed in Section 2 of this report be adopted into the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029, consequential changes will be made to the various sections of the Plan on final publication.

1.3 Environmental Assessments

Kildare County Council has screened the Proposed Material Alterations and determined that certain alterations require full Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), and certain other alterations require stage 2 Appropriate Assessment (AA).

In this regard, the following documents have been prepared and are published with the Proposed Material Alterations and are available for inspection:

- An addendum to the SEA Environmental Report pursuant to the SEA Directive and Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004-2011.
- An addendum to the AA Natura Impact Report for the purposes of Appropriate Assessment (AA) pursuant to the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).
- An addendum to the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) prepared in accordance with the Section 28 Guidelines for Planning Authorities on '*The Planning System and Flood Risk Management*' (DoEHLG, 2009).

1.4 Your Role – Making a Submission/Observation

A copy of the Proposed Material Alterations is on display from Wednesday 28th September 2022 until Thursday 27th October 2022 (inclusive) at the following locations:

- <https://draftkildarecdp2023-2029.ie/>
- <https://consult.kildarecoco.ie/>
- Planning Office, Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas during opening times of 9.30am–4.00pm, Monday to Friday (closed Bank Holidays).

Written submissions or observations with respect to the Proposed Material Alterations of the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 and associated documents, may be made to the Planning Authority within the above period. Written submissions or observations should be clearly marked **Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029** and be submitted either:

- Online, at Kildare County Council's Consultation Portal:
<https://consult.kildarecoco.ie/>

OR

- In writing to: Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029, c/o Senior Executive Officer, Planning Department, Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare

Please make your submission in one medium only, i.e. online or hard copy. Any submission or observation should state your name, where relevant, the body or organisation represented and the relevant 'Proposed Material Alterations' reference. E-mail and fax submissions will not be accepted.

All submissions or observations with respect to the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 and associated documents (including submissions relating to the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the Proposed Material Alterations) will form part of the statutory Chief Executive's Report to be presented to the Elected Members. Only submissions or observations made in respect of the Proposed Material Alterations and accompanying documents will be taken into consideration before the making of the final Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029. Submissions or observations in relation to any other aspects of the draft Plan cannot be considered at this stage in the process.

1.5 Next Steps

Following the above public consultation period, a Chief Executive's Report will be prepared on any submissions or observations received with respect to the Proposed Material Alterations of the Draft Plan and accompanying documents. The report will be submitted to the Elected Members of Kildare County Council for their consideration. Members shall consider the Proposed Material Alterations and the Chief Executive's Report and shall, no later than a period of six weeks after the Chief Executive's Report has been furnished, make or amend the County Development Plan as appropriate.

In making the Plan, the Elected Members must consider Proposed Material Alterations to the draft Plan, the environmental reports and the Chief Executive's Report on any submissions received and decide whether to make the County Development Plan with or without the Proposed Material Alterations.

Section 12(11) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) states that the Members of the Council are restricted to:

- Considering the proper planning and sustainable development of the area,
- The statutory obligations of the Local Authority in the area; and
- Any relevant policies or objectives for the time being of the Government or any Minister of the Government.

In addition, the Elected Members, acting in the interests of the common good and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, must, in accordance with the '*Code of Conduct for Councillors*' (July, 2019) prepared under the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended), carry out their duties in a transparent manner, must follow due process and must make their decisions based on relevant considerations.

Section 2 Proposed Material Alterations

The Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 are set out hereunder.

NOTE: A series of minor amendments and clarifications to the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 are not included in this Material Alterations Report. Refer to the Chief Executive's Report to review the minor amendments and clarifications to the Draft Plan.

Chapter 1: Introduction and Strategic Context

Proposed Material Alteration No. 1.1

Amend the second paragraph of Section 1.3 as follows:

The most recent census in Ireland was in 2016^{footnote}. The following infographic (Figure 1) provides highlights of the profile of the county.

Footnote: Preliminary Census 2022 data was published by the CSO on 23rd June 2022 which indicates that County Kildare has a current population of 246,977 persons. Detailed CSO data and population analysis for the County will not be published until 2023.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 1.2

(A) Amend section 1.4 as follows;

A development plan shall, as far as practicable, be consistent with the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), national plans, regional spatial and economic strategies, and policies and strategies which relate to the proper planning and sustainable development of land.

(B) Amend 1.4.3 as follows

The aim of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) is to strengthen the settlement structure of the Region and to capitalise on the individual and collective strengths of the region's cities, towns, and rural areas. It provides policy responses in the form of Regional Policy Objectives to ensure that people's needs, such as access to housing, jobs, ease of travel and overall well-being are met. The Development Plan is required to be consistent with the RSES. The Strategy is underpinned by three key principles: healthy placemaking, climate action and economic opportunity.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 1.3

Amend Section 1.5 to add a final paragraph as follows:

The Council is currently preparing a Sustainable Energy Climate Action Plan (SECAP) which will include targets to reach the county's climate change goals over the short, medium and longer term. When published, the targets identified in the SECAP may be incorporated into the County Development Plan by way of a statutory variation pursuant to Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 1.4

Amend Section 1.8 as follows:

The 'Strategic Vision' for the County, as outlined at the start of this chapter, is 'To build on the strengths of the county in order to improve the quality of life of all residents, through the creation of high-quality job opportunities, by the provision of high-quality residential development supported by adequate high quality community and social infrastructure, through the provision of a high-quality sustainable transport network, by healthy placemaking and transformational regeneration, by. The vision for County Kildare also supportsing the transition to a low carbon climate resilient environment, by embracing inclusiveness, and by enhancing our natural and built environment and enshrining the importance of conserving, restoring and protecting Kildare's biodiversity for future generations.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 1.5

Add an additional key principle in Section 1.8.1 as follows:

(xi) To promote co-ordinated spatial planning to conserve and enhance the biodiversity of our protected habitats and species including landscape and heritage protection.

Chapter 2: Core Strategy & Settlement Strategy

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.1

Display the Aim for Chapter 2 similar to other chapters, i.e., within a 'box'.

Amend Section 2.1 as follows:

To provide for the delivery of an additional 9,144 housing units to accommodate an additional 25,146 people by the end of the Plan period, and to continue to create the environment to retain existing and attract new employers to locate in County Kildare through the delivery of sustainable, compact settlements supported by a commensurate level of physical, and social and green infrastructure to mitigate against climate change and enhance the quality of life of residents.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.2

Amend the first paragraph of Section 2.5.1 as follows:

As a direct result of the coronavirus pandemic, the 2021~~2~~ Census was postponed and conducted by the CSO in April 2022. Preliminary census data was published in June 2022 which indicated that County Kildare has a population of 246,977 persons, representing an 11% increase from Census 2016 (up by 24,473 persons from 222,504 in 2016) and is now the county with the fourth highest population, after counties Dublin, Cork, and Galway. Detailed CSO data and population analysis for the County will not be published until 2023 and therefore the most up to date population analysis is Census 2016. ~~This census outlines that the total population within Kildare in 2016 was 222,504, which was the fifth highest population in the State. Over a 20-year period (1996 to 2016), Kildare experienced a 64.8% (+87,512) increase in its population base, the second highest rate in the State. The growth rate from 2006 to 2016 2022 was 32.5%. of 19.4% is the fourth highest in the State. Of note is that County Kildare is now one of the largest counties in the state, however commensurate funding is not provided by government per head of population over the last 3 intercensal periods.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.3

(A) Amend Table 2.2

The Transitional Regional and County Population Projections to 2031 for Kildare as provided in the NPF Roadmap and the RSES, are as follows:

County	2016	2022	2026	2031
Kildare	222,500	246,977	249,000 - 254,000	259,000 - 266,500

Table 2.2 - Transitional Population Projections

(B) Add new text to the end of the last paragraph of Section 2.5.2 as follows;

The above figures for Kildare provide for a population range for the period to 2026 and onwards to 2031. Taking the higher range for each growth band, the county population is projected to increase by 31,500 persons to 2026 with an additional 12,500 to the year 2031. The MASP Transitional Population Projections, adjusted to comply with NPO 68, allocate an additional population of up to 10,000 persons to the Key Town of Maynooth within County Kildare up to the year 2031. The transitional population targets apply to compact growth in tandem with existing or

planned delivery of high-capacity public transport corridors in the Key Towns. The precise allocation that will be attributed to Maynooth will be determined at Local Area Plan stage on foot of detailed assessments and audits of available social and physical infrastructure.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.4

Amend the first sentence of the first paragraph and add a new paragraph at the beginning of Section 2.6:

The impacts of climate change, and the vulnerability of poor communities to climate change, vary greatly, but generally, climate change is superimposed on existing vulnerabilities. One of the areas where both environmental pollution and climate policy has significant impacts on vulnerable communities is in relation to transportation.

For this reason, ~~t~~The promotion of a compact urban form of development, including sustainable rural development, is a central part of reducing the need to travel and mitigating climate change and to enhance public transport options for these areas to encourage the use of same.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.5

Amend paragraph 1 of Section 2.10 as follows:

The Sustainable Residential Development Guidelines generally encourages net densities of between 35-50 dwellings per hectare within larger towns with net densities of between 30-35 dwellings per hectare considered acceptable in certain large town contexts and net densities of less than 30 dwellings per hectare. Net densities of less than 30 dwellings per hectare will be considered on a case-by-case basis having regard to the existing pattern of development and characteristics of the receiving environment¹.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.6

Amend Table 2.8 as follows:

~~Table 2.8 - Core Strategy Table Settlement Hierarchy Population and Housing Unit Targets Q1 2023 to Q2 2028.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.7

Add the following new footnotes to Table 2.8:

(A) Add footnote to column '2021 Population Estimate (based on % growth from 2011-2016)'

Footnote: The 2021 population estimate is a holding figure and is used as a guide only until a detailed 2022 county profile is published by the Central Statistics Office (CSO). Preliminary Census 2022 data was published by the CSO on 23rd June 2022 which indicates that County Kildare has a population of 246,977 persons in 2022. Detailed CSO data for the settlements and population analysis for the County will not be published until 2023. As Local Area Plans are prepared during the lifetime of this County Development Plan, the Census 2022 figure will be used as the population

¹ **Note;** consequential amendments to other sections of the dCDP may result on foot of the above.

baseline from which projected population growth will be calculated for each individual LAP town, where available. Any LAP prepared before the publication of the Census 2022 Small Area Population Statistics (SAPS) will require an updated population estimate to be prepared for the Draft LAP (to be based on factors including the quantum of residential units built since Census 2016), which will differ from that shown in the '2021 Population Estimate' column in this table.

(B) Add footnote to rows 'Villages' and 'Rural Villages'

New footnote: Objective V GO 4 (Volume 2) is to generally control the scale of individual development proposals to 10-15% of the existing housing stock of any village or rural settlement over the lifetime of the Plan in accordance with the Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas Guidelines (2009). Furthermore, Objective V GO 9 (Volume 2) is to restrict growth in a village/rural settlement where necessary physical and social infrastructure cannot be delivered. In the absence of the necessary physical or social infrastructure, the projected growth for that development centre may be allocated to other serviced settlements within the same Municipal District or adjoining Municipal District or to serviced towns within the upper range of the settlement hierarchy.

(C) Add footnote to rows 'Villages' and 'Rural Villages'

New footnote: Objective V GO 9 (Volume 2) is to restrict growth in a village/rural settlement where necessary physical and social infrastructure cannot be delivered. In the absence of the necessary physical or social infrastructure, the projected growth for that development centre may be allocated to other serviced settlements within the same Municipal District or adjoining Municipal District or to serviced towns within the upper range of the settlement hierarchy.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.8

Amend objective CSO 1.3 as follows:

To actively engage with the Eastern Midlands Regional Assembly during the mid-term review of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and to inform the consideration of how urban settlements, regional growth centres and the retail hierarchy are designated within the region.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.9

Amend objective CSO 1.5 as follows:

Promote compact growth and the renewal of towns and villages through the development of underutilised town centres and brownfield sites, and where appropriate, pursue through active land management measures a co-ordinated planned approach to developing appropriately zoned lands at key locations, including regeneration areas, vacant sites and under-utilised areas in cooperation with state agencies, while also maintaining a 'live' baseline dataset and to monitor the delivery of population growth on existing zoned and serviced lands to achieve the sustainable compact growth targets of 30% of all new housing within the existing urban footprint of settlements.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.10

Amend objective CSO 1.7 as follows:

Promote and facilitate the development of sustainable and socially integrated communities through ~~land use planning~~ a plan-led approach that is informed by settlement capacity audits and social infrastructure audits, by providing for land uses zoning designations capable of accommodating employment, environmental education, community, leisure, education campuses, childcare, recreational and cultural facilities having regard to the quality of the receiving environment, and any landscape character, ~~and the archaeological and architectural heritage sensitivities.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.11

Amend objective CSO 1.9 as follows:

Review and prepare on an ongoing basis a portfolio of Local Area Plans (LAPs) for the mandatory LAP settlements (and environs, where appropriate) of Naas, Maynooth, Newbridge, Leixlip, Kildare, Athy, Celbridge, Kilcock, Monasterevin, Sallins, ~~Clane and Kilcullen~~ in accordance with the objectives of the County Development Plan and all relevant Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.12

Add new objective after objective CSO 1.9 and renumber objectives accordingly:

~~Prepare a Joint Local Area Plan for Maynooth and Environs in conjunction with Meath County Council.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.13

Amend objective CSO 1.11 as follows:

~~Leverage funding from all available sources including the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) and the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) to help secure the equitable delivery of key projects that will contribute to town and village renewal~~ Continue to implement the Council's programme of regeneration and renewal projects and actively seek funding from relevant agencies and Government sources including the Rural/Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF/URDF) in order to ensure the equitable delivery of projects across County Kildare, particularly in more densely populated areas in the north of the county. ~~and to e~~ and endeavour to ensure key that such project plans proposals are, where possible, fully prepared in advance of funding announcements, and to have resources allocated to focus on undeveloped projects or match funded opportunities.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.14

Amend objective CSO 1.12 as follows:

~~Require that the design of future developments occurs in a manner that facilitates sustainable travel patterns, with a particular focus on increasing the share of active modes (walking and cycling) and public transport use and creates~~ complies with the 10-minute settlement principle through the creation of a safe, attractive, permeable, and universally accessible environment for pedestrians and cyclists all, where measurably adequate transport links are in place, or will be situated, close to new developments and, insofar as possible, to existing developments which would benefit from them. Including permeability to existing estates to require public consultation which maximises the potential for active modes of travel along with accessibility to

both present and planned public transport options and to advocate for increased public transport options to meet this goal where none are in place.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.15

Amend objective CSO 1.18 as follows:

~~To consider aligning~~ **Align** the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029, with the up-to-date population from the forthcoming Census 2022 where there are verified material population differentials at settlement level to those in Table 2.8 of the Plan, by way of a statutory variation/~~review~~ pursuant to Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.16

Add new objective after CSO 1.18 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Prepare a Local Transport Plan, Settlement Capacity Audit and Social Infrastructure Audit for each local area plan, in order to facilitate the integration of land use and transportation, to apply a tiered approach to zoning and to identify deficiencies in social infrastructure provision, all in order to provide a sustainable growth strategy for each town.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.17

Add new objective after CSO 1.18 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Monitor the delivery of new housing units and facilitating infrastructure (i.e., Irish Water Capital Investment Programme, Irish Rail DART + Programmes etc.) across County Kildare² on an annual basis to ensure general compliance with the County Development Plan Core Strategy and housing supply targets to inform possible redistribution if/where appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.18

Amend and move objective UD O8 (Chapter 14) and insert after CSO 1.18 (Chapter 2) as follows:

~~Address new settlement areas already in the planning process, in the appropriate Local Area Plan process and to ensure that future new settlements....~~ **Ensure that all sustainable urban extensions to settlements along high-capacity public transport routes (Dart+ services, Bus Connects routes and any designated bus only/ bus priority route) are considered in the appropriate Local Area Plan process, in conjunction with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan to support new distributed growth in County Kildare during the lifetime of this Plan and to inform the next GDP County Development Plan, LAPs, UDZs and or any other plans or variation.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.19

Add new objective after CSO 1.18 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly: :

Support the implementation of LEADER Programmes equally across all areas which aim to deliver a range of rural enterprise, social inclusion and community development initiatives in County Kildare.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.20

² In accordance with the CSO Housing Completion data

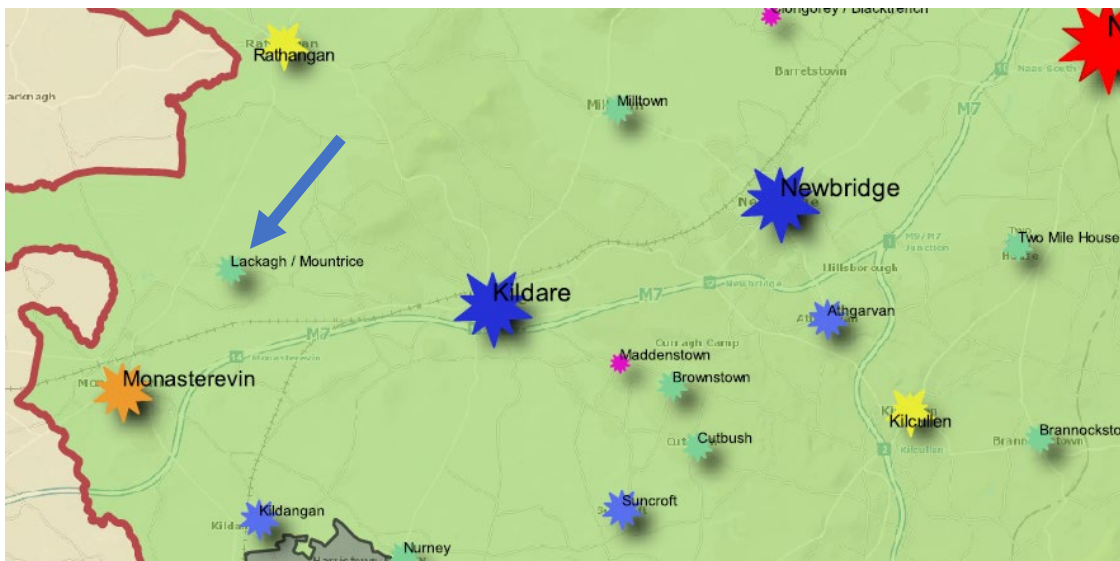
Add new objective after CSO 1.18 and renumber objectives accordingly (Move from Chapter 4 to Chapter 2):

Consider any proposal for a Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) in County Kildare on its merits, having regard to the characteristics of the proposed area and the ability of the receiving environment to absorb new development of the level proposed.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 2.21

(a) Amend Table 2.6 – Rural Nodes to delete ‘Lackagh’ and to include ‘Lackagh’ in Table 2.8 as a ‘Rural Settlement’

(b) Amend Map Ref: V1-2.2, remove Lackagh as a ‘Rural Node’ and insert Lackagh / Mountrice as a ‘Rural Settlement’. See Map below.



Chapter 3: Housing

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.1

Amend the heading of Section 3.7 as follows:

3.7 Residential Densityies and Building Height

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.2

Amend paragraph four of Section 3.7 as follows:

The Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas, DEHLG (2009) and Urban Development and Building Height Guidelines, DHLGH (2018) outline appropriate densities and building heights applicable to settlements of various size and location within these settlements. For further details on the implementation of the Urban Development and Building Height Guidelines refer to Section 14.8 Urban Design and Building Heights.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.3

Delete the text of Section 3.7 as follows:

Building Heights

~~Aligned with the principle of greater densification, will be the requirement to consider greater height in appropriate locations. It is important to note however, that higher density does not necessarily equate to high rise buildings and plot ratio and site coverage all contribute to the density of a particular built form. Appropriate higher density schemes can often be achieved by using mid-rise typologies and key to the success of such development is high quality design and placemaking.~~

~~The Urban Development and Building Height Guidelines for Planning Authorities published in December 2018 state that increasing prevailing building heights has a critical role to play in addressing both the scale and density of development. The guidelines also note that increased building height is a factor in assisting modern placemaking and improving the overall quality of our urban environments. The strategic approach, therefore, is to promote more intensive forms of development, including increased height, whilst ensuring that high quality places and a good quality of life are achieved.~~

~~The Guidelines include 4 no. Specific Planning Policy Requirements (SPPR), which the Planning Authority must apply in carrying out its functions. SPPR 1 relates to increased building heights and density in locations with good public transport accessibility. SPPR 2 seeks to ensure that an appropriate mix of uses is delivered as part of increased building heights. SPPR 3 relates to localised environmental issues to consider for higher buildings. SPPR 4 cross-references the application of residential density:~~

SPPR 4

~~It is a specific planning policy requirement that in planning the future development of greenfield or edge of city/town locations for housing purposes, planning authorities must secure:~~

- ~~1. the minimum densities for such locations set out in the Guidelines issued by the Minister under Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), titled “Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas (2007)” or any amending or replacement Guidelines;~~
- ~~2. a greater mix of building heights and typologies in planning for the future development of suburban locations; and~~
- ~~3. avoid mono-type building typologies (e.g. two storey or own-door houses only), particularly, but not exclusively so in any one development of 100 units or more.~~

~~Circular letter NRUP 02/2021 clarifies that the Guidelines referred to in Point 1 above, are in fact the Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas – Guidelines for Planning Authorities, DEHLG (2009), and that it follows that discretion may be applied in the assessment of residential density at the periphery of larger towns, with net residential densities below 35 dwellings per hectare permissible in certain cases, as set out above. Accordingly, ‘minimum’ densities should not be equated with 35 dwellings per hectare in all contexts and may be lower than that figure.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.4

Delete objective HO O5 as follows:

~~Ensure a strategic approach to building height in urban settlements that accords with The Urban Development and Building Height Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2018) and in particular, Specific Planning Policy Requirements (SPPR) 1 to 4.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.5

Amend reference from ~~the elderly~~ to **older persons** throughout the plan.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.6

Amend objective HO O22 as follows:

~~Require~~ **To meet the needs of older people and persons with a disability through by requiring the provision of alternative accommodation, such as age appropriate homes, independent and assisted living units, day-care facilities, nursing homes and specialised care units (e.g. dementia specific units) to meet the needs of older people and to facilitate the provision of a range of housing options for elderly older persons in central, convenient and easily accessible locations, integrating such housing with mainstream housing through the designation application of a location specific objective (Specific Local Objectives (SLO)) specific land uses at appropriate and optimised strategic locations particularly on Council owned land in mandatory Local Area Plans in County Kildare.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.7

Amend action HO A6 as follows:

Promote Ballymore Eustace as a national exemplar model of an age friendly, universally accessible, climate-friendly village and seek to facilitate and support this model for other settlements within County Kildare.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.8

Add a new objective after objective HO O33 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support the implementation of the recommendations of the Irish Human Rights & Equality Commission Equality Review on the provision of Traveller accommodation in Co. Kildare.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.9

Amend the last paragraph before Table 3.4 in Section 3.13.3 as follows:

Cluster type developments of five houses or less may be considered in rural areas on family farm holdings for applicants who are family members or adjacent to urban boundaries where no other land is available and comply with the social or economic element of the rural housing policy, where there has not been speculative sale of sites.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.10

Amend HO P11 as follows:

Facilitate subject to all appropriate environmental assessments proposals for dwellings in the countryside outside of settlements in accordance with NPF Policy NPO 19 for new Housing in the Open Countryside in conjunction with the rural housing policy zone map (Map 3.1) and accompanying Schedule of Category of Applicant and Local Need Criteria set out in Table 3.4 and in accordance with the objectives set out below. Documentary evidence of compliance with the rural housing policy must be submitted as part of the planning application.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.11

Amend objective HO O50 as follows:

Require that all applications to demonstrate the ability to provide safe vehicular access to the site where without the necessity to remove extensive stretches of native hedgerow and trees. All applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis, having regard to, the quality of the hedgerow, age and historical context, if an old town boundary hedgerow, species composition, site context and proposed mitigation measures or can demonstrate existing hedgerow is not native and provide a landscape design to reinstate a hedgerow to outline proposals for replacement of same or comparative.

Note; The need for the removal of extensive roadside hedgerow may indicate that the site is unsuitable for development.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.12

Add a new objective after objective HO O50 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Recognise the biodiversity and ecosystem services value of established hedgerows within rural and urban settings and where hedgerow must be moved to achieve minimum sight lines, a corresponding length of hedgerow of similar species composition (native and of local provenance) shall be planted along the new boundary, while allowing occasional hedgerow trees to develop.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.13

Add a new policy in Section 3.13.5 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Consider the presence of bat species, all of which are listed on Annex IV of the Habitats Directive in the restoration/refurbishment of traditional structures and to ensure applications relating to the restoration and re-use of vernacular structures and houses in the countryside are accompanied by a bat survey report, as required and appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.14

Amend policy HO P21 as follows:

Consider, applications for one-off housing in areas bordering neighbouring counties, where the proposed site is located on family land within County Kildare, at a distance of up to 2km located in Zone 1 and up to 5km located in Zone 2, from the county boundary. Applicants will be required to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the planning authority, that no suitable family-owned site is available in the adjoining county and that all other aspects of rural housing policy including local need, siting and design are complied with and that no significant negative environmental effects will occur as a result of the development. The applicant shall also fully demonstrate that they are building their rural dwelling and that it will be for their permanent place of residence.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.15

Amend the final bullet point of Section 3.14 as follows:

- Where the RRD exceeds 25 units per square kilometre there will be a presumption against further one-off houses, however in certain circumstances the above limits on RRD³ may be exceeded subject to the exceptions outlined in section 3.14 of Chapter 3 of Volume 1.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.16

Amend policy HO P24 as follows:

Sensitively consider the capacity of the receiving environment to absorb further development of the nature proposed through the application of Kildare County Councils 'Single Rural Dwelling Density' Toolkit (see Appendix 11) and facilitate where possible those with a demonstrable social or economic need to reside in the area. Applicants will be required to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the planning authority that no significant negative environmental effects will occur as a result of the development. In this regard, the Council will:

- examine and consider the extent and density of existing development in the area,
- the degree and pattern of ribbon development in the proximity of the proposed site.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.17

Add new text after the Note below Objective HO O56 as follows:

A clearly defined urban area may be omitted from the calculations (applying a pro-rata density on the balance of area within the square kilometre buffer), however, where extensive sprawl and ribbon development extends from an urban centre or

³ Rural Residential Density

village, then these units – if they fall within the circle – may be used in the calculation of the rural residential density. If the circle/area passes through the curtilage of a residential site, then it is included within the calculation.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.18

Add new policy before HO P26 of section 3.16 as follows and renumber policies accordingly:

Avoid the creation of new accesses for one-off dwellings onto national roads, regardless of the housing circumstance of the applicant, to comply with the requirements of the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines, DECLG (2012).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.19

Amend objective HO O49 as follows:

Require that new dwellings incorporate principles of sustainability and green principles in terms of design, services and amenities with careful consideration in the choice of materials, roof types (i.e. green roofs), taking advantage of solar gain/passive housing and the provision of low-carbon and renewable energy technologies as appropriate to the scale of the development and to support microgeneration in all residential, commercial, agricultural and community development planning. Other sustainable principles could include the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (such as attenuation ponds and grass lined swales), the use of gravel or grasscrete rather than permanent paving/tarmac for driveways, landscaping and planting for biodiversity/pollinators and adequate waste segregation and storage space, as set out in Section 15.4 of Chapter 15 (Development Management standards) and the Rural House Design Guide contained in Appendix 4.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.20

To include an additional objective in Section 3.13.7 (Providing a sustainable alternative to One Off Housing) to read as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Following the preparation and adoption of the 'Kildare County Council Serviced Sites Scheme Policy Document', the Council will consider varying the Kildare County Development Plan 2023- 2029 (CDP) to incorporate additional serviced sites' lands that are located within or adjacent to zoned or designated lands as identified in the CDP.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.21

Amend HO A8 as follows:

Prepare, within 6 months of the adoption of this Plan, a Kildare County Council Serviced Sites Scheme Policy Document, for the agreement of the Elected Members, to guide the development of serviced sites, ~~no later than 6 months after the adoption of this Plan.~~ This policy document shall;

.....
3) Explore mechanisms to support the delivery of affordable homes and sites, including the provision of smaller homes and sites which would not compromise the overall quality of life for future occupants. All relevant and appropriate housing models will also be considered in order to support the delivery of affordable, high-

quality homes. To support existing villages and cluster communities that are in decline or are experiencing low population growth.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.22

Amend HO O56 as follows:

Carefully manage Single Rural Dwelling Densities to ~~between 15 and 25 units per square kilometre and~~ ensure that the density of one-off housing does not exceed 25 30 units per square kilometre (footnote), unless the applicant is actively engaged in agriculture, or an occupation that is heavily dependent on the land and building on their own landholding.

Footnote: The sq.km. shall, in all instances, be measured from the centre point of the application site.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.23

Amend HO P14 as follows:

The Council will seek to resist further development which would serve to extend ribbon development, save in circumstances where a “gap site” is evident within the existing ribbon pattern, where one individual dwelling is proposed. Such proposals will be considered, regardless of the density of the area, only in the following circumstances:

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.24

Include a new objective under Section 3.13.3 after HO O48 as follows:

To consider favourably proposals to complete/renovate/refurbish one-off houses in rural areas which may be unfinished (for stated reasons outside the control of the original applicant) for a period in excess of 3 years, subject to an occupancy clause of 5 years where the applicant can demonstrate that they have lived and worked within 10km of the site for a period of not less than 3 years. The onus shall be on the applicant/occupant of the property (as appropriate) to satisfactorily demonstrate to the Planning Authority, full compliance with this policy.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.25

Include a new policy in Section 3.13.5 to read as follows;

Positively accept any brown field residential site, non-habitable dwelling or farm buildings irrespective of their condition, as a viable alternative to a new residential build in a rural area. Rural density figures or limits will not apply to applicants who comply with the local need criteria.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.26

Amend HO O44 as follows:

Restrict residential development on a landholding, where there is a history of development through the speculative sale or development of sites to an unrelated third party, to family members of the landowner who are involved in agriculture, equine, horticulture. ~~notwithstanding the applicant's compliance with the local need criteria.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.27

(A) Amend (ii) under section 3.13.3 as follows: An owner and operator of a farming/horticultural/forestry/bloodstock/animal husbandry business on an

area less than 15ha, who is engaged in farming activity on a daily basis, where it is demonstrated through the submission of documentary evidence that the farming/agricultural activity forms a significant part of their livelihood, including but not limited to intensive farming.

(B) Amend table 3.4 to include same wording

The owner/operator [as referred to in Category A (ii)] must be engaged in that farming activity on a daily basis, as their main employment. Same must be demonstrated through the submission of documentary evidence to include confirmation that the farming/agricultural activity forms a significant part of the applicant's livelihood, including but not limited to intensive farming.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 3.28

Amend Section 3.18 Technical Considerations for Rural Housing Proposals in County Kildare to include additional point as follows.

7. Scenic Routes; As part of all planning proposals, applicants should refer to Section 13.5 of Chapter 13 (Landscape, Recreation & Amenity), and demonstrate that any scenic route referenced (either in table or map form) will not be significantly interfered with when viewed from nearby areas, viewpoints, and settlements.

Chapter 4: Resilient Economy & Job Creation

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.1

Add the following new text at the end of Section 4.3.1:

The review of the Local Economic & Community Plan will illustrate how strengthening community infrastructure could support the priority of achieving critical mass and moving people closer to enterprise support agencies such as LEO.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.2

Amend RE O13 as follows:

Support ~~An Post~~ in the provision of new postal facilities and the enhancement of existing facilities, including operational requirements, in the County and to facilitate the provision of postal infrastructure at suitable locations in the County.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.3

Add new objective in Section 4.3.2 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Ensure that economic development that is urban in nature should be located in urban areas and will not be permitted to re-locate to the countryside or to un-serviced rural areas.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.4

Add new objective after RE O13 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Work with EirGrid and ESB Networks to support the provision of a resilient electricity supply and distribution system to accommodate the future economic growth of the county and to facilitate the transition of heat and transport from fossil fuels to electricity.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.5

Add new objective after RE O13 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support the implementation of the 'Local Just Transition Plan for West Kildare, 2022' a focus of which, through identified thematic actions, is to help communities benefit from new business, income and job creation opportunities in existing and emerging industries.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.6

Amend RE O14 as follows:

Undertake, within the first 2 years from the adoption of the Plan, a Strategic Land Use, Employment and Transportation Study of north east Kildare including the Dublin Metropolitan area towns of Leixlip, (and Collinstown), Maynooth, Celbridge and Kilcock. The preparation of the study will have regard to existing and emerging local area plans and any evidence-based assessments associated with same.

Where LAPs are prepared after the completion of the study, such plans shall have regard to any relevant recommendations set out therein. It is envisaged that the study will involve the participation of all strategic stakeholders, including the National Transportation Authority, adjoining local authorities (i.e. Meath, Fingal and South Dublin County Councils), the Regional Assembly, transportation providers, Waterways Ireland, Government Departments and Environmental Agencies.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.7

Amend RE O16 as follows:

Co-ordinate the delivery of strategic infrastructure subject to appropriate route option selection processes and environmental assessments including pedestrian and cycle linkages within Maynooth and the Royal Canal Greenway, DART expansion and road linkages forming part of the Maynooth Outer Orbital Route in a manner which supports future development and population growth.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.8

Amend RE O24 as follows:

Promote the town of Athy as a Food, Drink and Skills Innovative Hub and to support the regeneration and development of Athy to ensure that it provides an enhanced role in delivering economic growth and promoting sectoral interests, including the development of tourism within the south of the county while recognising the historic importance of the food and drink industry in the town and potential for future development.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.9

Include a new objective in Section 4.4.5 'Self-Sustaining Growth Towns' to read as follows;

Co-ordinate the delivery of strategic infrastructure including pedestrian and cycle linkages within Leixlip and between Leixlip and the Greenway, Intel, Celbridge and Lucan in a manner which supports future development and population growth.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.10

Amend Section 4.5 as follows:

~~Economic clusters are also promoted as part of the overall economic strategy. Naas is clustered with Newbridge and Kilcullen while Maynooth is clustered with Leixlip, Celbridge and Kilcock. Clusters are to develop in a mutually dependent way, so that the amenities and economies of the whole cluster are greater than the sum of the individual parts.~~

Economic clusters, according to the EU Commission, are defined as groups of firms, related economic actors and institutions located near each other and with sufficient scale to develop specialised expertise, services, resources, suppliers and skills. The potential for such clusters to become self-sustaining beacons for attracting further investment, industry, employment opportunities and institutional collaboration is acknowledged by the Council. Accordingly, the following two areas within County Kildare have been identified as economic clusters:

- The MASP (Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan) Economic Cluster in northeast Kildare, which includes the settlements of Maynooth, Leixlip, Celbridge and Kilcock.
- The Sallins-Naas-Newbridge Cluster which also incorporates the proposed Naas to Newbridge Strategic Economic and Employment Zone.

The designation of these clusters is in keeping with the provisions of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031 and Kildare 2025 Economic Development

Strategy. It also acknowledges the existing relationships and synergies that have developed between settlements and in particular, the role that certain towns within these clusters have developed as strategic destinations for employment and education. It is considered that the focusing of sectoral growth opportunities, along with targeted infrastructural development, within these designated clusters will enable the development of economies of scale, thereby securing critical mass. The successful development of these clusters will not only provide the county with a competitive advantage but also help to safeguard its long-term economic wellbeing.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.11

Delete objective RE O29 in its entirety.

~~Promote and facilitate an economy of smart specialisation around specific towns and regions within the county.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.12

Add new objective after RE O29 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Promote and facilitate the development of the Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP) Economic Cluster, encompassing the towns of Maynooth, Leixlip, Celbridge and Kilcock, by supporting identified key sectoral opportunities, including the development of synergies between Maynooth University, employers in the area, key stakeholders and community leaders, along with the requisite targeted infrastructural investment, in accordance with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.13

Add new objective after RE O29 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Promote and facilitate the development of the Sallins-Naas-Newbridge Economic Cluster, including the proposed Naas to Newbridge Strategic Economic and Employment Zone, by supporting identified key sectoral opportunities along with requisite targeted infrastructural investment, in accordance with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.14

Amend paragraph four to seven of Section 4.7 as follows:

~~The Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 aims to incentivise urban regeneration and facilitate increased activity in the housing construction sector. Under the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015, the Planning Authority is required to identify vacant sites that fall within the definition set by the Act, maintain a register of vacant sites and apply a levy in respect of such sites. The sustainable development of vacant sites in Kildare has been promoted through the targeted application of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act, 2015 (Vacant Site Levy) in towns that are the subject of a statutory Local Area Plan.~~

In order to enhance the appearance and socio-economic performance of the towns, villages and settlements in the county, Kildare County Council will proactively engage with the Elected Members of each Municipal District in devising and delivering plans and projects for regeneration. Urban Town Renewal Masterplans

Plans shall be informed by Town Centre Health Checks and shall incorporate a public realm enhancement plan proposals that are bespoke to each settlement. Funding opportunities at both national and EU levels should will be targeted to empower local communities to make a difference at a local level.

The Council has recently launched the 2021 Town and Village Renewal Scheme, which will prioritise tackling vacancy in towns and villages, remote working and supporting town centre living. Other projects which will be welcomed the Council is seeking to progress include regeneration projects that support, inter alia, active and vibrant town or village centres, upgrading shopfronts and street facades, and green spaces and parks. For further details on the Council's actions in the renewal and regeneration of the county's towns and villages refer to Section 14.5 Policy Responses.

~~The Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) and Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF) also have vital roles in funding projects aimed at enhancing urban and rural areas to make them more attractive places in which to live, work, visit and invest.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.15

Amend RE O32 as follows:

Continue to promote the sustainable development of vacant residential and regeneration sites in towns that are the subject of a statutory Local Area Plan, through the application of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 (as amended), Vacant Site Levy^{add footnote}, on lands zoned for Town Centre, Regeneration and Residential uses.

Footnote: Action 15.2 of Housing for All identifies the introduction of a new tax to activate vacant land for residential purposes as part of the pathway to increasing new housing supply, which will in time replace the Vacant Site Levy. The Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) was introduced by the Finance Act 2021 and will come into effect from 2024. The principal purpose of the Residential Zoned Land Tax is to encourage the timely activation of serviced lands zoned for residential or mixed-use purposes.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.16

Delete RE O34 and renumber objectives accordingly:

~~Promote quality placemaking and design as an integral element of attracting investment and a diverse and creative population to live and work within the county.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.17

Delete RE O35 (See objectives UD O6 and RD A3) and renumber objectives accordingly:

~~Prioritise the regeneration of rural towns and villages through the identification of significant regeneration projects for rural villages and rural areas which could harness untapped assets with community and wider private and public sector support and investment including the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.18

Amend RE O37 as follows:

- (a) Promote the Shop Front Improvement, & Accessibility and Age Friendly Grant Scheme to financially assist and support independent business owners to improve the appearance of their shop fronts/ commercial properties.
- (b) Financially assist and support independent business owners to improve accessibility to their commercial properties.
- (c) Promote the use of Irish Language signage in the County through the Shop Front Improvement, & Accessibility and Age Friendly Grant Scheme.
- (d) Promote all signage both within and outside of all public buildings to be displayed in both the Irish and English languages.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.19

Delete RE O38 and renumber objectives accordingly:

~~Ensure a synergy between economic growth and investment and the development of urban centres, supporting the consolidation and re-intensification of infill, derelict, brownfield and underutilised lands within the County.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.20

Delete RE O45 (Move from Chapter 4 to Chapter 2) and renumber objectives accordingly:

~~Consider any proposal for a Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) in County Kildare on its merits, having regard to the characteristics of the proposed area and the ability of the receiving environment to absorb new development of the level proposed.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.21

Delete RE O46 (See objectives and actions in Chapter 14) and renumber objectives accordingly:

~~Facilitate and support outdoor activity and public realm improvements throughout the towns and villages in Kildare which have become particularly important arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.22

Add new objective under Section 4.7 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support and prioritise the delivery of all projects funded under the Fáilte Ireland's Destination Towns funding programme to enhance public spaces and projects.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.23

Amend RE O60 as follows:

Promote the development of a Technology and Innovation Park with Maynooth University subject to all relevant and cumulative environmental assessments and planning conditions within the Key Town of Maynooth, that will act as an anchor, supporting incubator, innovation and business development initiatives that are located to build upon research and technology activities in Maynooth University; with supporting transport infrastructure; broadband infrastructure; and a diverse local sectoral mix.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.24

Add a new objective after objective RE O65 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support UCD Lyons Farm as a centre of excellence and a third level teaching and agricultural research facility and to facilitate the delivery of key infrastructure, as appropriate subject to planning and environmental considerations.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.25

Amend Section 4.14 as follows:

The Chemicals Act (Control of Major Accident Hazards involving Dangerous Substances) Regulations 2015 implements the SEVESO III Directive (2012/18/EU).

Two firms in County Kildare fall within the terms of the SEVESO III Directive (2012/18/EU). The Directive seeks to prevent major industrial accidents that involve dangerous substances and to limit the consequences of accidents on people, property and the environment. In accordance with Section 10(2) (k) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), this Plan seeks to ensure that:

- Proposals for new industries at risk of causing major accidents
- Proposals for the expansion of existing industries designated under the directive; and
- Other developments proposed near to existing SEVESO III industries

take account of the need to prevent major accidents involving hazardous substances and safeguard the public, property and the environment.

The industries that are currently covered are outlined in Table 4.2 below. The Health and Safety Authority (HSA) has been designated as the central competent authority for the enforcement of the SEVESO III Directive (2012/18/EU) and has established generic consultation distances for these facilities.

Establishment	Address	Consultation Distances
Irish Industrial Explosives	Clonagh, Enfield	500 metres (subject to further consultation with the HSA)
Intel Ireland Ltd	Industrial Park, Collinstown, Leixlip	1,000 metres (subject to further consultation with the HSA)

Table 4.2 - Industries affected by the Seveso III Directive

It is also noted that Johnston Logistics in South Dublin located in Rathcoole, is also a designated SEVESO III site.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.26

Amend policy RE P10 as follows:

Have regard to the following in the preparation of spatial plans and in assessing planning applications for new development, or the expansion of existing development involving hazardous substances:

- ~~The Major Accidents Directive (SEVESO III, 2012/18/EU).~~
- SEVESO III Directive (2012/18/EU).

- The consultation distances and HSA technical advice in relation to the industries affected by the SEVESO III Directive (2012/18/EU).
- Potential adverse impacts on public health and safety.
- ~~HSA Technical advice.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.27

Amend policy RE P11 as follows:

Support the accommodation of Data Centres at appropriate locations in line with the objectives of the National Planning Framework and the Government Statement on the Role of Data Centres in Ireland subject to appropriate Transport and Environmental Impact Assessments and all relevant planning conditions. The location of data centres shall be situated where they will not have a potential likely significant effect on a European Site or on a site that shares a hydrological connection to a European Site.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.28

Amend RE O69 as follows:

Require that any application for a data centre will be subject to all relevant and cumulative environmental assessments and planning conditions and shall take account of the cumulative visual impact of the proposed connections of the data centre with electricity transmission, renewable energy, and broadband infrastructure in the area.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.29

Amend RE O70 as follows:

Require data centres to consider the use of sustainable renewable sources of energy to fuel their operations in whole in the first instance or in part (minimum of 30%) where this is not possible and where it has been satisfactorily demonstrated not to be possible, subject to all relevant and cumulative environmental assessments and planning conditions.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.30

Amend the last paragraph of section 4.17 as follows:

The transition to a more circular economy and bio-economy, where the value of bio-based products, materials and resources is maintained in the economy for as long as possible, and the generation of waste minimised, will provide an essential contribution to Kildare developing a sustainable, low carbon, resources efficient and competitive economy. The Council will support the development of the bio-energy industry in the county (including bio-gas) where appropriate. The green and circular economy agenda will also reduce the use of peat within horticulture and agriculture which will reduce pressure on the environment and lower greenhouse gases, improving the situation for biodiversity and moving us in a direction of sustainable production.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.31

Add new objective in Section 4.17 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support and facilitate the development of a Green Enterprise Zone associated with the peat era in accordance with the provisions of Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, subject to planning and environmental considerations.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.32

Add new objective in Section 4.17 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Support EMRA in undertaking a bioeconomy feasibility study for the region to identify areas of potential growth to inform investment.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.33

Amend RE P13 as follows:

Support and facilitate sustainable agriculture, horticulture, forestry, and other rural enterprises at suitable locations in the County where there will be no potential for likely significant effects on a European Site or on a site that shares a hydrological connection to a European Site.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.34

Amend the second and third paragraphs of Section 4.21 as follows:

Kildare's tourist attractions and tourism amenities are therefore important assets for the development of the county and are fundamental to the enjoyment by both visitors and residents. The important contribution that the community and the vast numbers of volunteers throughout the county make to the enhancement of Kildare as a place to visit is widely acknowledged and recognised. The key focus for the Midlands/Mid-East Fáilte Ireland Into Kildare region will be the further development and promotion of the local culture and heritage product, including the development of 'the Ireland's Ancient East' brand as it relates to Kildare.

~~The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and Fáilte Fáilte Ireland are responsible for the delivery of policy and investment in tourism in Ireland. Fáilte Ireland promotes Ireland based on a Regional Experience Brand where Kildare falls within 'Ireland's Ancient East'. The aim of the branding is to inspire visitors to travel to Ireland's Ancient East by appealing to their interest in local culture and heritage.~~
develops, promotes and invests in regional tourism through Regional Experience Brands. Kildare sits within the 'Ireland's Ancient East' regional experience brand. The strategic focus for Ireland's Ancient East is to refine and strengthen the destinations' brand proposition to embrace the broader offering of the destination and increase its consumer appeal to a wider audience, increase knowledge and awareness, and improve the 'navigability' of the region, alongside establishing iconic and signature visitor experiences and strong destination towns that have the potential to become key regional attractors to drive and disperse targeted domestic and overseas visitors.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.35

(A) Amend Section 4.21.1 (last sentence of the third paragraph) as follows:

The rich architectural and archaeological heritage of the county is also acknowledged with many renowned structures and houses including Castletown House, Carton House, Barberstown Castle, the Wonderful Barn, Moone High Cross and Castledermot Round Tower.

(B) Amend Section 4.21.1 (last sentence of the fourth paragraph) as follows:

There is also a wide range of tourist attractions in the North Kildare Area including, Castletown House and Demesne, Carton House, Maynooth Castle, Conolly's Folly, Leixlip Castle, Lyons Estate, Arthur's Way, the Wonderful Barn and St Patrick's

College Maynooth and also in the south of the county including the Shackleton Museum, and Barrow Blueway and Columbian Way.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.36

Amend objective RE O93 as follows:

Support and facilitate the erection of standardised signage for tourism facilities and tourist attractions in Irish and English as part of national and regional initiatives. Consideration should also be given to gateway signage at county boundaries in consultation with relevant agencies.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.37

Amend objective RE O95 as follows:

Support the expansion and development of tourism in Kildare, investigating the feasibility of key opportunities such as those centred on the racing industry, motorsports, retail, heritage, historical heritage (both persons and places), geology, peatlands, golf and eco-tourism to include: Arthur's Way, the Dublin – Galway Greenway, the Barrow Blueway, the Shackleton Trail, Shackleton Museum, Mondello the Gordon Bennett Route, the Grand Canal Greenway, Brigid 1500, a Fitzgerald Family Trail, the Made of Athy Trail, Castledermot Town Wall, the Columbian Way and other opportunities. Such developments shall be subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.38

Replace RE O96 with the following objective:

~~Support additional tourist accommodation and other types of tourism infrastructure such as motorhome parking and toilet facilities at appropriate, sustainable locations, where the vitality and vibrancy of nearby serviced centres is not compromised.~~

Support the diversification of the county's tourist accommodation offer, including the development of appropriately scaled camping/glamping and campervan accommodation and their associated infrastructure (including parking and toilet facilities) within/or proximate to existing settlements, established tourism assets and at an appropriate scale, subject to planning and environmental considerations, particularly where they support nearby settlements.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.39

Amend RE O100 as follows:

Direct the provision of tourist related facilities such as ~~information offices~~ Tourist Information Centres, self-service brochure units, kiosks, and cultural centres, into town and village locations to support and strengthen the existing economic infrastructure of such centres. Consider the potential for co-locating such facilities with existing facilities such as libraries and citizen information centres.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.40

Amend RE O105 as follows:

Support the development of sustainable forest-based tourism facilities and accommodation at appropriate locations within the Coillte estate. Such developments shall be subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.41

Amend RE O108 as follows:

Support the provision of accessible tourism and to provide appropriate access for the disabled and appropriate changing places at all key tourist centres within the County.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.42

Add new objective into Section 4.21.1 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Protect all landscape types from inappropriate tourism development by ensuring that developments and other activities associated with tourism or recreational activity are sensitively located so that they do not cause damage, are not detrimental to or detract from the traditional character or appearance of areas of scenic or visual amenities and ensure that the layout, design, and associated infrastructure are of the highest quality.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.43

Add new objective into Section 4.21.1 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Ensure the highest standards of design are used in the development of tourism related facilities to ensure that there are no significant adverse impacts on the landscape, including Natura 2000 sites and historic archaeological sites. Such facilities must be integrated into the landscape to take advantage of natural screening and topography.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.44

Add text to the end of the first paragraph of Section 4.22 as follows:

Tourism and recreational development shall be assessed against the nature and scale appropriate to the character of the area and shall be located to be visually sympathetic to its surroundings.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.45

Amend RE O115 as follows:

Require the preparation of 'Attraction Management Plans' for new developments/projects which may impact on areas of ecological or heritage sensitivity in County Kildare. These plans should consider (but not limited to) potential for loss of habitat and disturbance by increased visitor numbers.

Applications or proposals will be accompanied by a management plan indicating projected numbers of users, hours of operation, seasons of operation, and an undertaking to protect the natural environment in the form of a risk assessment with proposed amelioration measures in respect of flora, fauna, hydrology, geology and soils. The Attraction Management Plans should have regard to any mitigation as detailed within a Stage 2 AA or EclA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.46

Amend RE O116 as follows:

Ensure the potential environmental effects of a likely increase in tourists/tourism-related traffic volumes in particular locations/along particular routes shall be considered and mitigated as appropriate. Such a consideration should include

potential impacts on existing infrastructure (including drinking water, wastewater, waste, and transport) resulting from tourism proposals and should have regard to any mitigation as detailed within a Stage 2 AA or EclA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.47

Add the following new objective to Section 4.22 and renumber objectives accordingly:

Consider the following criteria in assessing tourism development proposals:

- The need for the development and facility to be provided.
- Justification for the proposed site location.
- Details in relation to accessibility including pedestrian and cycle provisions and linkages to the proposed development.
- Proposed developments should be modest in scale, sensitively located and designed having regard to existing buildings and topography.
- Proposed developments must be adequately landscaped, serviced and suitably managed.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.48

Add the following new objective to Section 4.22 and renumber objectives accordingly:

Facilitate tourist-based developments such as information centres and cultural centres into existing settlements where there is adequate infrastructure to service these activities.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.49

Amend paragraph five of Section 4.23 as follows:

~~Ireland's Ancient East (IAE) has been developed by Fáilte Ireland~~ **County Kildare Fáilte collaborates with Fáilte Ireland to promote County Kildare as a destination within Ireland's Ancient East which has been developed as a branded visitor experience encompassing the rich heritage and cultural assets that Ireland has to offer in the eastern and southern half of the country.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.50

Add a new objective before RE O118 and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support the preparation and implementation of a Regional Tourism Strategy and to support the continued collaboration with Fáilte Ireland and all relevant tourism stakeholders.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.51

Replace RE O118 with the following objective and renumber objectives accordingly:

~~Continue to work with Fáilte Ireland on the development of Ireland's Ancient East, as well as the Destination Experience Development Plans and any smaller scale plans or programmes that have been prepared.~~

Support the preparation of Destination Experience Development Plans (DEDP) and other tourism masterplans both within County Kildare and also those which cross from County Kildare into neighbouring counties in collaboration with Fáilte Ireland and other tourism stakeholders.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.52

Add a new objective after RE O118 and renumber objectives accordingly:

Continue to work with Fáilte Ireland and tourism stakeholders to implement the Thoroughbred Country Destination Development Plan and its key catalyst projects including, 'The New International Thoroughbred Trail' and 'The Thoroughbred County'.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.53

Amend objective RE O119 as follows:

Continue to collaborate with Fáilte Ireland, the Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and other key stakeholders in the development and implementation of a signage programme associated with Ireland's Ancient East to include branded orientation signage and roadside signage in Irish and English.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.54

Amend RE O122 as follows:

Facilitate and promote Kildare Town's development as a National Tourism Hub, in conjunction with Failte Ireland and County Kildare Fáilte.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.55

Amend RE O123 as follows:

Investigate the feasibility of developing a Tourism Destination Centre within the Curragh which would focus on the equine and military history of the area, in conjunction with Fáilte Ireland into Kildare and other tourism stakeholders.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.56

Amend RE P19 as follows:

Promote the tourist development potential of 'after use' peatlands, subject to proper planning, environmental protection and sustainable development whilst having regard to any mitigation as detailed within a Stage 2 AA or EclA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.57

Amend objective RE O125 as follows:

- (a) Support and facilitate the development of Umeras Bog into a Peatlands Park.
- (b) Develop the tourism potential of peatlands and in particular support the proposed Umeras Peatlands Park and existing Lullymore Heritage and Discovery Park as tourist and ecological amenities subject to proper planning, environmental protection and sustainable development.
- (c) Explore what linkages could be created between raised boglands and fens and nearby blueways and greenways, whilst ensuring that the environment and nearby properties would not be negatively affected or where there will be no potential for likely significant effects on a European Site or on a site that shares a hydrological connection with a European Site.
- (d) Look at the feasibility of creating linkages between the proposed Umeras Peatlands Park and Monasterevin train station.
- (e) Look at the feasibility of creating linkages between Mouds Bog and the nearby town of Newbridge.

Such developments shall be subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA, and should have regard to any mitigation as detailed within a Stage 2 AA or EclA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.58

Amend objective RE O126 as follows:

Facilitate the development of a tourism resource using cutaway peatlands in conjunction with Bord na Móna and Fáilte Ireland, subject to environmental considerations and nature designations, for example, recreational forestry, outdoor pursuits, peatways on the network of bogs and industrial railways and a designation of a National Peatlands Heritage Park. Such developments shall be subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.59

Amend objective RE O127 as follows:

Support in conjunction with Offaly County Council, Laois County Council, and all other relevant stakeholders such as Bord na Mona, Coillte and the NPWS, and other relevant stakeholders such as environmental Non-Governmental Organisations; any proposal for a new National Peatlands Heritage Park centred in Kildare on Bord Na Mona state-owned cutaway bogs in Kildare, Laois and Offaly.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.60

Add the following new objective after RE O127:

To acknowledge the special status of Kilberry as an Industrial Village and to facilitate its tourism economic potential in conjunction with Bord na Móna, Fáilte Ireland and other relevant agencies.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.61

Add the following new objective to Section 4.24 and renumber objectives accordingly:

When developing project proposals for development on peatlands, to require applicants to prepare a peatland stability assessment, carbon emissions balance assessment and hydrological and ecological impact assessments, as required.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.62

Amend policy RE P20 as follows:

Continue to work closely with key stakeholders in the tourism industry including Kildare Fáilte, Fáilte Ireland INTO Kildare, Waterways Ireland, County Kildare Leader Partnership and the National Parks and Wildlife Services, in order to develop the Barrow Blueway for tourism and recreation and ensure ease of access to this amenity and that the Council works with Wicklow County Council, INTO Kildare, Fáilte Ireland and business stakeholders to promote the area both nationally and internationally as an area with a considerable number of tourist attractions and marketing potential.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.63

Amend objective RE O128 as follows:

Support the development and marketing of the Barrow Blueway, including the Barrow Blueway Economic Plan, and facilitate related commercial opportunities

throughout the county, subject to compliance with the Habitats Directive.

Considering the River Barrow is a designated European Site, all developments within and adjacent to the Barrow Blueway should be subject to AA screening and where applicable Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.64

Add the following new objective after objective RE O131 and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support and facilitate the development of Rathangan and Robertstown as Blueway destination locations having regard to their natural and built heritage assets.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.65

Amend RE P21 as follows:

Work with the National Transport Authority (in conjunction with relevant objectives in Chapter 6), Kildare Fáilte, Fáilte Ireland, Waterways Ireland and all stakeholders to develop a co-ordinated approach to the selection, delivery and servicing of future greenways, blueways, trails and routes throughout the county and region, subject to all relevant and cumulative environmental assessments and planning conditions.

New trails and routes should first be subject to the undertaking of feasibility assessment. Where feasibility is established, a Corridor and Route Selection Process will be undertaken where appropriate, for relevant new infrastructure in two stages”, Stage 1 – Route Corridor Identification, Evaluation and Selection and Stage 2 – Route Identification, Evaluation and Selection.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.66

Amend objective RE O132 as follows:

Promote the development of existing and new walking and cycling routes throughout the county as an activity for both international visitors and local tourists, in a manner that is compatible with road safety, nature conservation and other environmental policies. Where developments of new and existing walking and cycling routes exist within 15km of a European Site, the project should be subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.67

Amend objective RE O134 as follows:

Investigate the feasibility of developing a walkway/cycleway along the former Tullow /Harristown ‘railway line/ Naas-Baltinglass Greenway and, where considered feasible, to initiate the delivery of this project within the lifetime of the Plan in conjunction with all relevant landowners.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.68

Amend objective RE O137 as follows:

Work with Waterways Ireland to progress the delivery of the (i) Naas to Sallins Greenway and (ii) Naas to Corbally Harbour Greenway and to develop the Naas Harbour and the Corbally Harbour itself for amenity purposes.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.69

Add new objective to Section 4.26 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support both the enhancement of existing and development of new access routes to water locations in the County for recreation purposes at appropriate locations and subject to all relevant planning and environmental considerations.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.70

Add new objective after objective RE O141 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support and promote the adoption of the Government's 'Code of Best Practice for National and Regional Greenways (published in December 2021)' for all Greenway developments within the county.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.71

Amend RE O145 as follows:

Protect and promote key sites and tourist facilities in the north of the county such as the Wonderful Barn, Obelisk, Arthur's Way, and other key sites linked to the estates of Carton, Lyons and Castletown. Encourage the development of Leixlip and Celbridge as tourism gateways to these significant tourism sites and facilities.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.72

Amend Section 4.29 as follows:

Festivals can be a key driver of local economies and a means of revitalising and maintaining local culture. Festivals are important in terms of attracting visitors to the county during the off-peak season. County Kildare hosts a wide range of festivals and annual events including the internationally renowned Punchestown and The Curragh racing festivals and a number of racing events at Mondello Park which provide a significant boost to the County's tourism industry.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.73

Add the following new objective in Section 4.29 and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support Mondello Park as a tourism, leisure, and education centre and to support its development as a nationally significant automotive innovation centre subject to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 4.74

Add the following new objective in Section 4.29 and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support and encourage the 'greening' of all festivals and events within the county.

Chapter 5: Sustainable Mobility & Transport

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.1

Amend the first paragraph after the 'Aim' in Section 5.1 as follows:

The transportation system caters for the movement of communities and businesses across County Kildare. Inequalities in job opportunities between the north and south of the county are an outcome of an uneven development paradigm centred on large urban centres. Good public transport could ameliorate this by improving access to employment. See the Road and Rail Network of County Kildare on Map 5.1 below. National and regional transport policy recognises that current transport trends in Ireland and the Greater Dublin Area, in particular, in relation to current levels of car use, are unsustainable and that a transition towards more sustainable modes of transport, such as walking, cycling and public transport is required.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.2

Add the following two paragraphs before the last paragraph of Section 5.1:

The overall policy direction of this chapter is to adopt the 'Avoid-Shift-Improve' measures which is outlined in Figure 5-1 below. This approach is based on avoiding or reducing the need to travel, shifting to more environmentally friendly modes and improving the energy efficiency of motorised transport modes.

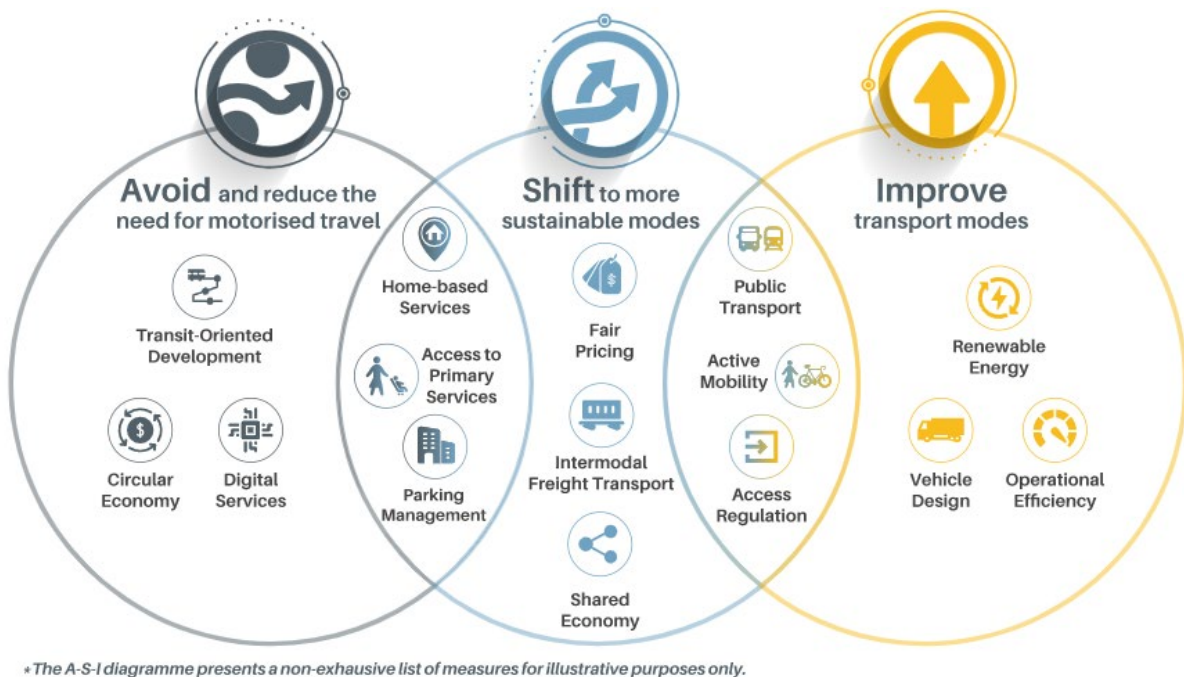


Figure 5.1 – Avoid-Shift-Improve ^{footnote}

In addition, this chapter adopts the 'Decide and Provide' approach to plan for the travel demand deemed necessary. This approach involves deciding on a preferred future that is desirable and achievable and providing a development path best suited to achieving it.

Footnote: SLOCAT. 2020. Avoid-Shift-Improve Refocusing Strategy, <https://slocat.net/asi/>.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.3

Amend Section 5.2.4 as follows:

~~It is anticipated that a detailed plan on how Ireland will achieve its emissions targets will be published in late 2021. This plan sets a roadmap for taking actions that would halve emissions by 2030 and reach net zero no later than 2050. The plan calls for a significant cut in transport emissions by 2030 through measures including:~~

- ~~500,000 extra walking, cycling and public transport journeys per day by 2030.~~
- ~~Increasing the proportion of kilometres driven by passenger electric cars to between 40 and 45% by 2030, in addition to a reduction of 10% in kilometres driven by the remaining internal combustion engine cars.~~
- ~~All replacements for bus and commuter rail vehicles and carriages to be low or zero carbon by 2030.~~
- ~~Increased rollout of rural public transport through Connecting Ireland. [42-50% reduction in emissions by 2030]~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.4

(A) Delete Sections 5.2.5 and 5.2.6

~~5.2.5 National Cycle Policy Framework, 2009-2020 (Update pending)~~

~~The National Cycle Policy Framework (as part of Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future, 2009) sets out a national policy for cycling, in order to create a stronger cycling culture, a more friendly environment for cycling and improved quality of life. The vision in this framework is that all cities, towns and rural areas will be bicycle friendly. The policy document sets a target of 10% of all commuter trips by bicycle by 2020 and places an emphasis on promoting and integrating cycle networks.~~

~~5.2.6 Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future – A New Transport Policy for Ireland, 2009-2020~~

~~This document is currently under review by the Department of Transport. It recognises the vital importance of continued investment in transport to ensure an efficient economy and continued social development, while also promoting more sustainable modes of transport.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.5

Add new sub-section

5.2.5 National Sustainable Mobility Policy (2022)

The Sustainable Mobility Policy sets out a strategic framework for active travel and public transport in Ireland to 2030. This Policy is primarily focused on measures to promote and facilitate active travel and public transport for all and, in doing so, encourage less private car usage.

The Policy is guided by three key principles which are underpinned by 10 high-level goals. The key principles are:

- Safe and Green Mobility
- People Focused Mobility
- Better Integrated Mobility.

An action plan (2022 -2025) accompanies the policy and includes a comprehensive range of new and expanded measures across the 10 high-level goals. The plan will be reviewed and updated in 2025 and a new action plan will be put in place for 2026 to 2030.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.6

Amend TM O2 as follows:

Promote and drive a human-centred, whole journey approach to improving transport infrastructure and accessibility in County Kildare to ensure a seamless user experience. The use of kissing gates in active travel projects will not be permitted in cases where they would deny access to those using mobility aids and non-standard bicycles.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.7

Amend TM O7 as follows:

Introduce measures to reduce traffic congestion in town centres such as pedestrianisation, pedestrian priority and/or improved pedestrian/cycling facilities, in particular, increasing the number of safe crossings.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.8

Add the following new objective after TM O8:

Support and encourage the transition from fossil fuel use and consider the preparation of guidance for decommissioning or changing infrastructure to more sustainable uses, through the preparation of the Local Climate Action Plan.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.9

Amend TM A1 as follows:

Prepare a County Kildare Sustainable Mobility Plan that addresses the long-term mobility needs of communities and businesses in the county, in co-operation with the National Transport Authority that is aligned with the National Sustainable Mobility Policy (2022), the National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland and the Draft Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2022-2042. The plan should address urban and rural transport issues, the integration of transport modes and public transport connections between the towns and villages of the county.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.10

Amend TM A2 as follows:

Prepare, implement and review (where appropriate) Local Transport Plans (LTPs)/Area Based Transport Assessments (ABTAs) ~~Transport Strategies (TSs)~~ for each of the statutory LAP settlements⁴ in County Kildare in consultation with the TII and the NTA, based on the following ABTA guidelines published by the TII/NTA – ABTA ‘How To Guide’, Pilot Methodology (September, 2021) and the Area Based Transport Assessment Advice Note (December, 2018) ~~TII’s Area Based Transport Assessment Guidance Notes (2018)~~. LTP/ABTAs will include the transport priorities for each settlement in terms of public transport infrastructure and services; cycle investment; improvements to the pedestrian environment; parking measures and road enhancements. LTP/ABTAs must be developed to provide a framework to cater for the movement of pedestrians, cyclists, public transport services and private vehicles which are aligned with the hierarchy of users and modal shift targets set out

in this Plan. The Accessibility and Movement Objectives of Local Area Plans should be based on relevant LTP/ABTAs.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.11

Amend TM O9 as follows:

Facilitate and secure the delivery/implementation of the public transport projects that relate to County Kildare as identified within the Integrated Implementation Plan (2019-2024), (or any superseding document), including the DART+ programme (Including DART+ West and DART+ Southwest), BusConnects and the light rail investments. The DART+ projects present an opportunity to improve journey time, reliability, and train frequency.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.12

Amend TM O10 as follows:

Facilitate and secure the delivery/implementation of the public transport regional corridor proposals that relate to County Kildare and the County Kildare local route proposals as identified within the NTA's 'The Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan' (November 2021), specifically prioritising the proposed new local route from Naas to Newbridge. Such developments shall be subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.13

Amend TM O11 as follows:

Investigate the feasibility of developing high-quality, suitable, safe and sustainable cycling pathways:

- i) from Leixlip, Maynooth and Naas into Dublin; and
- ii) between Naas and Newbridge,
- iii) Kildare town to Newbridge and westwards towards Portlaoise as far as the Kildare county boundary, and
- iv) Kildare Town to Monasterevin

Where feasibility is established, a Corridor and Route Selection Process will be undertaken where appropriate, for relevant new road infrastructure in two stages", Stage 1 – Route Corridor Identification, Evaluation and Selection and Stage 2 – Route Identification, Evaluation and Selection.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.14

Amend TM O12 as follows:

Promote and facilitate the implementation of public transport projects (bus and rail) and encourage transport providers and other agencies (e.g. NTA, developers etc.) to improve public transport (bus and rail) and to have regard to and support recently implemented and/or planned routes under NTA's Bus Connects and proposed / planned routes under NTA's Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan; Including:

1. Kilcock, Maynooth and Leixlip into Dublin;
2. Celbridge into Dublin;
3. Maynooth to Naas;
4. Leixlip to Naas
5. Celbridge to Naas;
6. Naas to Caragh.

In addition to a range of rural transport routes. Such developments shall be subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.15

Add new objective after TM O13 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Ensure the delivery of the transport proposals of the Strategic Land Use, Employment and Transportation Study of North East Kildare, when prepared, in co-operation with all relevant stakeholders. (Refer to Objective RE O14)

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.16

Add new objective after TM O15 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support action 87 of the National Sustainable Mobility Policy | Action Plan 2022-2025. In this regard, the Council will support the NTA to expand shared car, bike and powered personal transporters (PPT) services at transport hubs and interchanges.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.17

Amend TM P2 as follows:

Prioritise and promote the development of high-quality, suitable, safe and sustainable walking and cycling pathways and facilities, both intercounty, intra-county (in consultation with all relevant stakeholders including neighbouring local authorities) and within the towns and settlements of County Kildare within a safe road/street environment that will encourage a shift to active travel that is accessible for all, regardless of age, physical mobility, or social disadvantage, subject to all relevant and cumulative environmental assessments and planning conditions. New projects (including greenways, blueways and cycleways) should first be subject to the undertaking of feasibility assessment. Where feasibility is established, a Corridor and Route Selection Process will be undertaken where appropriate, for relevant new road infrastructure in two stages”, Stage 1 – Route Corridor Identification, Evaluation and Selection and Stage 2 – Route Identification, Evaluation and Selection.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.18

Add an additional bullet point to the end of TM O21 as follows:

Implement the greenway and blueway projects that promote walking and cycling in conjunction with the relevant organisations and bodies including:

- Investigate the feasibility of re-opening/upgrading and re-developing the historic Barrow Drainage Scheme access routes and trail along the eastern bank of the river Barrow between Monasterevin and Athy.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.19

Add new objective after TM O21 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Investigate the feasibility of connecting the Naas to Corbally Harbour Greenway with the proposed Greenway along the former Tullow/Harristown railway line/ Naas-Baltinglass Greenway and, where considered feasible, to initiate the delivery of this project within the lifetime of the Plan in conjunction with all relevant landowners.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.20

Add new objective after TM O21 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Investigate the feasibility of developing a cycle connection between the Royal Canal and Grand Canal Greenways between Leixlip, Louisa Bridge and Hazelhatch.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.21

Add new objective after TM O21 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Support the development of the Grand Canal Greenway and all associated infrastructure, from Aylmer Bridge to Clonkeen.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.22

Amend TM O22 as follows:

Investigate the feasibility of developing a greenway/cycle way connecting the Corbally Line through Dowdingstown Wood and Two Mile House to Kilcullen.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.23

Add new objective after TM O23 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Support action 27 of the National Sustainable Mobility Policy | Action Plan 2022-2025. In this regard, the Council will support the NTA and TII to develop and implement an active travel infrastructure programme for Naas.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.24

Amend TM O25 as follows:

Ensure the provision of improved cycle and walking infrastructure linking Maynooth Town Centre, the Royal Canal Greenway, the train station, the proposed Maynooth Outer Orbital Route and to Kilcock, Celbridge and Leixlip.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.25

Amend TM O26 as follows:

Liaise with Irish Rail with respect to identifying and developing a new pedestrian crossing over the Rail line (separate to DART +) retaining access from Kilmacreddock to Intel/Greenway at Blakestown Cross over the Rail Line in order to promote "Active Travel" permeability links to the Strategic Employment Lands at Collinstown.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.26

Amend the fourth point of TM O27 as follows:

Investigate the feasibility of developing a cycle-way at the following locations;
- from Athy along the N78 to the east as far as the M9 Motorway, subject to the requirements of TII publication.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.27

Insert new action after TM A5 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Support action 26 of the National Sustainable Mobility Policy | Action Plan 2022-2025, to develop pedestrian enhancement plans for Naas and Maynooth in co-operation with the NTA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.28

Amend TM A6 as follows:

Develop a new pedestrian and cycle link from Celbridge/Backweston to Leixlip, via Castletown House, through Kildare Innovation Campus the (former Hewlett Packard site), across the M4 to the Wonderful Barn and onto Leixlip Town Centre and Leixlip Louisa Bridge Station, in accordance with the requirements of TII publications.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.29

Amend TM A7 as follows:

Investigate the feasibility of providing a ~~footpath~~ dedicated shared path connection between the settlements in the MASP area to align with the proposed routes identified in the National Transport Authority's Draft Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network (2021) or any subsequent updates to same. ~~from Maynooth to Celbridge.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.30

Add a new action below TM A7 as follows:

Investigate the feasibility of providing a footpath and cycle lane along the R405 between Maynooth and Celbridge.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.31

Delete TM A8:

~~Liaise with Irish Rail/CIE to investigate the feasibility of the development of segregated walking and cycle tracks parallel to railway lines to provide easy access to public transport hubs, subject to public safety.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.32

Amend TM A10 as follows:

Support the development of a model for bike share schemes, the extension of the Dublin Bike Scheme and/or other bike sharing schemes to key settlements and towns ~~within County Kildare~~ and encourage the inclusion of a hybrid electric bike fleet in order to promote the use of the scheme for long-distance commuting.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.33

Amend TM A13 as follows:

Prepare a Cycle Network Study for each of the key towns in County Kildare consisting of the primary links identified in both the TII's National Cycle Network (2022) and the NTA's Draft Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan (2021), connections between the major towns and surrounding settlements, key strategic cycle routes, greenways and local links, all in accordance with the National Cycle Manual. The study will include draft widths, levels of services and identify local targets.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.34

Add new action after TM A13 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

Investigate the feasibility of providing a cycling route linking Donadea Forest to Killinthomas Woods.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.35

Add new action after TM A13 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

Progress the delivery of key measures outlined in the Naas / Sallins Transport Strategy 2020 on a phased basis as funding is secured.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.36

Amend TM A16 as follows:

Provide new or upgraded lighting for all footpath and cycle track schemes subject to the consideration of ecology and impacts on wildlife. Appropriate environmental

assessments will be required and may result in unlit sections which may include some parts of the county's Greenways. Where applicable, all species-specific mitigation will be included within the relevant sections of the Appropriate Assessment.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.37

Insert new action after TM A17 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

Collaborate with Waterways Ireland and other relevant stakeholders to ensure that recreation, amenity and heritage sites in County Kildare are accessible to all, and that design solutions retain existing man-made, local features of interest such as 'kissing gates'. The retention of existing kissing gates will be assessed in the context of delivering a balanced approach to the protection of heritage and universal access where they would not deny access to those using mobility aids and non-standard bicycles.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.38

Amend TM O35 as follows:

Seek to address urban congestion with particular emphasis on facilitating the development of town local bus services for the Key Towns along with associated identified economic clusters within the County ensuring connectivity to and from residential areas, key employers, and public transport hubs such as train stations, along with retail and amenity sites.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.39

Amend TM O38 as follows:

Work with statutory agencies and stakeholders to promote and facilitate the development of a public transport hub in proximity to Naas and Sallins with new and enhanced public transport infrastructure to which will connect road, rail and public bus transport, including Park and Ride and interchange facilities. Ensure the bus network in Naas improves linkages between Naas Town Centre, surrounding residential and employment areas, Sallins Railway Station and the Northwest Quadrant.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.40

Amend TM O39 as follows:

Support the delivery and facilitate investigations into the feasibility of a bus-only link priority route to the Sallins bypass through the Northwest Quadrant in Naas which will provide a direct bus service to the Sallins Railway Station from the town centre of Naas. to Sallins Bypass Junction 9A on the M7. This route will provide a new higher density central spine corridor leading into Naas., with a priority bus corridor that will provide a direct service to Sallins Railway Station from the town centre.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.41

Amend TM O42 as follows:

Support the implementation of the Irish Rail Multi-Modal Interchange Strategy Sustainable Interchange Programme to provide for ease of interchange between rail and all other modes, prioritising those that are sustainable – cycling, electric charging, wayfinding and shared mobility.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.42

Amend TM O43 as follows:

Facilitate and support the extension of the DART+ line to Kilcock, the extension of the DART+ Southwest line to Naas/Sallins and Newbridge (and promote a future extension to Newbridge and Kildare Town in the next DART + programme / GDA Transport Strategy Review) and the extension of the LUAS network, in co-operation with Irish Rail, the Department of Transport and the National Transport Authority.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.43

Add a new objective after TM O45:

Investigate the feasibility of a new train station at the Curragh in consultation with Irish Rail.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.44

Amend TM O46 as follows:

Support and facilitate, in co-operation with Irish Rail and the National Transport Authority the delivery of the following proposed new facilities to connect to the existing and proposed rail network including DART+:

- A second New Sallins & Naas railway station sited to the west of the existing station in Sallins, including a park and ride facility (1 000 spaces).
- Collinstown or Maynooth railway Sstation/Ddepot sited to the west of Maynooth including a park and ride facility (1 000 spaces – 500 initially); and
- a Kill park and ride facility - bus based (500 spaces).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.45

Amend TM P4 as follows:

Ensure ongoing competitiveness and the efficient movement of people and goods in the county through the improvement and expansion of the road and street network within the county to support economic development and provide access to new and existing communities, employment areas and development, all while prioritising sustainable modes of transport. New roads and other transport infrastructure projects should first be subject to the undertaking of feasibility assessment. Where feasibility is established, a Corridor and Route Selection Process will be undertaken where appropriate, for relevant new road infrastructure in two stages”, Stage 1 – Route Corridor Identification, Evaluation and Selection and Stage 2 – Route Identification, Evaluation and Selection.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.46

Amend TM O58 as follows:

Secure the implementation of the Priority Road and Bridge Projects and the Regional Roads Identified for Improvement (Table 5.4 and 5.5, refer) and maintain corridors free from development to facilitate future roads, cycle facilities and other transport infrastructure improvement identified within this Plan (Tables 5.4 & 5.5) and Local Area Plans. The further progression of the road projects is subject to assessment against the ‘Principles of Road Development’ criteria set out in Section 13.2 of the Draft Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2022-2042. Where the road project is an orbital road around a town centre, the development must be accompanied by enhanced public transport, cycling and pedestrian facilities in the relevant centre, as required by Section 13.5 of the Draft Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2022-2042.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.47

Amend TM O59 as follows:

Support and facilitate in conjunction with Meath County Council, private developers and landowners, the construction of the Maynooth Relief Road Outer Orbital Route.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.48

Amend TM O66 as follows:

Mitigating the negative impacts of infrastructure by incorporating wildlife crossings/underpasses and fish culverts in the instance of freshwater European Sites into the designs for new road infrastructure and where possible, by incorporating such measures into the existing road network, where (as appropriate).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.49

Amend Table 5.4 as follows and include updates to the numbering of all Priority Road and Bridge Projects as listed in Table 5.4 of the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029:

Table 5.4 - Priority Road and Bridge Projects¹

Nr.	Name	Route
A	Maynooth Eastern Ring Road (MERR)	R148 to R405 – Leixlip Road to Celbridge Road.
B	Maynooth Outer Relief Road, Maynooth Orbital Route (Northwest)	L1012 Moyglare Road and Dunboyne Road (County Meath) to be delivered by Meath County Council under Section 85 agreement.
C	Maynooth Outer Orbital Route (West/Southwest)	R148 to L1012 c. 3km – Kilcock Road to Moyglare Road; and from the Kilcock Road south to Rathcoffey/Straffan Road.
D	Examine options in consultation with South Dublin County Council, Fingal County Council, Meath County Council, TII and other statutory agencies for the delivery of an orbital link road M50 resilient outer orbital link road connecting the M3 to the M4.	M4 (at Lucan / Leixlip) to the M3 (Junction 4 Clonee / R157 Dunboyne-Maynooth Road) in Meath County Council. Preferred Route to be examined and determined.
E	The Gallops Avenue ^{footnote} , Naas	Blessington Road to Dublin Road
F	Upgrading the existing bridge in Celbridge with enhanced Vulnerable Road User (VDU) infrastructure.	Existing River Liffey Bridge, Celbridge
G	Celbridge to Hazelhatch Link Road scheme, including a second bridge crossing over the River Liffey and a link road connecting Celbridge to Hazelhatch train station. New pedestrian and cycling infrastructure will	From R403 Clane Road to Hazelhatch Train Station

¹ Extract of Table 5.4 only; all other projects listed in dCDP will be included in final Table.

	be incorporated into the route to encourage alternative more sustainable transport modes. Second River Crossing - Celbridge	
H	Second bridge River Crossing - Newbridge	From Old Connell Road to R416 Athgarvan Road.

Footnote: Table 5.4 is a list of priority projects for County Kildare; however, these projects are not listed in order of priority.

Footnote: [in relation to The Gallops Avenue, Naas] – ‘in accordance with Objective MTO3.3 of the Naas Local Area Plan 2021-2027’

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.50

Combine Section 5.6 and Section 5.7 as follows:

5.6 Motorways National Road Network

The national road network consists of national primary and secondary roads, including motorways and associated junctions, outside the 50-60 kph speed limit zones for cities, towns, and villages.

In addition to the M4, M7 and M9 motorways there are three national roads in County Kildare.

- The N7 linking Naas and Dublin;
- The N81 running along the border between Kildare and Wicklow; and
- The N78 connecting Ballitore (Junction 3 on M9) and Athy and onwards to Ballylynan.

The motorway network primarily serves long and middle-distance traffic originating in or passing through the county including the transportation of freight. These routes have an important role to play in the economic development of the county and the state.

5.7 National Roads

~~National roads are defined as arterial routes within DMURS for urban areas. There are three National Routes in County Kildare.~~

- ~~• The N7 linking Naas and Dublin;~~
- ~~• The N81 running along the border between Kildare and Wicklow; and~~
- ~~• The N78 connecting Ballitore (Junction 3 on M9) and Athy and onwards to Ballylynan.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.51

Amend TM P5 as follows:

Work with Transport Infrastructure Ireland in accordance with the Spatial Planning and National Road Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2012) to develop and operate the motorway network through the County and to ensure that the carrying capacity, efficiency and safety of the network and associated junctions is protected, maintained and improved and to prevent development that could hinder the future upgrading of motorway routes and interchanges.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.52

Amend TM O72 as follows:

Improve the safety and capacity at the M4 Maynooth Interchange (Junction 7) and investigate the provision of a future improved connection to the M4, either at the current location or elsewhere at Celbridge and Leixlip Interchanges, subject to the necessary studies to be carried out by Kildare County Council in consultation with TII and other relevant agencies.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.53

Amend TM O73 as follows:

Examine the feasibility of delivering an pedestrian and cycle overpass of the M4 to link the Wonderful Barn at Leixlip to the Kildare Innovation Campus (the former Hewlett Packard site) and Castletown Demesne in Celbridge in consultation with Transport Infrastructure Ireland, while being sensitive to the heritage sensitivities of both sites.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.54

Amend TM O75 as follows:

Improve the safety and capacity of the M7 Monasterevin Interchange (Junction 14) through the provision of an upgrade to the interchange, subject to the necessary studies to be carried out by Kildare County Council in consultation with TII and other relevant agencies.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.55

Amend TM O76 as follows:

Provide for all vehicle movements from the west to the south as well as from the south to the west at the M7 (Junction 11) / M9 (Junction 1) Interchange and to investigate the feasibility of providing for a M9/M7 interchange connection along the M7 at Junction 12, subject to the necessary studies to be carried out by Kildare County Council in consultation with TII and other relevant agencies.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.56

Amend TM O77 as follows:

~~Support and facilitate the adequate provision~~ Ensure proposals for of Motorway Service Stations Areas are developed in accordance with identified in the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities, DECLG (2012) and the TII Motorway Service Area Policy guidance document (2014 or as may be amended). ~~during the life of this Plan).~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.57

Add new objective after TM O77 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support and facilitate the continued operation of existing Motorway Service Areas throughout the county.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.58

Amend TM O79 as follows:

Improve connectivity between the local road network and the national/regional road network. The Council will ensure that any future development in this regard complies with the guidance to safeguard the overall operational function of the national road network as set out in the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines, DECLG (2012). Such developments shall be subject to AA screening and where applicable,

Stage 2 AA so as to ensure and protect the favourable status of European sites and their hydrological connections.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.59

Amend TM O84 as follows:

Support the future development of the N3-N4 Barnhill to Leixlip Interchange in accordance with strategic development objectives and the Spatial Planning and National Roads: Guidelines for Planning Authorities, DECLG (2012).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.60

Amend TM A20 as follows:

Upgrade the section of the N81 National Secondary Road (Tallaght/Baltinglass) that is located within County Kildare, subject to funding and in accordance with the requirements of TII and subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA so as to ensure and protect the favourable status of European sites and their hydrological connections.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.61

Delete TM O85:

~~Progress the regional roads identified for improvement as set out in Table 5.5 subject to funding.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.62

Amend TM O88 as follows:

Improve and re-align where necessary and as funds allow, the regional roads. Subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA so as to ensure and protect the favourable status of European sites and their hydrological connections.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.63

Amend TM O89 as follows:

Improve connectivity across the railways and canals in County Kildare, in conjunction with relevant stakeholders including Irish Rail and Waterways Ireland, to ensure new crossings do not impede the safe passage of boats navigating waterways. Subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA so as to ensure and protect the favourable status of European sites and their hydrological connections.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.64

Amend Table 5.5, item no. 43 as follows:

No.	Road No.	Location
43	General	To improve regional road links between Wicklow and other counties, in particular the Blessington to Naas route and routes from Dunlavin and Baltinglass to the M9/N9 in accordance with national transport policy requirements and in consultation with TII and other statutory agencies, as appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.65

Amend TM O94 as follows:

Minimise the extent of hedgerow removal in order to achieve adequate sightlines. However, where it has been satisfactorily demonstrated that there is no other

suitable development site (for planning reasons) any removed hedgerow shall be replaced with native hedgerow species. Opportunities should be sought to translocate existing species rich hedgerows, where possible, and subject to proper biosecurity protocols.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.66

(a) Amend the second last paragraph of Section 5.10 as follows:

~~DMURS~~ The Draft Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy 2022-2042 outlines a user hierarchy to consider during the design of roads and streets which prioritises sustainable forms of transportation. The hierarchy considers pedestrians, cyclists, public transport, taxis & shared transport and private motor vehicles in this order. To recognise the importance of electric vehicles in reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions, Kildare County Council will add electric vehicles to the hierarchy to be considered first as part of public transport, taxis & shared transport and before private motor vehicles.

(b) Amend Figure 5.8 (Hierarchy of Users) of the Draft Plan accordingly.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.67

Delete TM O98:

~~Set and apply speed limits taking into account the function of the road or street, the characteristics of the surrounding area, the design of the street environment and the presence of vulnerable users. The speed limits shall be in accordance with the Road Traffic Act 2004 (as amended) and shall be subject to the requirements of the Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland (2015).~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.68

Add new objective after TM O120 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Ensure that the design of external lighting schemes minimises the incidence of light spillage or pollution in the immediate surrounding environment and has due regard to the residential amenity of surrounding areas and the need to mitigate adverse impacts on sensitive fauna and protected species.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.69

Amend the title of Section 5.12 as follows:

5.12 Car Parking

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.70

Amend the third paragraph of Section 5.12:

~~The Climate Action Plan (2019) committed to a target of 936,000 electric vehicles on Irish roads by 2030. In order to encourage the uptake of electric vehicles the installation of charging points across the county will be prioritised.~~ The Climate Action Plan (2021) commits to increase the fleet of Electric Vehicles and low emitting vehicles (LEVs) on the road to 945,000 in Ireland by 2030. This fleet is stated to comprise of 845,000 electric passenger cars, 95,000 electric vans, 3,500 low emitting trucks and 1,500 electric buses. In order to encourage the uptake of electric vehicles the installation of charging points across the county will be prioritised.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.71

Amend TM O103 as follows:

Design car parking layouts in accordance with the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (2019) and ensure that car parking, including the provision of fully accessible EV charging facilities, do not detract from the comfort and safety of pedestrians and cyclists or the attractiveness of the landscape.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.72

Amend TM O104 as follows:

All non-residential development proposals will be subject to maximum car parking standards (and minimum cycle parking standards) and all residential development proposals in areas within walking distances of town centres (800 metres i.e. a 10-minute walk) and high-capacity public transport services (including but not limited to Dart+ services, Bus Connects routes and any designated bus only/ bus priority route) will be subject to maximum car parking standards (and minimum cycle parking standards) as a limitation to restrict car parking provision and achieve modal shifts to sustainable modes of transport.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.73

Amend TM O107 as follows:

Seek to reduce the level of on-street parking with a view to the reallocation of the roadspace to sustainable modes and to investigate the feasibility of delivering parking on suitable backland sites that would not jeopardise the vitality and vibrancy of the relevant town/village centre, while also ensuring the needs of persons with disabilities are met.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.74

Add an additional bullet point to the end of TM O109 as follows:

To facilitate, along with the NTA and TII, the conversion of the private car fleet to electric in the following ways:

- Ensuring EV charging points are accessible to all, where possible.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.75

Amend the first bullet point of TM O112 as follows:

- The landscape design to include planting of trees and pollinator species to be undertaken by an appropriately qualified Landscape Architect and in collaboration with an appropriately qualified ecologist to ensure the biodiversity in the general area will support European Sites;

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.76

Amend TM O113 as follows:

Promote appropriate parking arrangements for specific user requirements including age friendly parking, hidden disabled, disabled parking, bicycle parking and motorcycle parking in towns, public transport nodes and other destinations.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.77

Replace TM O114 with the following objective:

~~Seek the provision of designated HGV parking areas within new industrial developments, as appropriate.~~ Where appropriate, to require the provision of HGV parking facilities at motorway service areas, fuel filling stations, new industrial developments and other appropriate locations within the County.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.78

Add new objective after TM O115 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Facilitate the provision of appropriately sized bus parking facilities at appropriate locations in all towns (Key Towns, Self-Sustaining Growth Towns and Self-Sustaining Towns).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.79

Amend TM O116 as follows:

Expand the existing public lighting network and ensure that all new developments are provided with adequate public lighting for the safety of all pedestrians, cyclists and minority groups. Such lighting networks shall have regard for protected species such as bats which can potentially be affected by lighting systems. The Lux, wavelength and TTC² (Total Transfer Capability) will be considered in the selection of appropriate lighting.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.80

Add a new objective after TM O119 as follows:

Explore the possibility of providing solar powered lighting for new street lighting schemes, where appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.81

Amend TM A24 as follows:

In general lighting luminaires should be positioned to avoid up-lighting where possible. Consideration should be taken regarding lux level, wavelength and (Total Transfer Capability (TTC) so as to avoid any potential harmful impacts on protected species such as bats.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.82

Update Map 5.2 'Areas of Aviation Significance & Aerodrome Context Map' to show MOA 3, EIR 15 and EIR 16. Please see updated Map 5.2 in the Appendix at the end of Chapter 5.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.83

Add new objective after TM O123 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Refer, where appropriate, proposed wind farm development applications located within MOA4 (as per Map 5.2) and refer proposed solar farm development applications located within 3km of the Curragh Camp to the Department of Defence.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.84

Amend TM O140 as follows:

Refer any significant proposed development (including wind and solar farms), where appropriate, within 6km of Casement Aerodrome's runways (i.e. within the plan area of its Inner Horizontal and Conical Surfaces) or under its Approach Surfaces, to the Department of Defence, and to limit the heights of development under its 'obstacle

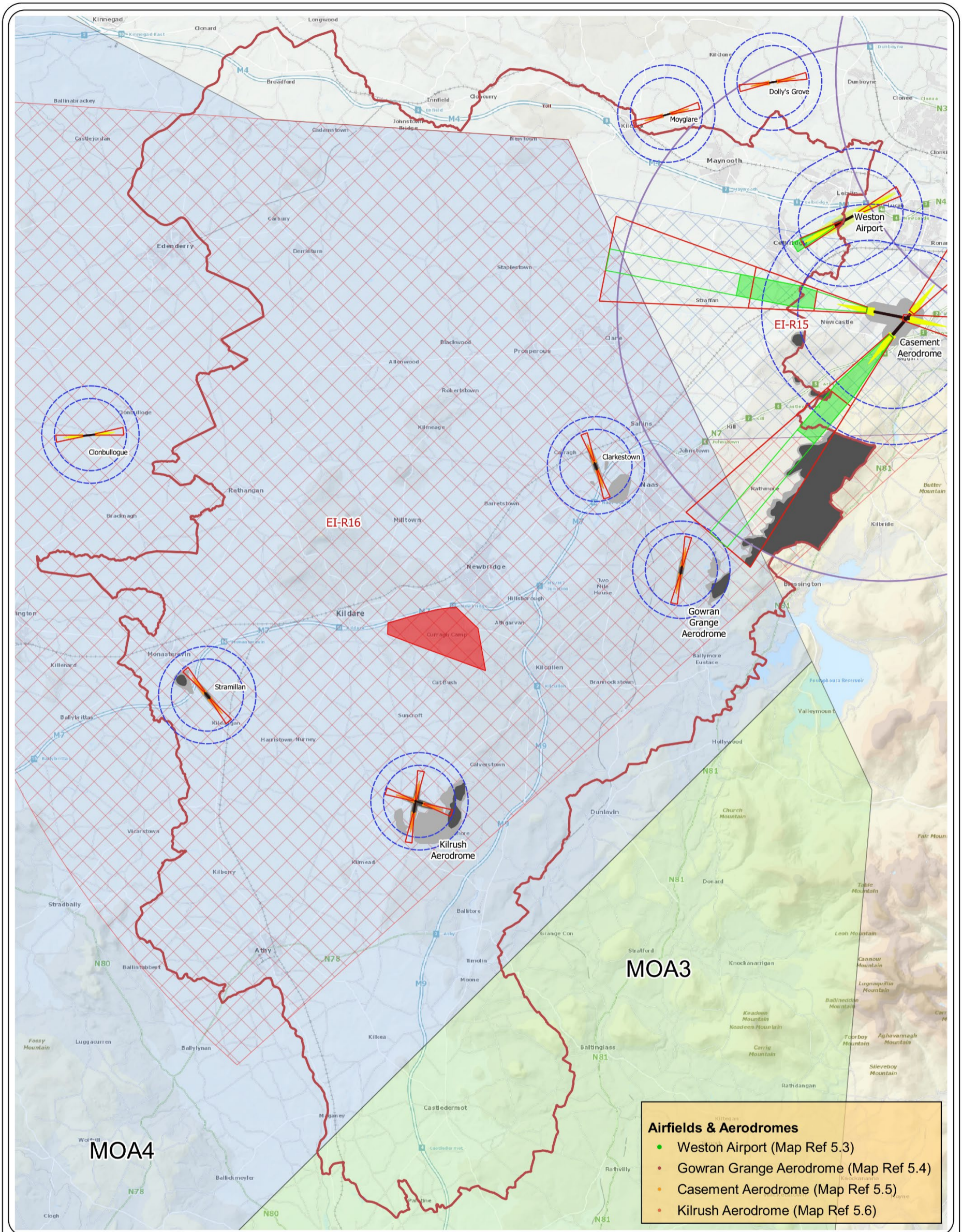
² **Total Transfer Capability (TTC):** The amount of electric power that can be transferred over the interconnected transmission network in a reliable manner while meeting all of a specific set of defined pre- and post-contingency system conditions

limitation surfaces' which extend into Kildare (as are indicated on Kildare CDP maps) in accordance with ICAO 'obstacle limitation guidance.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 5.85

Amend TM O145 as follows:


Refer to the IAA, the IAA-ANSP (Air Navigation Services Provider) and to Dublin Airport Authority any proposed development of more than 90m above ground level which might lie under the small part of Dublin Airport's Obstacle Limitation Surface which lies above Kildare.



- Airfields & Aerodromes**
- Weston Airport (Map Ref 5.3)
 - Gowran Grange Aerodrome (Map Ref 5.4)
 - Casement Aerodrome (Map Ref 5.5)
 - Kilrush Aerodrome (Map Ref 5.6)

Legend

— Inner Horizontal Surfaces	— Military Operations Areas
— Approach Surfaces	— MOA3
— Conical Surfaces	— MOA4
— Take-Off Climb Surface (shaded in green when below approach surface)	— Danger & Restricted Areas
— Locations where Developments of up to 15m in height above ground are unlikely to have aviation significance	— EI-R16
	— EI-R15
	— Prohibited Area E110 (Curragh Military Camp)



Kildare County Council
 Planning & Strategic
 Development Department
 Aras Chill Dara,
 Devoy Park, Naas, Co Kildare.

2 4 6 8 km

**Draft County
 Development Plan
 2023-2029**

**AREAS OF AVIATION
 SIGNIFICANCE
 & AERODROME CONTEXT MAP**

Stage	Date	Description
Draft County Development Plan	14/02/2022	Draft Plan Issued for Public Consultation

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Scale: N.T.S. | Map Ref: V1-5.2

Date: July 2021 | Drawing No.: 200/22/1254

Drawn By: M O'Leagain Date 19/07/2022	Checked By: L Crawford Date 19/07/2022	Approved By: C O'Donnell Date 19/07/2022
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This drawing is to be read in conjunction with the written statement

Chapter 6: Infrastructure and Environmental Services

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.1

Amend IN O6 as follows:

Require an undisturbed edge or buffer zone to be maintained, where appropriate, between new developments and riparian zones of water bodies to maintain the natural function of existing ecosystems associated with water courses and their riparian zones, and to enable sustainable public access. The width of the edge or buffer zone shall be determined during the appropriate environmental assessment such as EclA or AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.2

Add new objective to Section 6.6 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support the conservation, protection and enhancement of Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRM), as appropriate to the individual catchment.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.3

Add new objective to Section 6.6 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Require all plans and projects to comply with the Best Practice Interim Guidance Document '*Nature-based solutions to the management of rainwater and surface water runoff in Urban Areas (2021)*' published by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, or any subsequent updates to same.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.4

(a) Add new action to Section 6.6 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

Develop a 'Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems Guidance Document' for County Kildare within one year of the adoption of the Plan.

(b) Amend IN O26 (and repeated in Section 15.6.6) as follows:

Ensure as far as practical that the design of SuDS enhances the quality of open spaces. SuDS do not form part of the public open space provision, except where it contributes in a significant and positive way to the design and quality of open space. In instances where the Council determines that SuDS make a significant and positive contribution to open space, a maximum 10% of the open space provision shall be taken up by SuDS. The Council will consider the provision of SuDS on existing open space, where appropriate. The 'Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems Guidance Document' prepared as an action of this plan shall supersede this standard.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.5

Add new objective to Section 6.7 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support Inland Fisheries Ireland's pilot projects to investigate the incorporation of habitat restoration measures into flood management schemes on the upper Barrow and its tributaries for native species such as salmon and to address invasive fish species, subject to all necessary planning and environmental assessments.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.6

Amend IN O32 as follows:

Recognise the important role of ~~natural~~ boglands, ~~rehabilitated~~ peatlands and other wetland areas in ~~filtering water and contributing to sound ecological status in rivers as well as~~ flooding patterns. Development in these areas shall ~~therefore~~ be subject to a Flood Risk Assessment in accordance with the relevant guidelines.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.7

Amend IN A4 as follows:

Prepare and carry out any identified actions of a maintenance programme for river channels, including those identified as historical drainage districts, the responsibility for which lies with Kildare County Council. ~~Such actions must be subject to Ecological Impact Assessment and Appropriate Assessment in accordance with the EU Habitats Directive.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.8

Add new objective to Section 6.8.1 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly: ~~Support 'repair cafes' and upcycling facilities throughout the county at appropriate locations, in order to reduce the quantum of waste going to landfill.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.9

Amend IN O36 as follows:

Encourage a just transition from a waste economy to a green circular economy in accordance with 'A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy 2020-2025' and the Whole of Government Circular Economy Strategy 2022-2023 'Living More, Using Less'.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.10

Amend IN O42 as follows:

Promote and facilitate communities to become involved in environmental awareness activities and community-based ~~waste recycling and reduction~~ initiatives, which lead to a ~~circular economy and~~ local sustainable waste management practices.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.11

Amend IN A5 as follows:

Achieve the vision of the ~~Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy 2020-2025 and the Eastern-Midlands Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021 (and future revisions)~~ by meeting the following targets:

- Ensure a ~~1%~~ ~~5%~~ reduction per annum in the quantity of household waste generated per capita over the period of the Plan.
- Support the target to achieve a recycling rate of ~~50%~~ ~~55%~~ of Managed Municipal Waste (household and commercial) by 2025 leading to 60% by 2030.
- Reduce to 0% the direct disposal of unprocessed residual municipal waste to landfill over the lifetime of this plan.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.12

Amend IN P7 as follows:

Support the implementation of the Water Framework Directive, the River Basin Management Plan, and the Local Authority Waters Programme in achieving and

maintaining at least good ~~environmental~~ **ecological** status for all water bodies in the county.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.13

Amend IN O53 as follows:

Assess applications for developments, having regard to the impact on the quality of surface waters and any targets and measures set out in the River Basin Management Plan and any subsequent local or regional plans. **Where developments have the potential to impact the water quality of surface waters and/or any of the targets and measures set out in the RBMP, such a project should be subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 6.14

Amend IN O64 as follows:

Require the design of external lighting schemes to minimise the incidence of light spillage or pollution into the surrounding environment having regard to the residential amenity of surrounding areas and the need to mitigate adverse impacts on ~~biodiversity, particularly on river corridors~~ **sensitive fauna and protected species.**

Chapter 7: Energy & Communications

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.1

Amend paragraph two of Section 7.1 as follows:

~~Ireland's 'Climate Action Plan 2019 – To Tackle Climate Breakdown' represents the Government's approach, aimed at enabling Ireland to meet its EU targets to reduce carbon emissions by 30 percent between 2021 and 2030 and lays the foundations for achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050.~~ Ireland's 'Climate Action Plan 2021 – Securing Our Future' sets out the Government's roadmap for taking actions that aim to halve emissions by 2030 and reach net zero no later than 2050.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.2

Amend Section 7.2 as follows:

In the preparation of this chapter of the Plan, regard has been had to the following;

- The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Acts 2015 to 2021
- Climate Action Plan 2021
- National Peatlands Strategy 2015
- Kildare Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
- Interim Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Statutory Plans, Renewable Energy and Climate Change 2017
- The National Renewable Energy Action Plan 2010 (Irish Government submission to the European Commission)
- The Government's Strategy for Renewable Energy 2012 – 2020 (DCENR)
- The Government's White Paper on Energy Policy - Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 (DCENR)

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.3

Amend Action EC A1 as follows:

~~Prepare, within 1 year of the adoption of the County Development Plan a Sustainable Energy Climate Action Plan (SECAP) for County Kildare to provide a baseline analysis for Kildare and for the inclusion of measurable targets on renewable energy and climate change mitigation and adaptation~~ identify the target which County Kildare can contribute in delivering its share of overall Government targets on renewable energy and climate change mitigation over the plan period, and in particular wind energy production and the potential wind energy resource (in megawatts), and commence a variation to the County Development Plan, as appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.4

Amend paragraph two of Section 7.4 as follows:

~~Due to increased energy requirements and Governments' target of 80% share of electricity from renewable sources by 2030 national and EU targets for energy consumption from renewable sources,~~ our electricity supply must move away from fossil fuel sources to renewable and sustainable forms of generation.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.5

Amend EC P2 as follows:

Promote renewable energy use, ~~and generation and associated electricity grid infrastructure~~ at appropriate locations within the built environment and open countryside to meet national objectives towards achieving a net zero carbon economy by 2050.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.6

Amend EC O4 as follows:

Support infrastructural renewal and development of electricity and gas networks in the county, subject to safety and amenity requirements. ~~Subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA so as to ensure and protect the favourable status of European sites and their hydrological connections. Such developments will have regard for protected species and provide mitigation where applicable.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.7

Amend EC O5 as follows:

Support and encourage the sustainable development of renewable energy auto production units (the production of energy primarily for on-site usage) for existing and proposed developments in line with relevant design criteria, amenity and heritage considerations and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area. ~~Subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA so as to ensure and protect the favourable status of European sites and their hydrological connections. Such developments will have regard for protected species and provide mitigation where applicable.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.8

Amend EC O6 as follows:

~~Require~~ ~~Encourage~~ developers of proposed large scale renewable energy projects to carry out community consultation (including, but not limited to Sustainable Energy Communities, where established) in accordance with best practice and to commence the consultation at the commencement of project planning. ~~Details of all such consultation shall accompany planning applications for proposed renewable energy developments.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.9

Amend EC O7 as follows:

Support, encourage and co-operate with Sustainable Energy Communities (SECs) in the preparation of energy masterplans for their communities and in the delivery of infrastructure and services and to assist in the development of SECs in ~~towns~~ ~~communities (both urban and rural)~~ throughout the County

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.10

Amend paragraph two of Section 7.5 as follows:

A Wind Energy Strategy forms part of this Development Plan and is presented in Appendix 2. The Strategy has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government's Draft Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Wind Energy Development 2006 and ~~subsequent Draft Guidelines (2019)~~ and constitutes a plan led approach to wind energy development in County Kildare.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.11

Amend EC O11 as follows:

Encourage wind energy developments in suitable locations in an environmentally sustainable manner whilst having regard to Government policy and the County Wind Energy Strategy, while being sensitive to the EU and national target of 30% of land for biodiversity. Subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA so as to ensure and protect the favourable status of European sites and their hydrological connections. Such developments will have regard for protected species and provide mitigation where applicable.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.12

Amend EC O12 as follows:

Support small to medium scale wind energy developments within agricultural, industrial or business areas and support small community-based proposals in urban and rural areas where they do not negatively impact upon the environmental quality (i.e. the habitats, species, hydrological connections and air quality of the area) and visual or residential amenities of the area. Subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA so as to ensure and protect the favourable status of European sites and their hydrological connections. Such developments will have regard for protected species and provide mitigation where applicable.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.13

Amend EC O13 as follows:

Support the repowering (by replacing existing wind turbines) of existing windfarm development and the extension of existing and permitted wind farms on a case-by-case basis subject to further appropriate public consultation and proper planning considerations and environmental considerations such as the movement of qualifying interest species of European Sites. Projects shall provide mitigation and monitoring where applicable.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.14

Amend EC O15 as follows:

Require applicants to submit a report addressing the issues contained in Section 6 of the County Wind Energy Strategy '*Considerations for Wind Farm Development Planning Applications*' at application stage. ~~Decommissioning and site rehabilitation plans including decommissioning and end of life facilities for battery storage, as appropriate, as part of any wind farm development application. Applicants will also be requested to clearly~~ shall also be submitted at application stage and shall identify sustainable waste management solutions for wind turbine components (battery storage, blades etc.) at end-of-life blades, demonstrating recycling facilities and/or wind turbine repurposing facilities. Details regarding the disposal of end-of-life blades shall be submitted with all planning applications in accordance with the waste management hierarchy. The disposal of blades to landfill will not generally be permitted.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.15

Amend EC O16 as follows:

Require comprehensive winter and summer bird and wildlife surveys for all proposed wind farms sites in accordance with EIA, EU Habitats and Species Directives and all

other relevant environmental legislation, so that impacts on wildlife can be fully assessed and evaluated and so that appropriate mitigation and adaptation measures can be considered, ~~to include for example removal or repositioning of turbines, introducing one black painted rotor blade (to reduce motion smear and reduce incident of collision) or the provision of technologies that help minimize harm to birds and other wildlife.~~ Turbine design and adaptation should use the best available technology to minimise harm to birds and other wildlife.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.16

Amend EC T1 as follows:

Support the target in the Climate Action Plan ~~2019~~ 2021 for a doubling of existing on-shore wind energy from circa 4GW (today) to approximately 8GW ~~8.2GW~~ by 2030.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.17

Amend Section 7.6 as follows:

There are three basic approaches used today to harness and gain maximum benefit of solar energy in buildings. These are Passive Solar; Active Solar Heating; and Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems. There are a range of technologies available to exploit the benefits of the sun, including solar panels, solar farms, and solar energy storage facilities, all of which contribute to a reduction in energy demand.

As solar energy technologies have become more effective, areas in Northern Europe like Ireland have become viable for technologies including solar panels/ tubes on roof spaces and the commercial development of solar farms together with storage facilities. As a result, solar generated energy is increasingly contributing to a reduction in energy demand and energy costs for a range of commercial, industrial and residential properties. The Climate Action Plan 2021 targets a delivery of between 1.5 and 2.5 GW of Solar PV Capacity by 2030 as part of its effort to produce 80% of Irelands electricity from renewable sources by 2030.

On-site ~~auto consumption~~ microgeneration technologies can make a significant contribution towards a reduction in energy costs, and this will continue as technologies develop further. This type of generation is supported in the Climate Action Plan 2021, by Actions 105,107,108 and 138.

~~Solar farms have the potential to affect the landscape and natural and built heritage. Cumulative impacts may also arise with farms located close to each other. Site selection is vital for potential solar farms as solar resource, topography and proximity to the grid must be considered.~~

~~Solar Energy Developments~~

- ~~• All applications should indicate the estimated megawatt output of the proposed solar farm.~~
- ~~• An assessment of the impact of the development on the receiving landscape should be undertaken, having particular regard to the landscape sensitivity classification, scenic routes and protected views.~~

- ~~Details of the connection to the grid shall be provided with all planning applications.~~
- ~~Glint and glare assessment must be undertaken and submitted with each application.~~
- ~~An assessment of stormwater run-off rates must be completed for each development, and attenuation measures proposed as appropriate.~~
- ~~The removal of extensive stretches of hedgerow (including within the development site) will be strongly discouraged. Where the removal of minor sections of hedgerows is proposed, the applicant shall demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the~~
- ~~Planning Authority, that such removal is necessary for the development of the particular solar farm(s).~~
- ~~In addition to the retention of hedgerows and other existing areas of biodiversity value, a minimum of 10% of each overall solar farm site shall be reserved for~~
- ~~biodiversity purposes, including planting of native and pollinator friendly species or the construction of new wetland habitat.~~

Larger commercial solar farms have scope for harnessing a sizable amount of solar energy while also having the greater potential for energy storage and this type of generation is supported in the Climate Action Plan 2021, Actions 102 and 104. However, the scale of these farms has the potential to affect surrounding landscapes. Cumulative impacts may also arise with farms located close to each other. Site selection is vital for potential solar farms as solar resource, topography and proximity to the grid must be considered.

The Council is required to achieve a reasonable balance between responding to the Climate Emergency and adhering to overall positive Government policy on renewable energy, while also enabling the solar energy resources of the Planning Authority's area to be harnessed in a manner that is consistent with proper planning and sustainable development. At present, there are no national planning guidelines to guide the future development of solar farm proposals. In their absence, the Council will assess the appropriateness of individual applications received considering the following:

Site aspect, suitability, and topography

The Council will favour the reuse of previously developed land such as brownfield land, contaminated land or industrial land and non-productive agricultural land in preference to productive land.

Biodiversity

While it is not compulsory for solar farms to require an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), an EIAR may be required for projects where the proposed development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment. Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) sets out the criteria for determining whether a development would or would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment. Furthermore, all development proposals must be screened for Appropriate Assessment and shall be subject to full Appropriate Assessment where they have the potential to have significant adverse impacts on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site, either individually or in combination

with other plans or projects, in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/42/EEC. In any event, impacts to flora and fauna will be a consideration of any application.

The removal of extensive stretches of hedgerow and mature trees, wetland areas and areas of biodiversity interest (including within the development site) will not be permitted. Retention and appropriate management of existing habitats will be favoured over the planting of introduced pollinator friendly species in order to maintain and restore the existing seedbank and local biodiversity. Where the removal of minor sections of hedgerows or tree are proposed, the applicant shall demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority, that such removal is necessary for the development of the particular solar farm(s). Where the removal of minor sections of hedgerow is proposed, compensatory planting will be required elsewhere within the development.

Measures to treat invasive species and/or avoid their translocation must also be provided. Where it is not possible to retain the area beneath the solar panels for biodiversity purposes, a minimum of 10% of each overall solar farm site shall be reserved for biodiversity purposes, including planting of native and pollinator-friendly species or the construction of new wetland habitat.

All existing habitats on solar farm sites should be retained and appropriately managed. The planting of 'pollinator friendly' seed mixes should be avoided.

Appropriately detailed habitat management and restoration plans (including cutover bog restoration, where appropriate) for all solar farm applications must be submitted.

Landscape character

Where appropriate all applications should be accompanied by a Landscape Impact Assessment (LIA) that considers the subject site in its wider context, to include the subject site, other permitted/in the pipeline renewable energy proposals, and the impact of same on the landscape sensitivity classification, scenic routes and protected views.

Residential amenity

Noise and traffic impacts during the construction, operational and decommissioning phases will be examined to determine whether residential amenity of adjoining/nearby properties would be adversely impacted.

Flooding

Solar farms located within areas identified as being within Flood zones A or B will be subject to a Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment, as per the Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines 2009 for Planning Authorities (or any updated guidelines). An assessment of stormwater run-off rates must be completed for each development, and attenuation measures proposed as appropriate.

Architectural/Archaeological Heritage

Potential impacts to Protected Structures and their settings as identified in Appendix 6 and Monuments and Places as identified in Appendix 5 of the Development Plan shall also be considered.

Impact on Traffic

A Glint and Glare assessment will accompany any application to consider any impacts to low flying aircraft or passing vehicles.

Road

Access to the site during operational and decommissioning phases will be examined to determine if the access and corresponding road network is adequate.

Access to the grid

Details of the connection to the grid shall be provided with all planning applications. The ability to achieve a network connection is typically via a 10kV or 20kV overhead cable on the electricity transmission grid. In general, it is not viable to locate solar farms over 1 km from network infrastructure.

Megawatt output

An estimated maximum and average megawatt output of the proposed scheme should be provided.

Operations

Details of management, fencing, lighting and upkeep of the site should be submitted.

Lifespan

Details with respect to the estimated length of construction phase activities, their impacts, the proposed lifespan of the development and decommissioning and reinstatement of the subject site should all be submitted.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.18

Amend objective EC O21 as follows:

Support the provision of solar farms in appropriate locations and to consider in the first instance developing solar farms on previously developed land, in accordance with the criteria as set out in Section 7.6 of this Plan and environmental considerations such as the movement of qualifying interest species of European Sites. Projects shall provide mitigation and monitoring where applicable.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.19

Amend objective EC O25 as follows:

Require decommissioning and site rehabilitation plans (including phasing where appropriate) as part of any solar farm development application, including identification of sustainable waste management solutions for components (PV solar arrays, steel support frames, battery storage, etc.) at end-of-life in accordance with the waste management hierarchy. The disposal of same to landfill will not generally be permitted. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 42 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended), the Planning Authority may grant permission for more than 5 years, in appropriate circumstances.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.20

Amend EC P6 as follows:

Facilitate the development of new river-based hydro energy plants subject to all necessary environmental considerations. River based hydro energy developments

shall not be permitted within Natura 2000 sites or within designated and proposed Natural Heritage Areas or, ex situ of these ecologically sensitive areas where proposals will adversely affect the integrity of Natura 2000 sites; impact on the ecological integrity of NHA/pNHAs, or the habitats of protected species (without appropriate licence) as designated under National and European legislation.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.21

Amend objective EC O30 as follows:

Support the development of small-scale hydro-electricity projects in the county, in particular for on-site consumption to meet the electricity requirements of proposed new buildings, or refurbishment of existing buildings appropriate to their riverside location and setting. Such developments shall be subject to an AA Screening Report, and where applicable, Stage 2 AA. They shall have a regard for any hydrological connection shared with a European Site and shall account for any potential likely significant effects and provide mitigation and monitoring where appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.22

Amend EC P7 as follows:

Facilitate large and smaller scale geothermal energy generating developments both standalone and in conjunction with other renewable energy projects, subject to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area and consideration of environmental and ecological sensitivities in particular the sensitivities of protected surface water or groundwater bodies and groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystems and to have regard to the Draft Policy Statement on Geothermal Energy for a Circular Economy (2021) published by the Department of the Environment, Climate & Communications (or any subsequent updates).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.23

Amend objective EC O32 as follows:

Promote the use of geothermal heat pumps for space heating and cooling as well as water heating in domestic, commercial and recreational buildings subject to the protection of water quality and any other relevant considerations such as the Geological Survey of Ireland's (GSIs) Geothermal Suitability maps.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.24

Amend EC P8 as follows:

Facilitate and support the development of projects that convert biomass to gas or electricity subject to national and regional policy. Such projects shall be subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.25

Amend objective EC O33 as follows:

Support the location of biomass installations, particularly where the operator can demonstrate that the wood chip/wood pellets utilised are derived from environmentally sustainable sources, in areas that do not affect residential or visual amenity which are subject to normal siting, design, environmental and planning considerations and which are served by public roads with sufficient capacity to accommodate increased traffic flows.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.26

Amend objective EC O35 as follows:

Identify Strategic Energy Zones in conjunction with EMRA as areas suitable for larger energy generating projects, community and micro energy production, whilst ensuring environmental constraints factors (including landscape, biodiversity and archaeology) and a regional landscape strategy are considered.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.27

Amend EC P10 as follows:

Facilitate micro-renewable energy installations and auto-generator installations where it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Council that they will not result in a significant adverse impact on residential, visual or environmental amenity. Such projects shall be subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.28

Amend paragraph one of Section 7.12.1 as follows:

District heating is one of the most efficient and cost-effective ways to heat apartments, homes and mixed-use developments. The concept of climate justice, which is a key aim of the Plan, entails the protection of populations made vulnerable by climate change impacts. Low Carbon District Heating could reduce energy costs for low-income families and in doing so promote Climate Justice. District heating networks can be based on a variety of technologies and renewable energy sources, such as combined heat and power (CHP), bioenergy, geothermal or energy from waste.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.29

Amend the last line of Section 7.12.3 as follows:

Suitable areas for such development include those with intensive agricultural activities, such as sheep, dairying, pig and poultry farming.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.30

Amend Section 7.12.5 by inserting a new 1st para and 3rd para as follows:

The Council will promote and support the development of the necessary infrastructure required by Government to accommodate electric vehicles and as outlined in the “Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy 2022-2025” published by the Department of Transport.

Electric Vehicles (EV) refer to both Battery Electric Vehicles (BEV) and Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEV). All new cars sold in Ireland will be zero carbon emission or zero carbon emission capable by 2030. The ultimate aim is to decarbonise the national car fleet by 2050 so that it will be low or near zero emissions.

A Priority for EV charging is to facilitate the maximum use of night-time renewable electricity where possible. In this regard, residential housing developments have a key role to play in the provision of overnight EV infrastructure and to assist in the delivery of low carbon energy.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.31

Amend objective EC O45 as follows:

Promote the delivery of EV charging facilities across the County where demand is proven, both on sites owned and occupied by Kildare County Council and private sites and ensure that EV charging points are installed in such a way that they do not cause significant obstruction to footpaths, cycle lanes, access to Train stations, or bus lanes/stops. The EV charger should be compatible with the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland's Triple E Register.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.32

Amend the first paragraph of Section 7.12.6 as follows:

A Decarbonising Zone (DZ) is an area identified by the local authority, in response to action 165 of the 'All of Government Climate Action Plan, 2019'. Target 10.2 of the subsequent Climate Action Plan 2021 is to implement decarbonising zones in each local authority. The DZ is an area within a county which will see the implementation of numerous mitigation measures in support of the national transition objective, 2030 emission reduction targets and the requirements of the National Adaptation Framework.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.33

Add new action after action EC A6 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

~~Explore the possibility of integrating solar power with~~ Require that the Council explore integrating solar PV for EV charging in Kildare County Council owned car parks throughout the County, potentially utilizing the space on the roof tops of publicly owned buildings.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.34

Add new paragraphs to the end of the existing preamble of Section 7.12.7 as follows:

The 'Local Just Transition Plan for West Kildare', commissioned by Kildare County Council, was published in March 2022. On a strategic level, the purpose of the plan is to identify bottom-up, smaller scale, localised measures to complement larger regional and national development measures and investments. In doing so, the Plan identifies projects to support and advance sustainable, social, economic and environmental development in the transition to a low carbon future in the West Kildare region. Addressing the County's turbary areas, the Plan provides a concise, coherent, thematic, and action-focused plan with an emphasise on the effective and practical implementation of projects to stimulate and enable a range of actions that can be owned and driven by the many diverse communities of West Kildare. In doing so, it draws together opportunities associated with the Just Transition Framework for the wider Midlands Region, the National Territorial Just Transition Plan, and the impetus for the Transition to a Low Carbon Economy.

The guiding priorities for the Plan have been to stimulate skills development and employment, to build community cohesion and to increase the resilience of the communities of West Kildare, across three key themes: Economy, Society and Environment. The Plan identifies 15 no. thematic actions which focus on overcoming challenges and capturing opportunities. The aforementioned themes of the Just Transition are at the heart of all 15 actions. Each action is designed to deliver

against all three of these themes in some way. Therefore, rather than group actions by theme actions have been grouped into three areas of opportunity which have been identified as Tourism, Business and Skills and Energy. Some of the key actions identified in the Plan include:

- Progressing the opportunity for a new National Peatlands Park for Ireland
- Providing a stimulus for community owned marinas and facilities as key blueway infrastructure to support the growing tourism sector
- Encouraging new community development groups to emerge
- Growing the capacity for communities to help themselves through ‘one-stop shops’ at community hubs which will enhance the ability of communities to access funding opportunities and skills training, as well as supporting remote working
- Supporting community retrofitting programmes

The Plan also identifies three priority enabling actions which have the capacity, if realised, to support all 15 proposed thematic actions and include the following;

1. A coordinated programme of activity to bid for Just Transition Fund monies
2. Critical partnership building
3. Incorporation of the Just Transition Plan into the Local Economic Community Plan (LECP)

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.35

Amend Policy EC P17 as follows:

Support the preparation of a comprehensive “after use” framework plan for the industrial peatlands and associated workshops, office buildings, industrial sites and power stations in Kildare, acknowledging the significant contribution that these expansive lands make towards the special landscape of the Bog of Allen and its potential to further the growth of tourism to and within the County including the creation of a National Peatlands Park, being a focal point for the environmental landscape, conservation and amenity.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.36

Add new objective to Section 7.12.7 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Ensure that renewable energy projects located on or near peatlands do not negatively impact on any rehabilitation measures including enhanced rehabilitation measures (i.e. blocking and re-wetting).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.37

Amend objective EC O53 as follows:

Support the implementation of the recommendations contained in the National Peatlands Strategy 2015 and any subsequent revisions including the creation of a National Peatlands Park and Peatland Centre of Excellence.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.38

Amend objective EC O54 as follows:

Require an Ecological Impact Assessment to be carried out and submitted with any planning application for energy infrastructure projects (e.g., wind and solar developments) on bog / peatlands (including former cut-away bogs).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.39

Amend objective EC O55 as follows:

Estimate an overall carbon balance when evaluating renewable energy project applications on peatlands, especially those proposed for wind or solar projects taking into account the lifetime of the project versus the potential carbon sequestration over 1000s of years of a site once rehabilitated fully.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.40

Amend objective EC O56 as follows:

Support the implementation of the 'Local Just Transition Plan for West Kildare, 2022' which identifies 15 no. thematic actions and 3 no. priority enabling actions to support and advance sustainable, social, economic and environmental development in the transition to a low carbon future in the West Kildare region.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.41

Add new objective after EC O56 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

When developing project proposals for development on peatlands, undertake a peatland stability assessment, carbon emissions balance assessment and hydrological and ecological impact assessments, as required.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.42

Amend EC P18 as follows:

Support the accommodation of Data Centres at appropriate locations in line with the objectives of the National Planning Framework and the principles for Sustainable Data Centre Development of the Government Statement on the Role of Data Centres in Ireland's Enterprise Strategy (July 2022) subject to appropriate Transport, Energy and Environmental Impact Assessments and all relevant planning conditions. The location of data centres shall be situated where they will not have a potential likely significant effect on a European Site or on a site that shares a hydrological connection to a European site.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.43

Amend bullet point six and add a final paragraph to EC O57:

Consider applications for data centres having regard to the following criteria:

- Avoidance of designated sites including specifically avoidance of development of data centres where they would adversely affect the integrity of a European Site

Such developments shall be subject to an AA Screening Report, and where applicable, Stage 2 AA. They shall have a regard for any hydrological connection shared with a European Site and shall account for any potential likely significant effects and provide mitigation and monitoring where appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.44

Amend objective EC O59 as follows:

Require data centres to consider the use of renewable and sustainable sources of energy to fuel their operations, in whole in the first instance or in part where this is

~~not possible and where it has been satisfactorily demonstrated not to be possible.~~
include strong energy efficiency measures to reduce their carbon footprint in support of national targets towards a net zero carbon economy, through the use of sustainable sources of energy generation in the first instance and then the use of renewable sources of energy to power their operations, where on site demand cannot be met in this way, to provide evidence of engagement with power purchase agreements (PPA) in Ireland. All data centre developments shall provide evidence of sign up to the Climate Neutral Data Centre Pact.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.45

Amend paragraphs three, four and five of Section 7.14 as follows:

The electricity transmission grid infrastructure has a big role to play in meeting the challenges of climate change and energy and in supporting our environment, society, and economy. A comprehensive development strategy for the country's electricity infrastructure is provided in EirGrid's 2017 publication Grid Development Strategy - Your Grid, Your Tomorrow, along with the associated Grid Implementation Plan for the initial period 2017-2022. ~~In addition, EirGrid's Tomorrow's Energy Scenarios 2017 – Planning our Energy Future considers the range of possible ways that energy usage may change in the future, taking account of energy and climate change policies, economic developments, technology evolution and adaptation, and other national and international policies.~~ In addition, The Transmission Development Plan (TDP) 2020-2029 lists the committed projects and projects under development for the enhancement of the Irish transmission network over the coming years. The Shaping our Electricity Future - A Roadmap to achieve our Renewable Ambition (2021) provides an outline of the key developments from a networks, engagement, operations and market perspective needed to support a secure transition to at least 80% renewables on the electricity grid by 2030. The Council supports the sustainable implementation of these plans and strategies and any subsequent plans prepared during the lifetime of this Plan, subject to landscape, residential, amenity and environmental considerations.

~~The Council recognises that essential future upgrades are required to the electricity grid in the midlands as outlined in EirGrid's Tomorrow's Energy Scenarios 2019 System Needs Assessment and will support EirGrid's programmes identifying grid solutions, in both infrastructural and technological terms, in order to facilitate the electricity targets, set out in the Government's Climate Action Plan 2019 and the National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030.~~

It is anticipated that growth in the Greater Dublin Area will give rise to demand for increased energy supply and a pressure to connect the region with other regions via the hinterland area that includes County Kildare. The Council will support and facilitate the requirements of the major service providers, such as Eirgrid and ESB, where it is proposed to enhance or upgrade existing facilities or networks or to provide new infrastructure subject to landscape, residential amenity and environmental considerations. The **Maynooth 220kV and Dunstown 400kV substations** ~~is an~~ **are both** electrical substations of regional significance and the Council will seek to support any reinforcement of the Greater Dublin Area between Dunstown and Woodland 400 kV substations.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.46

Amend EC P19 as follows:

Support the development, reinforcement, renewal and expansion of the electricity transmission and distribution grid to provide for the future physical and economic development of Kildare. Such projects shall be subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.47

Amend EC O78 as follows:

Ensure that the location of telecommunications structures minimises and/or mitigates any adverse impacts on public rights of way, historical sites, or amenities, and the built or natural environment. Innovative design solutions will be encouraged.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.48

Amend objective EC O63 as follows:

Support the reinforcement and strengthening of the electricity transmission and distribution network, including the installation of Battery Energy Storage System plants and Synchronous Condenser plants, to facilitate planned growth and transmission/distribution of a renewable energy focused generation, at appropriate locations and in consultation with relevant stakeholders, where they are adjacent and/or proximate to the grid network.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.49

Amend objective EC O65 as follows:

Require that developments involving the siting of overhead cables shall minimise visual impact by avoiding areas of high landscape sensitivity, sites and areas of nature conservation important for biodiversity and/or archaeological, cultural or heritage interest.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.50

Amend objective EC O68 as follows:

Facilitate the development of grid reinforcements including grid connections and a trans-boundary network into and through the county and between all adjacent counties. Such projects shall be subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.51

Add new objective after EC O68 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support and facilitate the Kildare-Meath Grid Upgrade (also known as Capital Project 966) to enable further renewable energy generation in line with the Governments' target of 80% renewable energy generation by 2030.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.52

Add additional text at the end of objective EC O70 as follows.

Existing vegetative or 'stepping-stone' linkages are to be maintained and improved upon to increase wildlife corridors. Opportunities should be sought to translocate existing species rich hedgerows, where possible, and subject to proper biosecurity protocols.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.53

Delete objective EC O71 and renumber objectives accordingly:

~~Require the assessment of all alternative grid connection route options prior to any proposals for grid connection utilising the national road network.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.54

Amend objective EC O73 as follows:

Promote and facilitate the provision of appropriate telecommunications infrastructure, including broadband connectivity and other technologies within the county. Such projects shall be subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.55

Amend Section 7.16 as follows:

Natural gas is available in a number of the county's towns. Gas Networks Ireland continues to assess the feasibility of new connections bringing gas to additional towns. It is recognised that natural gas, particularly renewable and indigenous gas, will continue to have a role to play in the transition to a low carbon economy. As such, renewable energy developments may require support from such sources in times of high energy demand.

Hydrogen is a carbon free gas that can be produced from renewable electricity. While initially seen primarily as a decarbonisation solution for heavy goods vehicles and industry, because of its versatility, it is now recognised that hydrogen can play a key role in the decarbonisation of large swathes of the economy, power generation, transport, industry and heating. Hydrogen is also well suited to short-term and inter-seasonal storage, making it an attractive option to decarbonise energy systems and a driver of a cleaner energy future for Ireland.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.56

Amend EC O87 as follows:

Support and facilitate the production of low carbon or renewable bio-gases such as hydrogen produced using renewable electricity, and biomethane, produced largely from agricultural organic matter and food waste, that can be exported as power/energy to the National Grid, subject to appropriate environmental assessments.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.57

Add new objective after objective EC O88 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support the research and development of green hydrogen as a fuel for power generation, manufacturing, energy storage and transport.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 7.58

Amend EC O89 as follows:

Support and facilitate the delivery of the National Broadband Plan and the Government's 'Harnessing Digital' the Digital Ireland Framework (2022) with particular regard to 5G rollout as a means of developing further opportunities for enterprise, employment, education, innovation, and skills development for those who live and work in rural areas.

Chapter 8: Urban Centres and Retail

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.1

Amend chapter aim as follows:

To continue to promote and encourage town centres as our primary retail centres, at the heart of our communities so that they play a vital role in ensuring these areas remain attractive, universally accessible, and liveable places and to make provision for additional retail, at appropriate locations and quantum's where necessary.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.2

Add new paragraph after the first paragraph in section 8.1 to read as follows:

The Retail Planning Guidelines for Planning Authorities seek to ensure that the planning system continues to play a key role in supporting competitiveness in the retail sector for the benefit of the consumer by actively enabling good quality development proposals to come forward in suitable locations.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.3

Add new section under 8.2 as follows:

8.2.7 Town Centre First – A Policy Approach for Irish Towns

The Government's Town Centre First policy acknowledges the challenges that town centre retail activities continue to experience, which is primarily due to the changing habits of consumers and, in particular, the rise of online shopping. The effects of this can be seen in settlements across the county, with most designated core retail areas suffering from sustained levels of high retail vacancy. The Town Centre First policy seeks to respond to this issue by increasing the focus on the 'retail-led experience' which includes a blend of retail services (including food and drink), leisure, entertainment, and cultural uses. This approach fully aligns with the intentions of Kildare County Council to future proof town centres by making them more attractive visitor destinations, through the implementation of public realm improvement works, the promotion and support of 'meanwhile use' to provide for temporary uses to be accommodated in vacant units, and other bespoke regeneration initiatives. It is considered that the development of new and alternative uses and functions for town centres that maximise new recreational, tourist, cultural, employment and residential opportunities will help to secure the long-term viability of the existing retail offer in the county's town centres.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.4

Amend RET O1 as follows:

Ensure that the retail needs of the county's residents are met as extensively as possible within Kildare, taking cognisance of the Regional and County Retail Hierarchies, to enable the reduction in the requirement to travel to meet these needs and in the interests of achieving greater social inclusion and universal accessibility to shopping and services across all sectors of the community.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.5

Amend RET O5 to read as follows:

Reinforce the core of town and village centres as the priority location for new retail developments, with quality of design and integration/linkage being fundamental prerequisites and bring forward zoning designations within the zoning matrix in Local Area Plans specifically for large convenience stores, where appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.6

Amend objective RET O7 as follows:

Improve the **universal** accessibility of the town centre with particular emphasis on creating a high quality, safe and permeable environment that is easily accessible to pedestrians and cyclists.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.7

Amend Table 8.1 Retail Hierarchy for County Kildare as follows:

Level 2	Major Town Centres & County (Principal) Town Centres Naas, Newbridge, Maynooth
Level 3	Town and/or District Centres & Sub-County Town Centres (Key Service Centres) Celbridge, Kilcock, Athy, Kildare, Monasterevin, Clane, Leixlip, Kilcullen
Level 4	Neighbourhood Centres, Local Centres-Small Towns and Villages Small Town Centres Kilcullen, Castledermot, Prosperous, Rathangan and Sallins Village Centres Straffan, Allenwood, Ballitore, Ballymore-Eustace, Crookstown, Derrinturn, Kill and Robertstown
Level 5	Corner Shops/Small Villages

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.8

Amend the first sentence of the fifth paragraph of section 8.7.1.1 Naas, as follows:

In order to reinforce the town centre as a viable, vibrant, **universally accessible** and attractive retail centre, the Main Street should be retained as the centre of commercial and retail activity.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.9

Amend objective RET O21 as follows:

~~Consider either convenience or comparison retail developments in the core retail area in accordance with the sequential approach and to only consider any further convenience or comparison retail developments outside of the core retail area following the redevelopment and occupation (either in whole or in part for retail use) of the Naas Town Shopping Centre.~~ **Support and facilitate the development of retail, retail services and niche retailing in the town centre area, where it will consolidate and strengthen the primacy of town centre areas, including new/infill development and redevelopment of an appropriate scale.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.10

Amend objective RET O28 as follows:

Secure the continued consolidation of Maynooth Town Centre through progressing the implementation of the Maynooth **and Environs Joint Local Area Plan** and the regeneration of back land and brownfield areas in the town centre.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.11

Amend objective RET O30 to read as follows:

Restrict any out-of-town retail developments, other than local neighbourhood centres in Maynooth. The development of an appropriately sited district centre will be considered as part of the Joint Local Area Plan for Maynooth and Environs.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.12

Amend all references throughout the plan from 'Kildare Village Outlet Centre' to read 'Kildare Tourist Outlet Village (KTOV)'.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.13

Amend objective RET O42 as follows:

Facilitate the consolidation/expansion of the town centre historic retail core of Kildare Town Centre through infill development and the redevelopment/regeneration of derelict/under-utilised sites and building in and around particularly those within the Core Retail Area.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.14

Amend objective RET O44 as follows:

Develop a well-designed pedestrian link from the Kildare Tourist Outlet Village (KTOV) Outlet Centre to the town centre, in consultation with the various third-party landowners, with a view to better integration, enhancing visitor experience and promoting the heritage and evening economy of the town centre in accordance with the guidance in the Retail Planning Guidelines 2012 and accompanying Retail Design Manual.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.15

(A) Amend section 8.7.3.1 Small Town Centres as follows:

- Kilcullen
- Castledermot
- Prosperous
- Rathangan
- Sallins
- Derrinturn
- Kill

(B) Amend section 8.7.3.2 Village Centres as follows:

- Allenwood
- Athgarvan
- Ballitore
- Ballymore Eustace
- Crookstown
- ~~Derrinturn~~
- ~~Kill~~
- Robertstown
- Straffan

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.16

Amend RET A3 to read as follows:

Identify obsolete and potential renewal areas and, through active and positive engagement with landowners, to encourage and facilitate the re-use and

regeneration of derelict land and buildings in the county's main towns, villages and smaller centres. The Council will use its statutory powers, including the Derelict Sites Act (as amended), the Vacant Site Levy^{add footnote} and/or Compulsory Purchase Order, where necessary.

Footnote: Action 15.2 of Housing for All identifies the introduction of a new tax to activate vacant land for residential purposes as part of the pathway to increasing new housing supply, which will in time replace the Vacant Site Levy. The Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) was introduced by the Finance Act 2021 and will come into effect from 2024. The principal purpose of the residential zoned development land tax is to encourage the timely activation of serviced lands zoned for residential or mixed-use purposes.

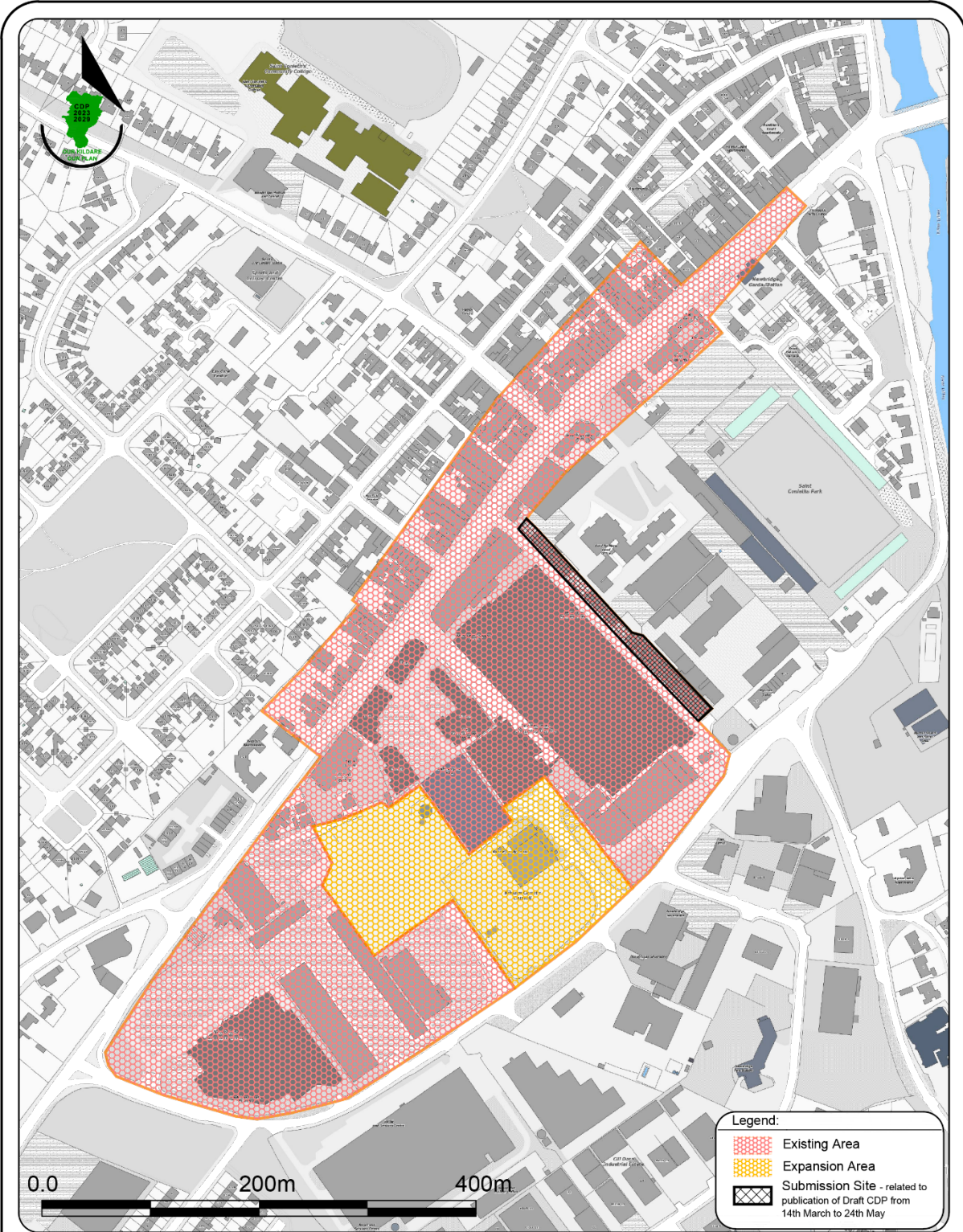
Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.17

Amend section 8.16.1 as follows:

Outdoor dining is an important contributor to the vitality and vibrancy of town and village centres, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic. When assessing license applications, the council will have regard to Section 254 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended and the Licensing Outdoor Dining and Seating Guidance Document August 2021 by Kildare County Council. In keeping with Circular Letter PL 06/2021, due consideration must be given at a local level to the principles of Universal Design when assessing a Section 254 licence application to ensure that the wider area is accessible, useable, and convenient to all those who wish to use or pass through it. Every effort must be made to ensure that the design and layout for outdoor seating proposals are universally accessible where practicable.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 8.18

Amend Map 8.11 (Core Retail Area for Newbridge) to include shaded area on map below (indicated with the red arrow), along Cutlery Row, opposite the side entrance to the Whitewater Shopping Centre.



Legend:

- Existing Area
- Expansion Area
- Submission Site - related to publication of Draft CDP from 14th March to 24th May



Kildare County Council
 Planning & Strategic
 Development Department
 Áras Chill Dara,
 Devoy Park, Naas, Co Kildare.

**Draft County Development
 Plan 2023 - 2029**

**Newbridge
 Core Retail Area**

Stage	Date	Description
Draft County Development Plan	14/03/2022	Draft Plan issued for Public Consultation
Proposed Draft County Development Plan	12/12/2021	Proposed Draft Plan issued to the Elected Members

Scale: N.T.S.	Map Ref.: V1 - 8.11
Date: July 2022	Drawing No.: 200/22/1263
<small>DESIGNED BY: K. DOYLE</small> <small>DRAWN BY: K. DOYLE</small> <small>CHECKED BY: L. CRAWFORD</small> <small>DATE: 19/07/2022</small>	<small>CHECKED BY: L. CRAWFORD</small> <small>DATE: 19/07/2022</small> <small>APPROVED BY: C. O'DONNELL</small> <small>DATE: 19/07/2022</small>

This drawing is to be read in conjunction with the written statement

Chapter 9: Our Rural Economy

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.1

Amend the fourth paragraph of Section 9.1 as follows:

Traditional sectors such as agriculture, ~~extractive industries~~, and forestry will be important in helping Kildare reach targets in relation to climate change and will play a vital role over the coming years and the period of this plan to help Ireland reach its climate targets particularly in relation to **food security**, carbon storage, provision of renewable energy, reducing emissions, protection of water bodies and increasing biodiversity.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.2

Amend the sixth paragraph in Section 9.1 as follows:

The agri-food, forestry, and tourism sectors play a significant role in Ireland's rural economy. Kildare is well positioned to contribute more to the tourism sector with the development of Greenways, Blueways, Peatways **and the potential of a National Peatlands Park** providing an alternative **eco-tourism** visitor experience.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.3

Amend RD P1 as follows:

Support and promote rural enterprises and encourage appropriate expansion and diversification in areas such as sustainable agriculture, forestry, peatlands, **peatlands rehabilitation and sustainable peatland related tourism**, food, crafts, renewable energy at suitable locations in the county, particularly where they contribute to a low carbon and resilient economy.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.4

Add new objective after RD O8 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support the European Network for Rural Development's Smart Villages initiative to improve economic performance and quality of life in rural areas through digital and social innovation in co-operation with West Kildare SMART Rural Alliance and all other relevant stakeholders.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.5

Amend the first paragraph of Section 9.4 as follows:

The plan recognises and supports the role of farmers as custodians of the natural resources of the countryside and of rural landscapes. Over the past number of years there has been a significant fall off in agricultural employment. This is indicative of the changing nature of the rural economy. The total area of land farmed in Kildare is 113,765 ha, comprising 67% of the overall area of the county. Since 1991 the number of farms has reduced from 3,251 to 2,578 in 2010. This represents a reduction of 20% compared to a 17% reduction for the state.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.6

Amend RD O11 as follows:

Support the implementation of the objectives identified in the County Biodiversity **Action Plan 2009-2014 (or as updated)** and any relevant local action plan.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.7

Amend RD O12 as follows:

Encourage farmers markets and local food Hubs for the sale of locally produced goods at appropriate locations in the towns and villages across the county.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.8

Add new objective after RD O12 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Preserve the open character of commonage land.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.9

Amend RD P4 as follows:

Support and encourage the continued development of a distinguished bloodstock and equine industry in Kildare the County, including breeding and training.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.10

Amend RD P6 as follows:

Increase forest cover in the county at appropriate locations while protecting sensitive landscapes, water bodies, all sites, habitats, and species of ecological importance including European sites special areas of conservation and amenity areas.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.11

Amend RD O22 as follows:

Facilitate tourism infrastructure and visitor services including tourism accommodation at appropriate locations in forest estates in accordance with all relevant planning and environmental conditions.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.12

Amend RD O26 as follows:

Discourage monocultural forestry and encourage a greater range of tree species in forestry plantations and promote, in particular, more native deciduous hardwood woodlands. Such forestry plantations shall be subject to best practice and appropriate biosecurity measures and protocols.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.13

Add new objective after RD O26 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Ensure that existing public rights of ways and walking routes are not obstructed during the planting of forests.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.14

Add new objective after RD O26 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Ensure that development is appropriate in scale and character and does not have a negative visual impact on the countryside including public access, rights of way, walking routes and recreational facilities or cause degradation of wildlife habitats, nature conservation areas or areas of ecological importance.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.15

Add new objective after RD O26 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Recognise the potential of forestry including Coillte's "open forest" policy and protect and encourage access to forestry and woodlands (including private forestry) in co-

operation with all relevant stakeholders for walking routes, long-distance and looped walks, mountain trails, nature trails, bridle paths, orienteering and hiking.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.16

Amend the first paragraph of Section 9.8 as follows:

The council recognises the potential of industrial peatlands in relation to a variety of uses and functions including re-wetting, re-wilding, carbon sequestration, renewable energy, biodiversity, tourism, amenity, recreation, and other appropriate after-uses with job opportunities.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.17

Add additional text at the end of the third paragraph in Section 9.8:

The Council recognises the importance of raised bogland as a major natural, archaeological and amenity resource and will liaise with the relevant Government departments and NGOs to try to secure the conservation of original peatland areas.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.18

Amend RD P7 as follows:

Support the appropriate and sensitive diversification of former cutaway peatlands, whilst ensuring the protection of their ecological, archaeological, cultural, and educational significance in line with the National Peatlands Strategy (DAHG 2015), the National Raised Bog Special Area of Conservation Management Plan 2017-2022 and the Peatlands & Climate Change Action Plan 2030.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.19

Amend RD O27 as follows:

Encourage the re-wetting, restoring and/or re-wilding of former cutaway bogs and peatlands with an emphasis on promoting maximising biodiversity and carbon sequestration to account for approximately 70% of cutaway bogs. Such projects shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment; shall have regard to any hydrological connection shared with a European Site and their qualifying interest species; shall not adversely affect drainage of surrounding lands; and shall account for any potential likely significant effects and provide mitigation and monitoring where appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.20

Amend RD O28 as follows:

Work with all relevant stakeholders including Bord na Mona to support the sustainable re-use and sustainable development^{footnote} of ~~circa 30-50%~~ up to approximately 30% of cutaway boglands (within County Kildare) for economical purposes, including *inter alia* renewable energy (wind and solar) in appropriate locations, subject to relevant environmental assessments. Such projects shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment; shall have regard to any hydrological connection shared with a European Site and their qualifying interest species; shall not adversely affect drainage of surrounding lands; and shall account for any potential likely significant, cumulative and in combination effects.

Footnote: Development' will be defined as that area that includes all structures, pylon bases, foundations, roads in, on or crossing over the land, solar PV panels, turbines, the area beneath any turbine blades and all lands measured from the outer edge of a

turbine blade to the next or adjoining turbine blade where the distance is not greater than 1 km. Greenways/peatways/trailways/bridle ways or amenity spaces will not be included.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.21

Replace RD O29 with the following new objective:

~~Support the development of renewable energy (wind and solar) on a percentage/no more than 50% of former industrial peatlands/cutaway bogs, in appropriate locations, subject to relevant environmental assessments.~~ **Proposals brought forward for any development on the county's cutaway peatlands shall be accompanied by an independent biodiversity profile of the landholding, setting out how the proposed development was formulated having regard to the following step by step, biodiversity-led process:**

1. Identification of areas of greatest ecological value and how the proposal is compatible with peatland restoration.
2. Identification of areas of greatest carbon sequestration value.
3. Identification of areas of amenity value and potential, and incorporation of the Green Infrastructure Strategy (see Section 12.14.5).
4. Identification of the subject site as a percentage of the overall landholding and justification for the proposed use having regard to Objective RD O28.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.22

Amend RD O31 as follows:

~~Investigate the feasibility of the development of a Peatland National Park in co-operation with Bord Na Mona, NPWS~~ **Support the development of a National Peatlands Park in co-operation with Bord Na Mona, NPWS, Inland Fisheries Ireland, local community groups and other relevant stakeholders as per recommendation 9 of the BOGLAND Report from the EPA in 2011, and action A28 of the National Peatland Strategy 2014 and the Local Just Transition Plan for West Kildare 2022.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.23

Add new objective after RD O31 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Recognise the importance of cutover and cutaway bogs in providing some critical ecosystem services such as ecological importance and potential carbon sinks. Cutover bogs should be identified for immediate management interventions to prevent further degradation, particularly the ongoing loss of their carbon store.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.24

Add new objective after RD O31 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Encourage, where possible, the return to a natural functioning peatland ecosystem in the first instance.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.25

Add new objective after RD O31 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Protect peatlands from inappropriate development having regard to their visual sensitivity value.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.26

Add new objective after RD O31 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Ensure that peatland areas which are designated (or proposed for designation) as NHAs, SACs or SPAs are conserved for their ecological and archaeological significance.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.27

Add new objective after RD O31 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

When developing project proposals for development on peatlands, undertake a peatland stability assessment, carbon emissions balance assessment and hydrological and ecological impact assessments, as required.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.28

Amend Section 9.9 as follows:

Mineral resources are generally located within the rural area. Reserves of suitable material are finite, and the nature of the extractive industry is such that the industry must be developed where the resource occurs. The industry can have damaging environmental effects and permission will only be granted where the council is satisfied that residential and natural amenities will be protected, pollution will be prevented, and aquifers and ground water safeguarded.

Whilst the environment must be protected, it is also important to ensure the availability of adequate supplies of aggregates and to facilitate the exploitation thereof ~~are available~~ to meet the future needs of the county and region in line with the principles of sustainable development and environmental management. Aggregate resources are important to the general economy with over 500 active quarries nationally in 2018, directly employing over 5,000 people. The industry provides a valuable source of employment in some areas of the county ~~with 26 active quarries noted by the council throughout Kildare in 2019, while a further 14 quarries had limited activity. The~~ and the sector is vital to ensure provision of raw materials for the construction industry to facilitate the building of residential units, health care facilities, education facilities, social infrastructure and physical infrastructure ~~which will to accommodate the existing and anticipated population growth in the county and region over the lifetime of the Plan and beyond.~~

Extraction sites have long term environmental impacts and can significantly alter the landscape therefore there is a need to manage this impact particularly in sensitive landscapes as outlined in Chapter 13 of the Plan – Landscape, Recreation & Amenity. While siting is based on resource locations, the Council will protect high amenity / special / unique sensitivity areas and limit new and / or extending existing extractive industries in these areas.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.29

Add new text to the end of the third paragraph of section 9.9.1 as follows:

Where obvious scarring and visual impact off-site is evident, infilling and backfilling may be desirable however rather than reverting to agricultural grasslands, in such instances it is recommended that the lands be given over to specific biodiversity and ecological benefit with, for example, wildflower meadows and native woodland planting. It should be noted that the importation of any materials for the purpose of restoration requires planning permission, similarly where planning permission is required for any proposed after-uses same should be obtained.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.30

Amend RD P8 as follows:

Support and manage the appropriate future development of Kildare's natural aggregate resources in appropriate locations to ensure adequate supplies are available to meet the future needs of the county and the region in line with the principles of sustainable development and environmental management and to **require engage with** operators to appropriately manage extraction sites when extraction has ceased.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.31

Insert additional text at the end of RD O32 as follows:

Ensure that development for aggregate extraction, processing and associated concrete production does not significantly impact the following:

- Established rights of way and walking routes.
- **Potential World Heritage Sites in Kildare on the UNESCO Tentative List, Ireland**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.32

Amend RD O34 as follows:

Require applications for mineral or other extraction to include (but not limited to):

- **An Appropriate Assessment Screening where there is any potential for effects on a Natura 2000 site under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive where any quarry / sand and gravel extraction are likely to have an impact on a Natura 2000 site (see Chapter 12).**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.33

Amend RD O37 as follows:

Protect and safeguard the county's natural aggregate resources from inappropriate development, ~~by seeking to prevent incompatible land uses, for example, rural housing that could be located elsewhere from being located in the vicinity of the resource, since the extraction of minerals and aggregates is resource based.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.34

Include a new objective after RD O37 to read as follows:

Manage the finite aggregate resources being mined by the extractive industries in the county to supply the future needs of our region while working to reach our climate change targets.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.35

Amend RD O39 as follows:

Ensure the satisfactory and sensitive re-instatement and/or re-use of disused quarries and extraction facilities, where active extraction use has ceased. Future uses should include amenity, recreation, and biodiversity areas, and shall be informed by an assessment of the specific site/lands and shall be subject to an ecological impact assessment or other environmental assessments as appropriate. Proposals for future uses, infill of these areas should be agreed with the Planning Authority through the development management process. Where it is proposed to reclaim, regenerate, or rehabilitate old quarries by filling or re-grading with inert soil or similar material, or to use worked-out quarries as disposal locations for inert materials, the acceptability of the proposal shall be evaluated against the criteria set out in Section 15.9.6 of this Plan. The Council will resist development that would significantly or unnecessarily alter

the natural landscape and topography, including land infilling/ reclamation projects or projects involving significant landscape remodelling, unless it can be demonstrated that the development would enhance the landscape and / or not give rise to adverse impacts.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 9.36

Amend RD O40 as follows:

- (a) ~~Require that quarry remediation plans provide for a minimum of 80% of the area to be provided for environmental benefit, biodiversity, and rewilding in all instances. Where other after-use strategies are proposed (i.e., concrete batching, etc.) that might require more than the 20% in use for ongoing economic purposes, then other lands (including other disused quarries) may be used to compensate any shortfall, either by condition of use, sterilisation/legal agreement, or rehabilitation and transfer to either the Council or an established wildlife group. The 80% requirement for environmental/biodiversity may be waived at sites closer to urban areas where a significant portion of the site is being provided for sports, recreation, and amenity.~~
- (b) Also amend last paragraph of section 9.9.1 to read as follows:
In order to achieve this, specific targets need to be established. It is a requirement, that quarry remediation plans provide for a minimum of 80% of the area to be provided for environmental benefit, biodiversity, and re-wilding in all instances. Where other after-use strategies are proposed (i.e., concrete batching, etc.) that might require more than the 20% in use for ongoing economic purposes, then other lands (including other disused quarries) may be used to compensate any shortfall, either by condition of use, sterilisation/legal agreement, or rehabilitation and transfer to either the Council or an established wildlife group such as the Irish Wildlife Trust, Birdwatch Ireland, the Native Woodlands Trust, etc. The 80% requirement for environmental/biodiversity may be waived at sites closer to urban areas where a significant portion of the site is being provided for sports, recreation and amenity uses.

Chapter 10: Community Infrastructure and Creative Places

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.1

Amend the Aim at the start of Chapter 10 as follows:

To provide for and facilitate the development of healthy, sustainable, socially inclusive communities integrated with the timely delivery of a wide range of community, social, educational, recreational, and cultural facilities that are accessible and promote social inclusion where accessibility and social inclusion is provided for all, ensuring County Kildare develops as a location with an enhanced quality of life for its citizens and visitors alike.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.2

Amend second paragraph of Section 10.1 as follows:

Community/social infrastructure for the purposes of this chapter includes community centres/halls, libraries, cultural facilities, spaces for supporting the arts, places of worship, burial grounds, schools, childcare facilities, youth centres, family resource centres, healthcare facilities, playgrounds, sports, and other recreational facilities and other infrastructure required to enable statutory and voluntary sector organisations to undertake their work. Public open space/parks which are also important aspects of community infrastructure are considered in Chapter 13 of this Plan, 'Landscape, Recreation and Amenity'.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.3

Amend last paragraph of Section 10.1 as follows:

A key priority in the delivery of such infrastructure and upgrading/expansion of existing infrastructure will be to ensure the social inclusion of areas of disadvantage and communities of interest such as Travellers and Roma amongst others and are designed to incorporate universal accessibility to cater for all ages and abilities.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.4

Amend the first bullet point in Section 10.2 as follows:

Various objectives within these documents are particularly relevant to the area of social inclusion and the provision of community facilities and services such as:

- Access to quality childcare, youth, education, and health services

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.5

Amend the second and fifth bullet points of Section 10.3 and add two new bullet at the end of Section 10.3 as follows:

The provision of services must have regard to relevant local policy provisions in the following documents/strategies:

- 'The Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022~~2023~~'
- 'Kildare Integration Strategy ~~2014-2019~~2021-2026'
- Kildare Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2019-2021 (or any subsequent replacement)
- County Kildare Traveller & Roma Strategy 2019-2023

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.6

Add bullet point to the end of Section 10.4 as follows:

- Promote participation, develop the capacity of marginalised communities and foster community leadership in areas of disadvantage and among communities of interest experiencing inequalities.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.7

Amend SC O2 as follows:

Make provision, through appropriate land use zoning in the CDP settlement plans and Local Area Plans to deliver community infrastructure, supports and services in a planned and co-ordinated manner within the county, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.8

Replace SC O4 with the following objective:

~~Support and promote volunteerism through participation in the Public Participation Network (PPN) structure by supporting the work of the Kildare Volunteer Centre.~~

Support and encourage youth and community engagement in local decision making through a range of methods and channels, and through networks including among others, the Kildare Public Participation Network.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.9

Add the following new objective after SC O4:

Promote volunteerism by supporting the work of the Kildare Volunteer Centre as well as other voluntary groups and networks.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.10

Amend SC O6 as follows:

Support and encourage the clustering of community facilities such as community centres, with a priority towards community and youth facilities, sports and leisure facilities, schools, childcare facilities, facilities for older persons, and open spaces to create multi-purpose community hubs.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.11

Add new objective after SC O10 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

To proactively seek suitable sites within the Key Towns of Naas and Maynooth for the provision of Municipal Sporting Facilities where shared amenities are provided for sports clubs and the general public.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.12

Amend the text of SC O13 and move from an objective to an action within section 10.6 after SC A4:

Progress plans for the provision of a new fully accessible regional swimming pool in North Kildare in conjunction with other relevant bodies.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.13

Add new text to the end of SC O14 as follows:

Such deficiencies should be identified in the Social Infrastructure Audit prepared to accompany the planning application. Where the Planning Authority is not satisfied with the information supplied as part of the Social Infrastructure Audit or where inadequate measures are proposed to address any identified shortfalls in social infrastructure as

part of a proposed development scheme, a planning application for new housing developments or large-scale developments may not be favourably considered.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.14

Amend the first sentence of SC O16 as follows:

(a) Require social infrastructure audits submitted in accordance with SC O15 of this Plan to include a map of educational, community, childcare, healthcare, sporting, and open space/play facilities within a 10-~~20~~ 15 minute (800-1200 metre radius) walk/~~cycle~~ of the proposed development.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.15

Add new objective in Chapter 10 after SC O18 as follows:

Engage with relevant sporting agencies/organisations/entities to identify lands for the provision of a national and/or regional sports facility/venue at appropriate locations in County Kildare.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.16

Amend the first sentence of SC A3 as follows:

Undertake to prepare an audit of community, religious and disused school buildings in villages and rural settlements throughout the county in order to determine their suitability to accommodate community uses where they are not already being used for such purposes.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.17

Add new paragraph before the first paragraph of Section 10.7 as follows:

Social exclusion describes the separation from the benefits of inclusion in the mainstream of society in terms of an adequate income, participation in decision making, access to life chances and social and cultural recognition. Council actions to bring about social inclusion cut across many of the Council's functions and are addressed in a number of policies listed in Section 10.3 above.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.18

Amend SC O19 as follows:

Work with all target groups, including such as young people (including among other networks, Comhairle na nÓg), older people, people with disabilities, migrants, ethnic minorities, including the Traveller and Roma communities, to advance, encourage and encourage support their full participation in society.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.19

Amend SC O23 as follows:

Increase the quantity and improve the quality of children's play facilities across the county particularly in areas where a lack of provision has been identified (e.g., play areas should be within a 10-minute walk of new and existing residential areas), subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.20

Amend SC O26 as follows:

Support the provision of multi-purpose sports (to include minority sports, and arts / drama activities) halls, outdoor playing pitches, all-weather playing pitches, tennis courts, basketball courts, swimming pools, and associated facilities in appropriate

locations and to particularly encourage flexibility in the design of sports facilities in order to accommodate a range of sporting activities, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.21

Amend and move SC A5 from Section 10.8.1 to Section 10.6 as follows:

Carry out an audit of leisure facilities across the County, within the lifetime of the Plan, including in Kildare County Council owned/operated facilities to provide standards on the basic level of social infrastructure provision based on population thresholds and reasonable travel times to services and put in place provisions for additional facilities where deficiencies are identified.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.22

Amend SC A7 as follows:

Continue to develop open spaces throughout the county which encourage a range of recreational and amenity activities that will cater for both active and passive recreation, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.23

Amend SC P5 as follows:

Ensure all buildings, public and open spaces and recreational and amenity areas are accessible for people with disabilities, having regard to the Building Regulations, the objectives of 'Building for Everyone' (National Disability Authority), and 'Access for the Disabled' (nos. 1 to 3) (National Rehabilitation Board), and the Irish Wheelchair Association Best Practice Guidelines: Designing Accessible Environments.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.24

Amend SC A10 as follows:

Develop and maintain a directory of universally accessible recreational areas, sports and play facilities, community facilities and tourist attractions, throughout the county and develop additional facilities, where there is an identified need, in conjunction with the Kildare County Council Access Officer and to publish the accessibility directory online, through the medium of an interactive map, subject to resourcing and data protection (GDPR) requirements.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.25

Amend SC O34 as follows:

Provide for nursing homes in urban and appropriately located rural settings in the county and to site residential care facilities for ~~the elderly~~ older people close to community and social facilities (e.g., shops, health services etc.) ensuring older people can remain part of and contribute to existing communities, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.26

Amend SC O44 as follows:

Facilitate the development of new facilities in built up areas close to walking/cycling infrastructure and public transport links, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.27

Amend SC O45 as follows:

Facilitate the expansion of existing facilities to cater for the needs of community groups and the growing population in Kildare, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.28

Amend SC P10 as follows:

Develop and improve the physical infrastructure of arts and cultural facilities throughout the county particularly in areas where there is a deficiency in such provision, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.29

Amend SC O48 as follows:

Continue to enhance art and creative spaces in libraries, including visual arts and gallery performance and workshop facilities.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.30

Amend SC A12 as follows:

Support the development of the Athy Heritage Shackelton Museum, including the Shackleton exhibition and incorporating the potential of the Dominican Lands and Library and Community Arts Centre, as a unique cluster of Arts, Culture and Heritage in the south of the county.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.31

Amend SC A13 as follows: Support the extension of Kildare town heritage centre and develop a museum or a cluster of museums in Kildare Town featuring the heritage and attractions of the town including natural heritage, history, the equine industry, the Defence Forces and St Brigid, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.32

Amend SC O64 as follows:

To investigate the need for additional or support the development and delivery of new library services for Celbridge and support the delivery of same where appropriate and to consider the feasibility of co-locating these services with other appropriate community-based services.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.33

Amend SC O65 as follows:

Support the Department of Education's School Building Programme by actively identifying sites for primary and post primary schools at suitable locations, based on forecast need, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.34

Amend SC O72 as follows:

Continue to facilitate the re-development and expansion of existing schools including ancillary amenity areas based on identified needs as part of the Government's School Building Programme, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.35

Delete SC O75 and renumber objectives accordingly.

~~Work with the Department of Education to identify suitable sites for secondary schools in appropriate small towns / villages to cater for demand in the catchment area generated by smaller and dispersed rural locations.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.36

Amend SC P13 as follows:

Support and facilitate the provision of good quality and accessible childcare facilities at suitable locations within the County in consultation with the Kildare County Childcare Committee, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.37

Amend SC O76 as follows:

Have regard to the criteria specified in the Childcare Facilities for Planning Authorities, DEHLG (2001), Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments, Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2020) and any updated policy guidance, regarding the provision of childcare and early years education facilities.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.38

Amend SC O80 as follows:

Support the provision of outdoor based childcare services in the county as an alternative, and in addition to providing purpose-built services in appropriate locations with toilet and shelter facilities for mealtimes, rest, etc., subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.39

Amend SC O89 as follows:

Facilitate the further development of Naas General Hospital as an important and major centre for healthcare in the county, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.40

Amend SC A18 as follows:

Continue to identify childcare deficiencies in social infrastructure audits as part of Local Area Plan processes, ensuring lands are zoned in appropriate locations to facilitate childcare services through the application of a location specific objective in Local Area Plans, where appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.41

Replace SC O97 with the following objective:

~~Protect the cultural heritage of historical burial grounds within the county and to encourage their management and maintenance in accordance with best practice conservation principles.~~ Protect historic graveyards, in co-operation with the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, including through the avoidance of extensions where such extensions would have an inappropriate level of impact on sub-surface archaeological remains or on their setting or amenity and, in that regard, as an alternative to extensions to historic graveyards to endeavour to find alternative locations where additional land for burial is considered necessary.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.42

Amend SC O98 as follows:

Zone lands for the accommodation of burial facilities adjoining existing facilities at suitable locations, where such lands are located within or adjacent to existing towns, villages, and rural settlements, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.43

Amend SC A22 as follows:

To undertake an audit of all burial facilities within the county within the lifetime of the County Development Plan, in order to-:

- (i) Determine the available remaining capacity of all burial facilities.
- (ii) Identify where extensions to existing burial facilities could be accommodated where facilities are at or close to capacity, having regard to any site restrictions.
- (iii) Actively pursue lands to accommodate additional burial facilities whether by way of extension or new sites, subject to appropriate environmental assessments and considerations, and to appropriately zone lands for the accommodation of burial facilities.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.44

Add new action after SC A22 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

Provide Columbarium Wall facilities in Confey, Derrinturn, Donaghcumper, Newbridge, Rathangan, Monasterevin, and Athy.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 10.45

Add new action after SC A22 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

Ensure that historic graveyards in the ownership or care of the local authority are managed and maintained in accordance with appropriate conservation standards and that local communities involved in the care and maintenance of historic graveyards receive appropriate advice in relation to management and maintenance.

Chapter 11: Built and Cultural Heritage

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.1

Amend section 11.1 as follows:

County Kildare has a rich and diverse heritage, which includes landscapes, countryside, archaeological sites (both terrestrial and underwater) and the built environment of towns and villages. Heritage is integral to the identity of any county. It provides the county with a strong sense of place, character and distinctiveness. Heritage protection is an integral part of sustainable development, it has environmental and quality of life benefits and also brings significant economic benefits.

~~In 2022, the Government published the National Heritage Plan which set out strategies for the conservation and management of our heritage. A key element of both plans is an enhanced role for local authorities in heritage awareness and management, to be given effect through the preparation and implementation of County Heritage Plans. This Plan is currently being revised by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.~~ the new National Heritage Plan - Heritage Ireland 2030 which is built around a vision of our heritage – in all its forms – being at the very centre of local and national discourse, valued by all and cared for and protected for future generations.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.2

Amend the third paragraph and include an additional paragraph after the third paragraph of section 11.2 as follows:

All known archaeological sites are identified in the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) (see www.archaeology.ie). Kildare's archaeology varies greatly in form, date, and condition. Ranging from the Mesolithic Period (7000 BC) to the end of the Medieval Period (1700 AD), the archaeological record includes megalithic sites, Fulachta Fiadh, Early Christian ecclesiastical sites, churches and graveyards, medieval buildings, castles, industrial archaeology, and underwater sites such as wrecks and objects. The Curragh is a significant archaeological and historical landscape within the county.

Wrecks over 100 years old and archaeological objects underwater, irrespective of their age or location, are protected under Section 3 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1987. Wrecks that are less than 100 years old and the potential location of wrecks or archaeological objects may also be protected under Section 3 of the 1987 (Amendment) Act by the placement of an underwater heritage order if the wreck, area, or object is considered to be of sufficient historical, archaeological or artistic importance to merit such protection. Diving or general interference with any wreck which is more than one hundred years old or an archaeological object which is lying on, in or under the seabed or on or in land covered by water is prohibited except in accordance with a licence issued by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage under Section 3 (5) of the Act. A licence is also needed under the same provisions of the Act to survey a wreck or archaeological object or a wreck that is protected by an underwater heritage order. Therefore, a licence is required to dive, survey, or disturb any protected wreck site or for targeted searches for archaeological objects underwater. The Minister may, at their discretion, grant or

refuse to grant a licence and may attach appropriate conditions which are legally binding and specified in the licence.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.3

Amend the first and second paragraphs of section 11.3.1 as follows:

11.3.1 National Monuments legislation is 1930—2004-2014.

Archaeological heritage is legally protected from unauthorised damage or interference through powers and functions under the National Monuments Acts 1930—2004-2014. In summary, this provides legal protection for all archaeological objects, wrecks 100 or more years old and for a range of categories of monuments and places. Archaeological objects (which in broad terms includes all moveable objects of archaeological importance) are comprehensively protected under the National Monuments Acts. Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendments) Act 1994 made provision for the compilation of all recorded sites and features of historical and archaeological importance in the county into the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) (Appendix 5).

Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 requires an owner/occupier to give two ~~weeks~~ months written notice of proposals to carry out works at or in relation to a recorded monument.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.4

Add new paragraph to the end of section 11.3.2 as follows:

The Planning and Development Acts and Regulations contain further provisions relating to the protection of archaeological heritage. These include provisions making it clear that the imposition of archaeological conditions on grants of planning permission does not create grounds for claims for compensation. Detailed provisions are also included, which ensure that planning applications for proposed development which would affect sites protected under the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014 or archaeological sites in general, are referred to the National Monuments Service.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.5

Insert a new sub section under Section 11.3 as follows:

11.3.3 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive

The EU Directive on EIA (which is given effect in Irish law through a range of national legislation) clearly requires that EIA includes consideration of impact on archaeological heritage.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.6

Amend section 11.5.2 as follows:

11.5.2 The National Heritage Plan (2002)

~~The conservation of our natural heritage is a key objective of Government which, through the National Heritage Plan, recognises that heritage is a communal and mutually shared asset to be protected by the actions of all. It sets out a clear and coherent strategy and framework for the protection and enhancement of Ireland's national heritage with a core objective to protect national heritage as well as promoting it as a resource to be enjoyed by all.~~

11.5.2 Heritage Ireland 2030 (2022)

Heritage Ireland 2030 is a cross-Government Strategic Policy for Heritage that sets out a framework for the protection, conservation, promotion, and management of

Ireland's heritage for the next decade and beyond. The Strategy lays out a roadmap for the best possible future for Irish heritage with a joined-up approach at government, stakeholder, and community levels. A comprehensive implementation plan is now being developed to deliver on its actions. The principal themes of the strategy are communities, leadership, and partnerships, reflecting the importance of ongoing collaboration between government and communities, stakeholders, citizens, and local authorities in delivering upon the objectives of this strategy.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.7

Insert a new sub section under Section 11.5 as follows:

11.5.5 National Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage (2019)

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 required Sectoral plans to be prepared in accordance with Sectoral Planning Guidelines for Climate Change Adaptation (DCCA, 2018a). In 2019 a National Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage was prepared by the Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht.

The local authority will co-operate with other agencies in the investigation of climate change on archaeological sites and monuments and to develop suitable adaptation measures to strengthen resilience and reduce the vulnerability of archaeological heritage in line with the National Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage (2019).

Development, including infrastructure responding to the mitigation of flooding resulting from climate change can lead to impacts on both recorded and unrecorded archaeological and cultural heritage. The Council will seek to protect, preserve, and promote the underwater heritage of County Kildare. Where flood relief schemes are being undertaken the Council will have regard to the Archaeological Guidelines for Flood Relief Schemes (Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage 2022).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.8

Amend section 11.6 as follows:

Various types of development can impact on the visual appreciation, setting and amenity of recorded monuments. Such impacts should be adequately assessed and, where possible, eliminated, or minimised. It is important that the archaeological potential of development sites should be addressed early in the design and planning process in order to ensure that archaeological remains are not damaged or destroyed, and that completion of projects is not delayed. Previously unidentified archaeological sites may be uncovered during development works, while archaeological deposits that would be damaged by development must be investigated and recorded in great detail. Any proposed development (due to its location, size or nature) with the potential to affect the archaeological heritage resource will be subject to an Archaeological Impact Assessment. This includes proposals close to archaeological monuments, proposals extensive in area (half a hectare or more) or length (1 km or more), or that includes works within rivers or lakes and development that requires an Environmental Impact Assessment. Other areas of high archaeological potential may exist outside the boundaries of conventionally recognised monuments, especially graveyards and monastic sites, in

rivers or lakes, wetlands, former wetlands and in the inter-tidal zone, which may also require the preparation of Archaeological Impact Assessments and Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.9

Amend section 11.8 as follows:

County Kildare's rivers, lakes and wetlands contain many features and finds associated with its riverine underwater heritage, such as walls, fords, stepping-stones and associated archaeological objects and features. Section 3 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1987 makes specific provisions for the protection of shipwrecks and underwater archaeological objects, whereby, all wrecks over 100-years old are legally protected. The Wreck Inventory of Ireland Database (WIID) holds records of over 18,000 known and potential wreck sites and this is used as a tool to help manage and protect historic wrecks. Development in offshore and coastal waters, tidal estuaries and river areas which have the potential to impact on both known and potential terrestrial and underwater archaeology will require appropriate underwater archaeological assessment and the Council will seek and have regard to the advice and recommendations of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage relating to all developments within these environments.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.10

Amend AH P1 as follows:

Recognise the value and opportunity of Kildare's unique heritage resource and to manage, conserve, promote and protect it, for present and future generations.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.11

Add new action in section 11.9 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

Explore the feasibility of signing up to the Blue Shield Principles to protect cultural and natural heritage.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.12

Amend first paragraph of section 11.10.1 as follows:

In 1986 an Urban Archaeological Survey of County Kildare was conducted. A number of medieval / early modern towns with known archaeological potential were surveyed and Zones of Archaeological Potential were identified within these towns. These settlements are listed in Table 11.1 and are included in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) as established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.13

Amend table 11.1 to read as follows

Settlement	RMP No
Ardree,	KD035-032001-
Ardscull	KD035-012002-, KD035-012003-
Athy	KD035-022--
Ballymore Eustace,	KD029-011001-
Castledermot	KD040-002----

Celbridge	KD011-012001-
Clane,	KD014-026001-
Cloncurry	KD004-021001-
Dunmanogue	KD039-005-
Harristown	KD029-038001
Kildare,	KD022-029001-
Kilkea	KD037-017----
Kill,	KD019-008001
Leixlip,	KD011-004001-
Moone	KD036-042----
Naas	KD019-030---
Old Kilcullen,	KD028-049----
Oughterard	KD015-007001-
Rathangan,	KD017-044----
Rathmore,	KD020-009001-
Silliot Hill	KD022-032

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.14

Amend AH P2 as follows:

Protect and enhance archaeological sites, monuments and where appropriate and following detailed assessment, their setting, including those that are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) or newly discovered archaeological sites and/or sub surface and underwater archaeological remains.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.15

Amend AH O2 as follows:

Manage development in a manner that protects and conserves the archaeological heritage of County Kildare, avoids adverse impacts on sites, monuments, features, or objects of significant historical or archaeological interest and secures the preservation in-situ or by record of all sites and features of historical and archaeological interest, including underwater cultural heritage. The Council will favour preservation in – situ in accordance with the recommendation of the Framework and Principles for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (1999) and the Council will seek and have regard to the advice and recommendations of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.16

Amend AH O3 as follows:

In co-operation with the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage require archaeological impact assessment, surveys, test excavation and/or monitoring and/or underwater archaeological impact assessments for planning applications in areas of archaeological importance and where a development proposal is likely to impact upon in-situ archaeological monuments, their setting and archaeological deposits, based on recommendations of a suitably qualified archaeologist and the Council will seek and have regard to the advice and recommendations of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.17

Add new text to the end of AH O4 as follows:

Such an assessment will seek to ensure that the development can be sited and designed in such a way as to avoid impacting on archaeological heritage that is of significant interest including previously unknown sites, features, and objects and areas of underwater archaeological heritage.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.18

Amend the second and third bullet points of AH O6 to read as follows:

- any sites and features of historical and archaeological interest including underwater cultural heritage and protected wrecks.
- any subsurface archaeological features including those underwater, that may be discovered during the course of infrastructural/development works in the operational area of the Plan. Preservation relates to archaeological sites or objects and their settings.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.19

Amend AH O8 as follows:

Protect historic burial grounds that are recorded monuments and encourage their maintenance in accordance with best conservation principles in co-operation with the Historic Monuments Advisory Committee and the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Development may be restricted or conditions requiring substantial excavation may be imposed in and adjacent to former burial grounds.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.20

Amend AH A3 as follows:

The Council will support and encourage the provision of signage in Irish and English to publicly accessible recorded monuments.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.21

Add new action in section 11.10 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

Encourage and promote the appropriate management and enhancement of archaeological heritage, to include community initiatives.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.22

Add new objective in section 11.12 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Protect and enhance the setting of Dun Ailinne and support managed limited public access to the site. Only sensitive development that does not undermine the archaeological and cultural significance of the site will be permitted.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.23

Add new objective in section 11.12 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Protect and sustain the established appearance and character of views associated with Dun Ailinne. Require any development proposals within / around Dun Ailinne to demonstrate that no adverse effects will occur on the established appearance or character of Dun Ailinne as viewed from either the Protected Panoramic Views or from surrounding public roads.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.24

Amend Policy AH P 5 and Action AH A7 as follows:

- (A) Secure the identification, protection and conservation of historic items and features of interest throughout the county including street furniture, surface finishes, roadside installations, items of industrial heritage, riverine heritage, and other stand-alone features of interest (items not listed on the RMP or RPS).

- (B) Develop a database of features of historical interest including street furniture, surface finishes, roadside installations, items of industrial heritage, riverine heritage, and other stand-alone features of interest (items not listed on the RMP or RPS) within villages and towns in County Kildare and ensure they are included in relevant Local Area Plans.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.25

Add new paragraph to the end of section 11.14.3 as follows:

National Policy on Architecture, 'Places for People', will promote public engagement with architecture, empower the architectural profession (especially within the public service), raise design quality, and improve data and research on our built environment. It will outline the need to support architects and built environment professionals to work together to achieve a high-quality living environment for everyone, bringing economic, social, and environmental benefits to cities, towns, and rural communities across Ireland through the delivery of sustainable, high-quality buildings and public spaces.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.26

Amend AH O23 as follows:

Maintain the views from Castletown House to the River Liffey and to protect the integrity of the designed landscape at Castletown Demesne, including the pathways, avenues, and the following views:

- Axial views between the Castletown House and the Conolly's Folly, Obelisk.
- Views between Castletown House and the Wonderful Barn including the trees and natural growth areas within same.
- Views across the river and to the linked demesnes of Donaghcumper and St. Wolstans.
- Views from the main avenue to, and across, the river towards Castletown, and up and down the river to Celbridge and New Bridges.

ensuring development does not inappropriately encroach on same.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.27

Add new objective after AH O23 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Require that planning applications in proximity to 'Views to be Preserved' are accompanied by a Visual Impact Assessment.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.28

Amend AH O40 to read as follows:

Co-operate with Waterways Ireland in the management, maintenance and enhancement of the Royal Canal and Grand Canal and associated structures/features. Such projects shall be subject to an AA Screening Report, and where applicable, Stage 2 AA. They shall have a regard for any hydrological

connection shared with a European Site and their qualifying interest species. The project shall account for any potential likely significant effects and provide mitigation and monitoring where appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.29

Add new objective after AH O40 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Support the implementation of the National Policy on Architecture, 'Places for People' prepared by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.30

Add new objective in section 11.15 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
The Council will support appropriate and sensitive thermal upgrade of protected structures and other heritage buildings. These works shall be undertaken with the necessary planning permission / statutory declarations with the advice of Kildare County Council's Architectural Conservation Officer.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.31

Add new action in section 11.16 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Review and update Map V1 11.13, with respect to the extent of existing woodland within the Demesne Walls of Carton Demesne, during the life of the Plan.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.32

Amend AH O50 as follows:

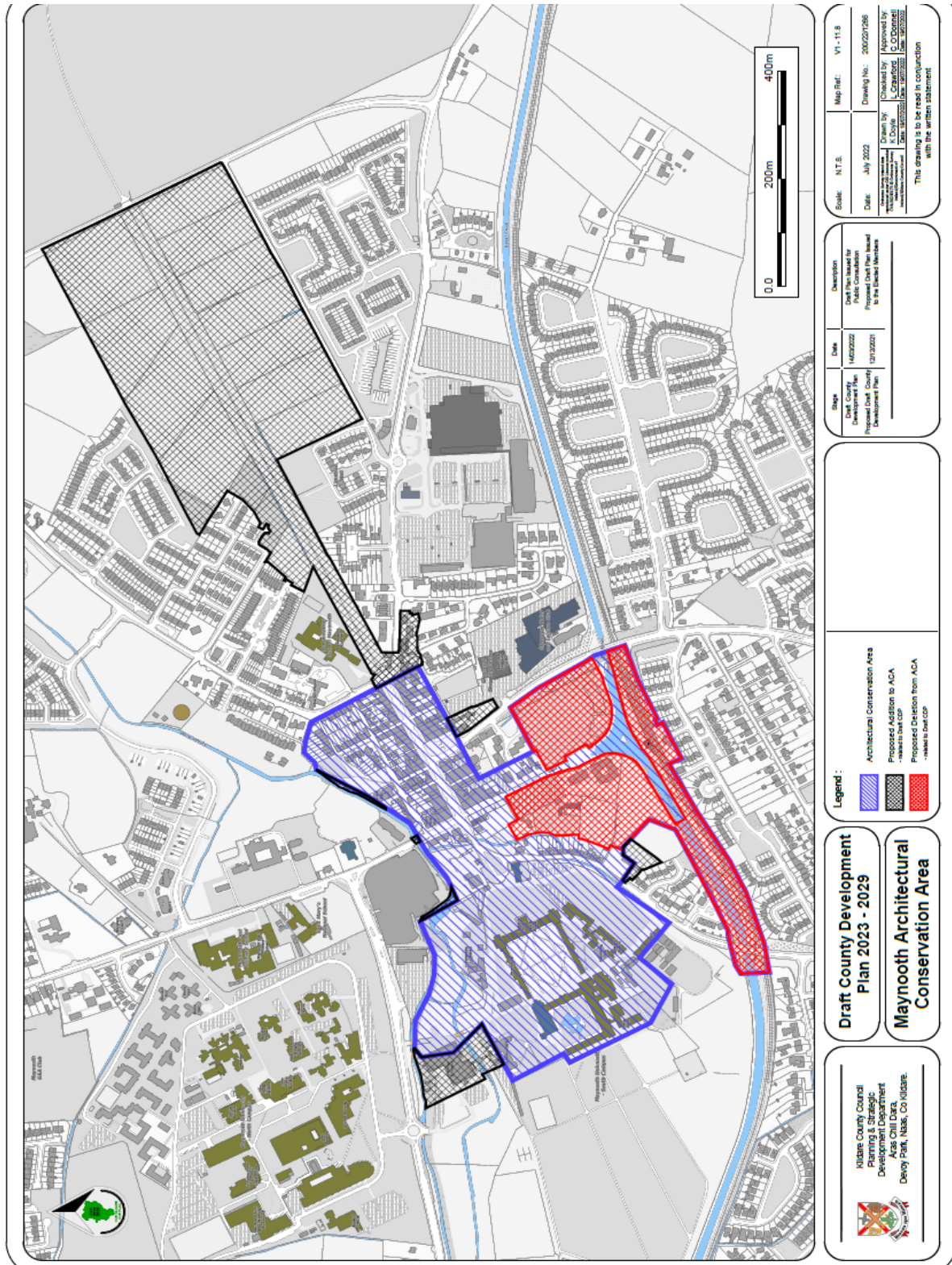
Resist the demolition of vernacular architecture built vernacular heritage, in particular thatched cottages, and farmhouses, and to encourage their sensitive reuse having regard to the intrinsic character of the structure and the potential to prolong the life cycle of the embodied carbon contained within the structure.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.33

Amend the last few sentences of the second paragraph of section 11.18 as follows:
~~Kildare Town has a defined boundary, an Urban Character Statement and policies to protect the character of the ACA (Maps 11.6).~~ Boundaries for Architectural Conservation Areas have been defined for Athy, Ballitore, Celbridge, Kilcock, Kildare Leixlip, Maynooth, Monasterevin, Naas, Prosperous and Rathangan (Maps 11.1 – 11.12 refer). Statements of Character have also been prepared for Athy, Kildare and Naas Architectural Conservation Areas. Further Statements of Character will be prepared through the roll out of local area plans, as resources allow, or existing ones updated if required.

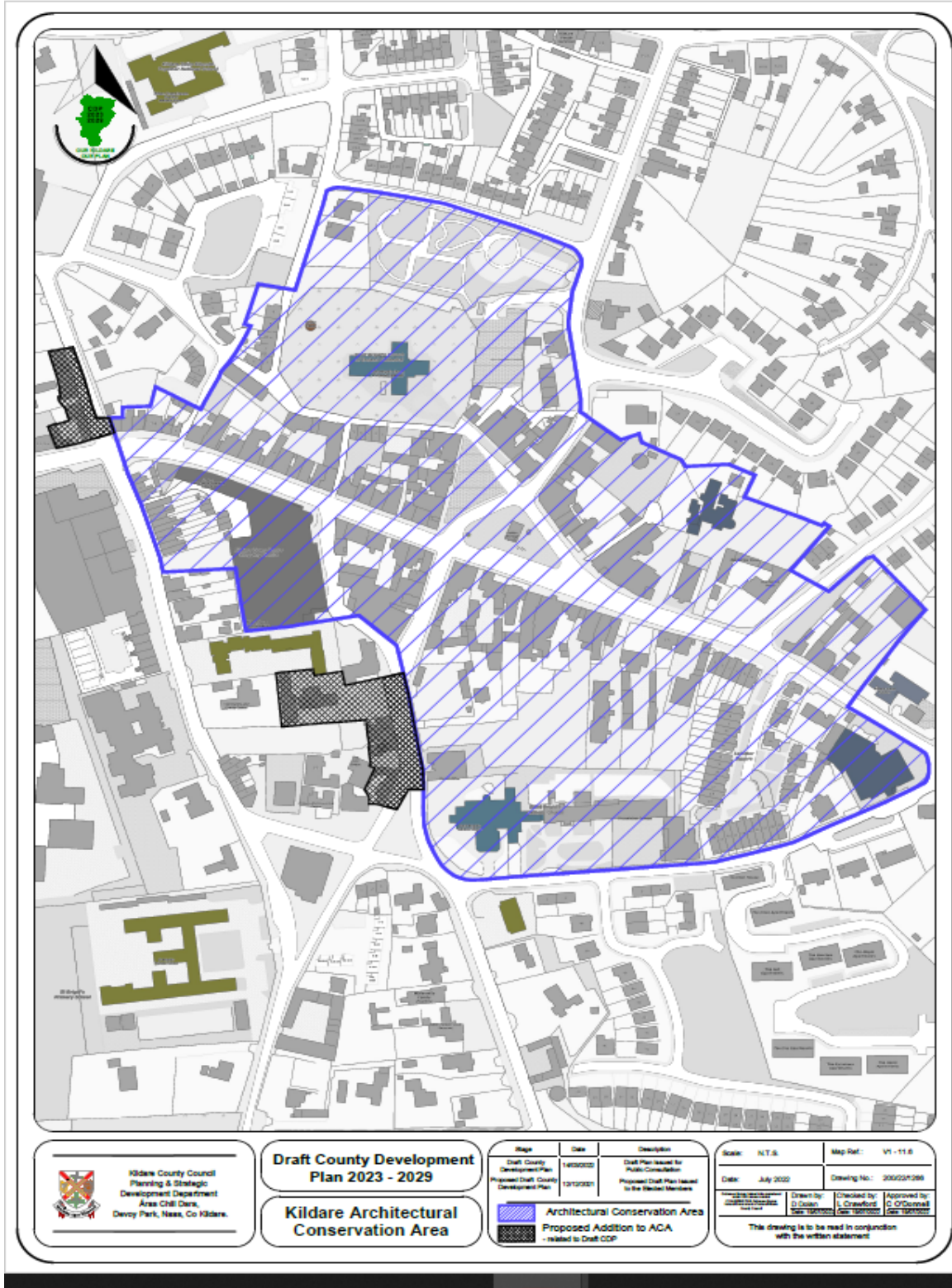
Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.34

Amend the Maynooth Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) Map Ref: V1-11.8 as shown below where the purple hatching relates to the existing ACA, the area denoted by the red hatching relates to that area which is proposed to be omitted from within the ACA and the area denoted by the black hatching relates to those lands which are proposed to be included within the ACA boundary.



Proposed Material Alteration No. 11.35

Amend the Kildare Town Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) Map Ref: V1-11.6 as below where the purple hatching relates to the existing ACA and the area denoted by the black hatching relates to those lands that are proposed to be included within the ACA boundary.



Chapter 12: Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.1

Amend the aim of chapter 12 to read as follows:

~~To contribute towards the protection, conservation and management of the County's unique biodiversity~~ **To protect, manage and enhance the County's biodiversity for future generations, including sites designated at national and EU level, protected species and habitats outside of designated sites and to promote the development of an integrated Green Infrastructure network in order to improve our resilience to climate change and to enable the role of Green Infrastructure in delivering sustainable communities.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.2

Amend section 12.1 to read as follows:

~~Biodiversity or biological diversity simply refers to the variety of all living things on earth – including people, plants, animals, fungi and microorganisms and the interrelationship between them~~ **variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems (Convention on Biological Diversity, 1993).**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.3

Add new sentence at the end of the last paragraph in section 12.2 as follows:

The Council recognises the important role of the environment through diversity, quality, integrity, and quality of life by promoting the protection, conservation, and enhancement of the natural environment as an integral part of all development.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.4

Amend Section 12.4.1 to include three additional bullet points as follows:

- **Better respecting nature in public and business decision-making**
- **Ensuring better implementation and tracking of progress**
- **Improving knowledge, financing, and investments**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.5

Amend section 12.5.1 as follows:

~~National Biodiversity Plan(s)~~ **National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) 2017 - 2021**

~~Ireland's first National Biodiversity Plan was published in 2002. The second National Biodiversity Plan – Actions for Biodiversity 2011-2016 was published in November 2011. The Plan was developed in line with EU and International Biodiversity strategies and policies. It recognised that locally led action is critical in protecting biodiversity and ecosystem services and sets out the measures Ireland should take to ensure its conservation. The third National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 was published by the Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht in October 2017.~~ **The National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 (NBAP) captures the objectives, targets and actions for biodiversity that will be undertaken by a wide range of government, civil society, and private sectors to achieve Ireland's Vision for Biodiversity, reflecting Objective 1 of the NBAP which is to 'Mainstream biodiversity into decision making across all sectors.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.6

Amend policy BI P1 to read as follows: **Integrate in the development management process the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and landscape features wherever possible, by minimising adverse impacts on existing habitats (whether designated or not) and by including mitigation and/or compensation measures, as appropriate by applying the mitigation hierarchy to potential adverse impacts on important ecological features (whether designated or not), i.e. avoiding impacts where possible, minimising adverse impacts, and if significant effects are unavoidable by including mitigation and/or compensation measures, as appropriate. Opportunities for biodiversity net gain are encouraged.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.7

Amend objective BI O1 to read as follows:

Require, as part of the Development Management Process, the preparation of Ecological Impact Assessments that adequately assess the biodiversity resource within proposed development sites, to avoid habitat loss and fragmentation and to integrate this biodiversity resource into the design and layout of new development and to increase biodiversity within the proposed development. Such assessments shall be carried out in line with the CIEEM (2018) Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.8

Amend objective BI O2 to read as follows:

Encourage and promote Require, wherever possible, the retention and creation of green corridors within and between built up urban areas and industrial scale developments to protect wildlife habitat value including areas that are not subject to public access.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.9

Add new objective in section 12.5 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Move towards no net loss of biodiversity through strategies, plan, mitigation measures, appropriate offsetting and/or investment in Blue-Green infrastructure.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.10

Add new objective in section 12.5 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Apply the precautionary principle in relation to proposed developments in environmentally sensitive areas to ensure that all potential adverse impacts on a designated NHA or Natura 2000 Site arising from any proposed development or land use activity are avoided, remedied, or mitigated.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.11

Add new objective in section 12.5 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Pursue insofar as possible and practical, a policy of biodiversity net gain through strategies, plans, developments, mitigation measures, appropriate offsetting and/or investment in Blue-Green infrastructure.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.12

Amend action BI A3 to read as follows:

Review the County Kildare Biodiversity Action Plan in the short term during ~~within~~ the lifetime of this Plan and leverage appropriate funding to establish a Biodiversity Officer for Kildare County Council.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.13

Add new action in section 12.5 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

~~Collate and publish a list of County Biodiversity Sites as part of the review of the County Biodiversity Action Plan.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.14

Amend policy BI P2 to read as follows:

~~Protect and maintain the favourable conservation status and conservation value of all natural heritage sites designated or proposed for designation in accordance with European and national legislation and agreements.~~ Seek to contribute to maintaining or restoring the conservation status of all sites designated for nature conservation or proposed for designation in accordance with European and national legislation and agreements. These include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs), Ramsar Sites and Statutory Nature Reserves.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.15

Add new objective (before BI O5) as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

~~Support the implementation of the National Raised Bog Special Areas of Conservation Management Plan 2017-2022.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.16

Amend objective BI O5 to read as follows:

~~Avoid development that would adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000 site within and immediately adjacent to the county and promote favourable conservation status.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.17

Amend objective BI O6 to read as follows:

~~Ensure an Appropriate Assessment Screening, in accordance with Article 6(3) and Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, Art 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, Section 177A of the Planning and Development Act (2001-2022) or any superseding legislation and with DEHLG guidance (2009)....~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.18

Add new action in section 12.6.1 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

~~Identify and provide appropriate buffer zones between Designated Sites and areas zoned for development.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.19

Amend policy BI P3 to read as follows:

~~Protect and maintain the favourable conservation status and conservation value of all natural heritage sites designated or proposed for designation in accordance with European and national legislation and agreements. These include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs), Ramsar Sites and Statutory Nature Reserves.~~ Ensure that any proposal for

development within or adjacent to a Natural Heritage Area (NHA), Ramsar Sites and Nature Reserves is designed and sited to minimise its impact on the biodiversity, ecological, geological and landscape value of the site, particularly plant and animal species listed under the Wildlife Acts and the Habitats and Birds Directive including their habitats.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.20

Amend objective BI O8 to read as follows:

Require the preparation of an Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) by a suitably qualified professional for proposals for development within or adjacent to a Natural Heritage Area (NHA)/proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHA), to ensure the development is designed and sited to minimise its impact on the biodiversity, ecological, geological and landscape value of the site, particularly plant and animal species listed under the Wildlife Acts.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.21

Add new objective in section 12.6.2 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Conserve, preserve and protect the integrity of and maintain the favourable conservation value/status within or adjacent to Ramsar Sites, Statutory Nature Reserves, Biogenetic Reserves, Wildfowl Sanctuaries, all existing and proposed NHAs. They should be designed and sited so as to minimise their impact on the ecological and landscape values of these sites under National and European legislation and International Agreements.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.22

Add new action in section 12.6.2 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

Work with the National Parks and Wildlife Service to identify an appropriate buffer surrounding Pollardstown Fen, based on best available scientific information, in order to protect the ecological integrity of the Fen as a pNHA and SAC and to prevent urban encroachment and environmental degradation of the site in order to support the qualifying interests of the site.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.23

Amend objective BI O10 to read as follows:

Ensure that any new development proposal does not have a significant adverse impact on rare and threatened species, including those protected under the Wildlife Acts 1976 and 2012, the Birds Directive 1979 the Habitats Directive 1992 and the Flora Protection Order species and any species listed under the national red lists or that could be listed on a national red list.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.24

Amend objective BI O12 to read as follows:

~~Possibly r~~Require a derogation licence, where necessary, issued by the DHLGH, in the event of a proposed development impacting on a site known to be a breeding or resting site of species listed in the Habitats Regulations or the Wildlife Acts 1976–2012 Directive (Annex IV species).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.25

Add new objective in section 12.7.1 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Require all biodiversity data gathered in the preparation of planning applications is made available to the National Biodiversity Data Centre (NDBC).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.26

Add new objective in section 12.7.1 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly: Conserve and protect habitats and species listed in the Annexes of the EU Habitats Directive (92/143/EEC) (as amended), the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC), Directive Annex 2, the Wildlife Acts 1976 to 2000, The Wildlife Acts 1976 (as amended) and the Flora Protection Order No 94 of 1999.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.27

Add new objective in section 12.7.1 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly: Work with bodies such as the NPWS and National Biodiversity Data Centre to ensure that species for which Kildare is a national stronghold such as Green-Flowered Helleborine Orchid, Yellowhammer and Linnet, which are nationally rare or declining, are supported to flourish and seek to ensure the habitat conditions favourable to such species are retained in the county.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.28

Add new objective in section 12.7.1 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly: Identify and protect areas of high nature conservation value (including but not limited to SAC/SPA/pNHA) and support the landscape features which act as ecological corridors/networks and stepping-stones, such as river corridors, hedgerows, and road verges so as to minimise the loss of habitats and features of the wider countryside which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora in accordance with Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.29

Amend first sentence of section 12.8 to read as follows:

~~Many sites of biodiversity value within the County do not meet the criteria that would enable them to be designated at an international or national level;~~ County Kildare includes a number of sites of biodiversity value that meet the criteria for designation at an international or national level that are not designated sites.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.30

Add new objective in section 12.8.1 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly: Support the designation of County Biodiversity Sites, as NHA or SAC where appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.31

Add new objective in section 12.8.1 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly: Identify biodiversity corridors, watercourses, significant as well as native and indigenous hedgerows, or marginal habitat, between County Biodiversity Sites in order to appropriately landscape same in order to ensure population recovery and survival, abundance, productivity, genetic diversity and species richness.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.32

Amend action BI A7 to read as follows:

Identify and map County Biodiversity Sites in cooperation with the relevant statutory agencies, other relevant groups and the general public, not otherwise protected by

legislation and to identify specific peatland areas of biodiversity interest for protection, including legal protection where mechanisms are available (including but not limited to Lullymore/Allen/Lodge Bog, Harristown/Dunshane Common, Kingsbog Common, and Suncroft Common).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.33

Amend action BI A10 to read as follows:

Work with Teagasc and landowners throughout the county in order to identify suitable, appropriately designed 'Hare's Corner' projects which would create pocket sized habitats that are linked with compatible habitats in the wider landscape in order to enhance biodiversity.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.34

Amend the last sentence of the second paragraph in section 12.9.1 to read as follows:

This coupled with the fact that two thirds of hedges adjoin intensively managed farmland, means that there are implications for the overall biodiversity potential of the resource on farmland without extended field margins.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.35

Add new sentence at the end of the second paragraph in section 12.9.1 as follows:

Since the publication of the survey in 2006 Kildare's hedgerows have further deteriorated due to removal for development, over-management, and under-management.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.36

Add new sentence after the first sentence of the third paragraph under section 12.9.1 as follows:

Forests are acknowledged as important habitats for wildlife and Coillte's forests play a key role in biodiversity protection and enhancement in County Kildare.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.37

Amend the second sentence of the fourth paragraph in section 12.9.1 to read as follows:

The planting or retention of mature trees and hedgerows can contribute to amenity and more attractive developments as well as providing important wildlife habitats.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.38

Amend the last paragraph in section 12.9.1 to read as follows:

When planting hedgerows, species indigenous to the area should be used. The County Kildare Hedgerow Survey (2006) identified the predominant hedgerow species in Kildare. These species are listed in section 15.2.5, Chapter 15 46, Development Management Standards.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.39

(A) Amend objective BI O15 as follows

Prevent, in the first instance, the removal of hedgerows to facilitate development. Where their removal is unavoidable, same must be clearly and satisfactorily demonstrated to the Planning Authority. In any event, removal shall be kept to an absolute minimum and there shall be a requirement for mitigation planting comprising a hedge of similar length and species

composition to the original, established as close as is practicable to the original and where possible linking to existing adjacent hedges. ~~Native plants of a local provenance should be used for any such planting.~~ Removal of hedgerows and trees prior to submitting a planning application will be viewed negatively by the planning authority and may result in an outright refusal.

(B) Amend objective BI O16 as follows

Encourage the planting of woodlands, trees, and hedgerows as part of new developments and as part of the Council's own landscaping works ~~using native plants of local provenance.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.40

Add new objective in section 12.9 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Require the retention and appropriate management of hedgerows and to require infill or suitably sized transplanted planting where possible in order to ensure an uninterrupted green infrastructure network.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.41

Add new objective in section 12.9 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Ensure that when considering new forest proposals:

- a) Landscapes of scenic value are not unduly eroded.
- b) Areas with environmental and archaeological protections are safeguarded.
- c) A mixture of broadleaf and native conifer species (yew, juniper, and Scot's pine) are planted where possible so as to support a variety of flora and fauna species and to enliven forestry landscapes.
- d) Promote the avoidance of deforestation or commercial afforestation within Natura 2000 sites unless directly linked to the management of the site for its qualifying interests.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.42

Add new objective in section 12.9 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Manage, maintain, enhance, preserve, promote, encourage, and facilitate, as far as practicable, the preservation, proper provision, and retention of the existing network of native ancient woodlands and semi- natural woodlands of amenity value especially broadleaf species.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.43

Add new objective in section 12.9 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Protect existing woodlands and trees and substantial areas of deciduous forest which are of amenity value and/or contribute to and interact with their landscape character and ensure that proper provision is made for their protection and management.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.44

Add new objective in section 12.9 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Natural regeneration of peatlands, river, canal and railway corridors, grass verges along public roads and existing and future greenways shall be encouraged and the use of "Wildflower mixes" shall not be permitted unless they can be certified as being native and of local provenance. Where tree planting occurs within semi-natural areas, native species of local provenance should ideally be used, however in the

interests of species diversity, non-native species may also be considered. Reduced mowing of vegetation along peatlands, river, canal, and railway corridors is encouraged.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.45

Add new action in section 12.9 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:
Encourage initiatives supporting private and community-driven native tree and woodland planting schemes utilising available funding schemes.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.46

Add new action in section 12.9 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:
Engage with the Forestry Division of the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine to develop a suite of “Neighbourwood” exemplar projects with local communities throughout Kildare.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.47

Add new action in section 12.9 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:
Develop a dataset of best quality hedgerows in the County, i.e., hedgerow hotspots and ensure ongoing conservation of these biodiverse areas.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.48

Amend heading of section 12.10.1 to read as follows:

12.10.1 Riparian zones (Floodplains and Buffer Zones)

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.49

Amend policy BI P7 to read as follows:

Recognise and promote inland waters, natural environmental assets and to protect rivers, streams, and other watercourses and, wherever possible, maintain them in an open state capable of providing suitable habitats for fauna and flora while discouraging culverting or realignment.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.50

Amend objective BI O22 to read as follows:

Require the preparation and submission of an Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) including, but not limited to, bat and otter surveys for developments along river or canal corridors.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.51

(A) Amend BI O23 as follows:

Consult with Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) and Waterways Ireland in relation to any development (greenfield development or redevelopment of brownfield sites) that could potentially impact on the aquatic ecosystems and associated riparian habitats while taking account of ‘Requirements for the Protection of Fisheries Habitat during Construction and Development Works at River Sites’ (IFI, 2004) and ‘Planning for Watercourses in the Urban Environment’ (IFI, 2020)

(B) Amend BI O25 as follows:

Consult with Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) and Waterways Ireland in relation to any structures designed for crossing fisheries waters.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.52

Amend objective BI O24 to read as follows:

Have regard to the ~~Maintain~~ riparian buffer zones and potential uses as identified in Table 12.4

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.53

Amend the first sentence of objective BI O26 to read as follows:

Require that expert advice is sought from a suitably qualified bat expert, in developing lighting proposals along river and stream corridors or other important locations or corridors for wildlife, to mitigate impacts of lighting on bats and other species.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.54

Add a new objective under 12.10 (after BI O24) as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Ensure that any proposals for a National Peatlands Park will consider the important rivers and populations of native fish and other species, when draining the Bog of Allen area.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.55

Add a new objective under 12.10 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Support Inland Fisheries Ireland’s pilot projects to investigate the incorporation of habitat restoration measures on waters draining the Bog of Allen into flood management schemes.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.56

Amend the heading of section 12.11 and include new text at the end of the first paragraph to read as follows:

12.11 Peatland, Wetlands and Ramsar Sites

The drained and degraded bogs go from being carbon sinks to very large carbon sources. The restoration of peatlands to their natural state will have benefits in terms of nature conservation, climate change and flood prevention and alleviation.

Peatlands are wetlands where the substrate is predominantly peat including bogs which are fed by rain and fens which are fed by ground or surface water. Actively growing, intact, raised bog is an extremely rare habitat. Irish raised bogs are of international importance representing 50% of all the conservation-worthy raised bogs remaining in Europe. Total area of Peat bogs and Moors in County Kildare^{footnote} is 10,389 ha (6% of Kildare land mass) of which 8.8% are protected.

Footnote: CORINE Landcover 2018

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.57

Amend KWS Site Code 95 and 92 in table 12.6 and add the following footnote after the table as follows:

KWS Site Code	Site Name	Easting	Northing	Ranking
95	Harristown Commons North cNHA	288100	213100	B

92	Harristown Commons South (Dunshane Common)	287873	212829	C+
----	---	--------	--------	----

NOTE: Candidate Natural Heritage Area (cNHA) is the name given to wildlife sites that are proposed by the NPWS and by third parties for consideration as NHAs. The cNHA sites have no legal protection until they are within the formal NHA designation process.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.58

Amend policy BI P8 as follows:

Ensure that Kildare's wetlands and watercourses are retained for their biodiversity and flood protection values and maintain good ecological status of wetlands and watercourses in support of the provisions of the Water Framework Directive and Ramsar Convention. ~~at a minimum to achieve and maintain at least good ecological status for all wetlands and watercourses in the county by, at the latest, 2027 in line with the Water Framework Directive and Ramsar Convention.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.59

Amend objective BI O31 as follows:

Protect wetland sites that have been rated A (International), B (National) C+ (County) and C (Local) importance as identified in the County Kildare Wetlands Survey 2012-2014, (See Tables 12.5 & 12.6). Any development within the zone of influence of these listed wetland sites should be subject to EclA and where appropriate, hydrological impact assessment.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.60

Amend objective BI O32 as follows:

Protect and conserve wetlands from ~~Prevent~~ infilling, and drainage, fragmentation, degradation, and resist development that would destroy, fragment, or degrade any wetland ~~where possible, of wetlands~~ identified as part of the County Kildare Wetland Survey 2012-2014, (See Table 12.6)

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.61

Amend objective BI O33 as follows:

Ensure that an ecological ~~impact~~ assessment ~~is~~ undertaken in conjunction with proposals involving the drainage or reclamation of ~~wetland~~ wetlands identified in Table 12.6. Ecological assessment of all developments on peatlands shall consider peatland stability, carbon emissions balance, Hydrology and Ecology.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.62

Add new objective under 12.11 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Require the preparation and submission of a Hydrological Report/Assessment for significant developments within and in close proximity to protected raised bogs and to take account of same in the assessment of impacts on the integrity of peatland ecosystems.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.63

Add new objective under 12.11 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Work with relevant stakeholders on suitable peatland sites in order to demonstrate best practice in sustainable peatland conservation, management and restoration techniques to promote their heritage and educational value subject to ecological impact assessment and appropriate assessment screening.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.64

Add new objective under 12.11 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Work with relevant agencies such as EMRA, BnM, the NPWS, Coillte and adjacent councils to prepare a comprehensive after use framework plan for large cutaway bog sites and associated workshops, office buildings and industrial sites which provide for future sustainable environmental needs and are a significant resource for amenities when peat harvesting ends.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.65

Add new objective under 12.11 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Protect, conserve, and manage the character and appearance of ecological and archaeological heritage and amenity values of peatland landscapes and historic/ancient walkways through bogs, by promoting high environmental standards.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.66

Add new objective under 12.11 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Ensure that development proposals or activities that may impact on sensitive water habitats, in particular wetlands (identified as part of the County Kildare Wetland Survey 2012-2014, (See Table 12.6), shall not be permitted without the introduction of mitigation measures agreed in writing with the Council to eliminate negative environmental impacts.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.67

Add new action under 12.11 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:
Review and update the County Kildare Wetland Survey 2012-2014 during the lifetime of the plan.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.68

Add new action under 12.11 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:
Run a public awareness campaign related to the diverse and valued wetland resource of the county, to include, inter alia, the provision of important ecosystem services.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.69

Add new action under 12.11 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:
Provide training for Local Authority staff on wetland issues when assessing development proposals and planning applications.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.70

Amend fourth sentence of the third paragraph in 12.12 to read as follows:
It is important to note that, as native species, noxious weeds (some noxious weeds are native species), and as such, are part of our natural biodiversity and are utilized by a range of invertebrate and bird species.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.71

Amend policy BI P9 as follows:

Implement and support measures for the prevention and/or eradication of invasive species within the county and the control of noxious weeds.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.72

Amend action BI A17 as follows:

Prepare a programme of mapping of invasive species in the county and explore the development of a web portal to allow residents of County Kildare to report invasive species in the County, during the lifetime of this Plan.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.73

Add new action in section 12.12 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

Determine, as a priority, whether there is a potential threat of invasive species to the protected sites within the County, and to begin a dedicated programme of eradication, beginning with the Natura 2000 sites.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.74

Add new action in section 12.12 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

Begin a dedicated campaign to build awareness of invasive species amongst all residents of the county. Additionally, this programme will provide training to Community Groups on appropriate control and removal measures for responsive species.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.75

Amend the second last sentence of the first paragraph and table 12.7 of section 12.13 to read as follows:

An audit of the Geological Heritage of County Kildare was carried out in 2005, which identified 202 geological sites of interest in the county.

Site Name	Geological Interest	Location
Louisa Bridge Springs (Cold and Warm)	Hydrogeology	Leixlip
Louisa Bridge Springs (Warm)	Hydrogeology	Leixlip
Rathcore Spring	Hydrogeology	Herbertstown

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.76

Add new objective in section 12.13 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Promote, encourage, and support the provision of access to geological and geomorphological features of interest in cooperation/consultation with landowners (where appropriate/practicable).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.77

Add new objective in section 12.13 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Where appropriate support the restoration of Sites of Geological Importance (identified in Table 12.7).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.78

Delete action BI A18 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

~~Publish the findings of the audit of Geological Heritage of County Kildare on completion.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.79

Amend policy BI P11 as follows:

~~Recognise the importance of Green Infrastructure in Kildare and to put measures in place to protect this valued biological resource.~~ Identify and map the key elements of the green infrastructure network in Kildare; and seek to protect, enhance, and expand the County's green infrastructure network, through informed, evidence-based methods, which do not threaten the integrity of existing native biodiversity.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.80

Delete action BI A19 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

~~Protect and maintain a Green Infrastructure network in the county.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.81

Include additional text at end of first paragraph of section 12.14.4 as follows:

Many social, economic, and environmental benefits can be achieved especially when the Green Infrastructure is proximate to where people live and work. Existing areas of green infrastructure mostly coincide with important areas for biodiversity and in the main these areas should be avoided, where possible. An intention of route selection should be to examine alternatives to the use of existing Green Infrastructure.

Any new walking and cycling trails within existing areas of Green Infrastructure will require environmental assessments to be carried). Transport infrastructure (including walking and cycling trails) provides potential opportunities to act as new Green Infrastructure corridors.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.82

Amend objective BI O41 as follows:

Develop a strategy, to identify a series of greenbelt/green spaces (in addition to those identified in this CDP) to retain and protect between the growing settlements within Kildare during the lifetime of the Plan with particular attention to the undeveloped areas between Celbridge, Leixlip and Maynooth and to collaborate with South Dublin County Council, where appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.83

Amend action BI A22 as follows:

Work with Bord Na Mona and other stakeholders to prepare a Green Infrastructure Masterplan that will inform the delineation of core areas, stepping stones and corridors (long distance peatways) as identified in Sections 12.14.6, 12.14.7 and 12.14.8, that may inform the designation of an interconnected Bog of Allen Nature Reserve, Special Amenity Area Order and/or National Peatlands Park.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.84

Include a new sub section within 12.14.6 as follows:

The River Barrow

The River Barrow SAC is very large and is the most extensive SAC within County Kildare. The River Barrow is the 2nd longest river in Ireland, and this SAC extends over 192 km from the Slieve Bloom Mountains SPA/NHA through 5 counties to the

Waterford Estuary SAC. It has significant migrations of a number of fish species between the marine and freshwater habitats and 23 separate habitats/species listed as qualifying interests. It is the only SAC within County Kildare that is specifically designated for salmon, lamprey species and otter.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.85

Amend the last sentence of the first paragraph in section 12.14.6.5 as follows:
Even where intensive scale peat extraction has occurred, many areas are characterised as wetlands, important in regulating water run-off and these and other areas have demonstrated a certain natural resilience and are naturally re-wilding and forming very important habitat in the form of species rich open areas or first generation woodland (scrub-woodland comprised of birch, sally, alder, buckthorn including purging buckthorn and pine) that are very rich in species diversity – wildflowers, moths, butterflies, insects, birdlife and mammals.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.86

Amend the second sentence of the last paragraph in section 12.14.6.5 as follows:
This masterplan should, at a minimum, include the following 'core areas' with appropriate buffer zones of scale designed to protect their special interest and setting– one should centre around Lullymore Heritage Park, Lullybeg Wetlands, Butterfly Reserve, Lodge Bog with an extensive buffer zone; a second core area would focus on Ballynafagh Bog, Ballynafagh Lake and Hodgestown Bog; a third area would focus on Killinthomas Wood (Coillte owned), Ballydermot Bog East; a fourth would focus on Ummeras.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.87

Delete the last sentence of the last paragraph in section 12.14.6.5 as follows:
~~It is expected that 50% of the Peatland Area will remain free from any development.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.88

Amend section within 12.14.6.8 as follows:
This area is proposed to form part of the for a Peatlands National Peatlands Park, which is supported by the Council.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.89

Amend the fourth bullet point in section 12.14.7 as follows:
Protected Demense demesne landscapes such as Carton and Castletown House and attendant demesnes – including the avenues/vistas towards the Wonderful Barn and the Conolly's Folly, Obelisk.

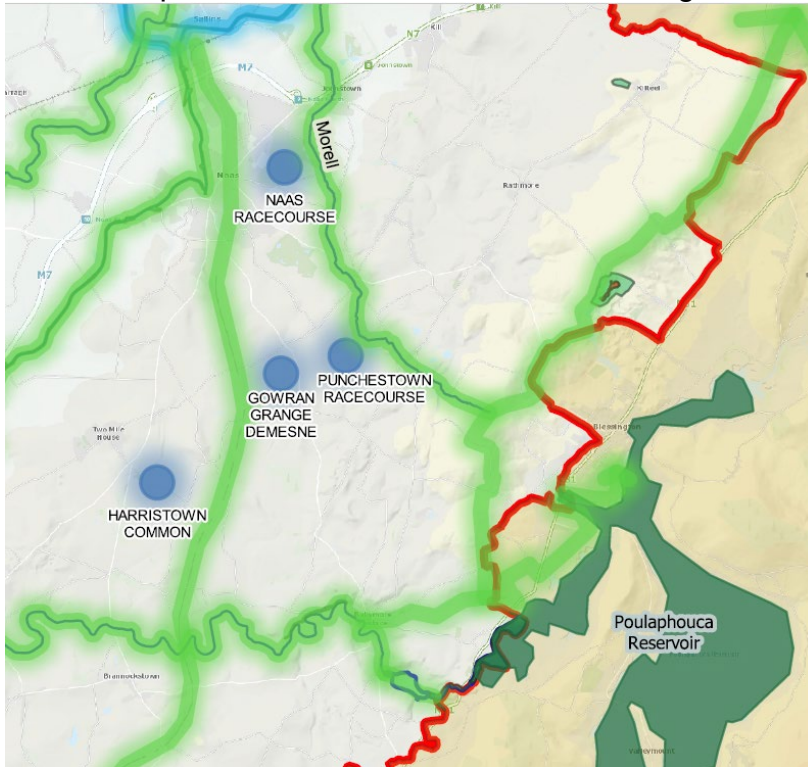
Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.90

Amend Green Infrastructure Maps (Map Refs: V1-12.3 to 12.6) to include; Please see Appendix at the end of this chapter where Map Refs 12.3 to 12.6 are identified in A3 format.

- The Pluckerstown stream which flows from Pollardstown Fen to the Slate River
- The Botkoge
- Headwaters of the Finney river
- Cushina river
- The Athy stream

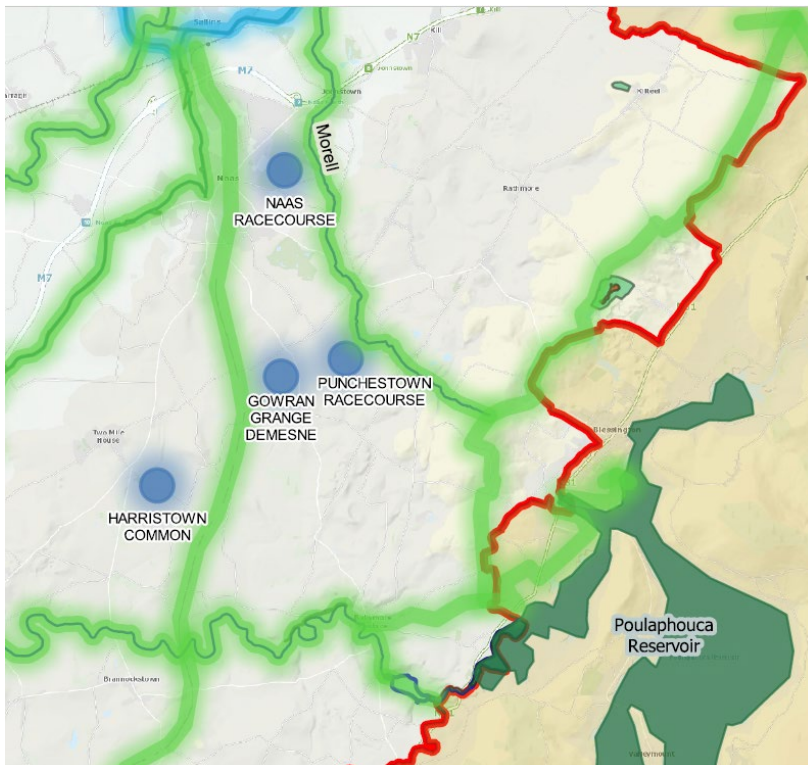
Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.91

Amend Map Ref V1-12.3 to show Gowran Grange Demesne as a 'stepping-stone'.



Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.92

Amend Map Ref V1-12.3 to clearly label **PuncHESTOWN Racecourse** as a 'stepping-stone'.



Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.93

Amend policy BI P13 as follows:

Recognise the importance of Urban Green Infrastructure in addressing a broad range of urban challenges, such as ~~conserving biodiversity~~ **connecting people with nature**, adapting to climate change, supporting the green economy, and improving social cohesion and to seek to protect and enhance this resource, **particularly existing semi-natural areas, or habitats (such as hedgerows, canals, rivers).**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 12.94

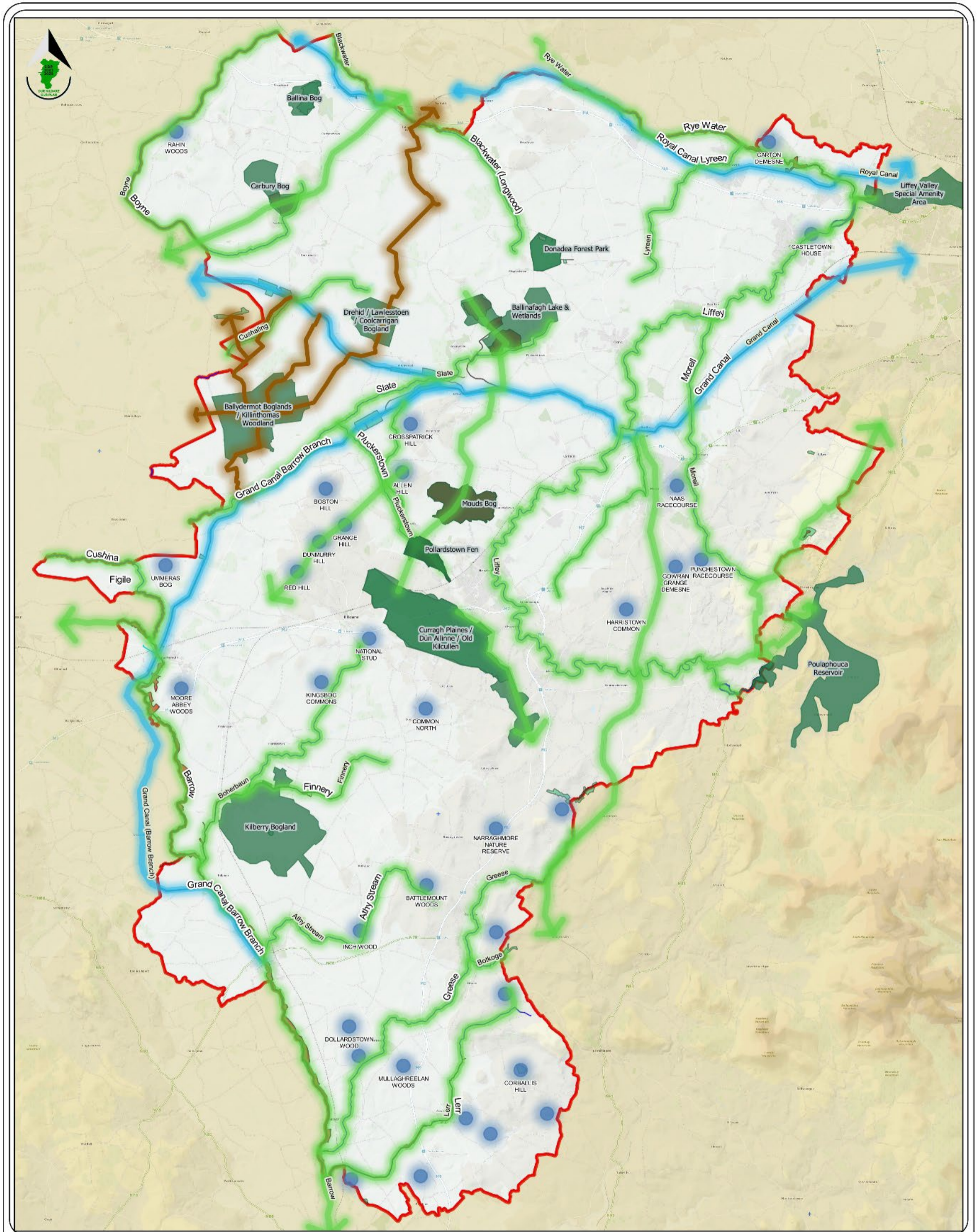
Amend objective BI O45 as follows:

Ensure that the Green Infrastructure Strategy and Network identified in this County Development Plan and Local Area Plans is used to inform the development management process to ensure that new residential areas, business/ industrial development **tourism** and other relevant projects contribute towards the **conservation and protection of Kildare's habitats and species, and the protection, management and enhancement of the existing Green Infrastructure in terms of design, layout and landscaping.**

Appendix


Map Refs 12.3 to 12.6

PMA 12.90



Legend

County Boundary	Blueways / Greenways
Core Areas	Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
Stepping Stones	Special Protection Areas (SPA)
Green Corridors	Proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHA)
Peatways	Natural Heritage Areas (NHA)



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 Áras Chill Dara,
 Devoy Park, Naas, Co Kildare.

2 4 6 8 km

**Draft County
 Development Plan
 2023-2029**

**Green Infrastructure
 Concept Map**

Stage	Date	Description
Proposed Draft County Development Plan	12/12/2021	Proposed Draft Plan Issued to the Elected Members
Draft County Development Plan	24/02/2022	Draft Plan Issued for Public Consultation

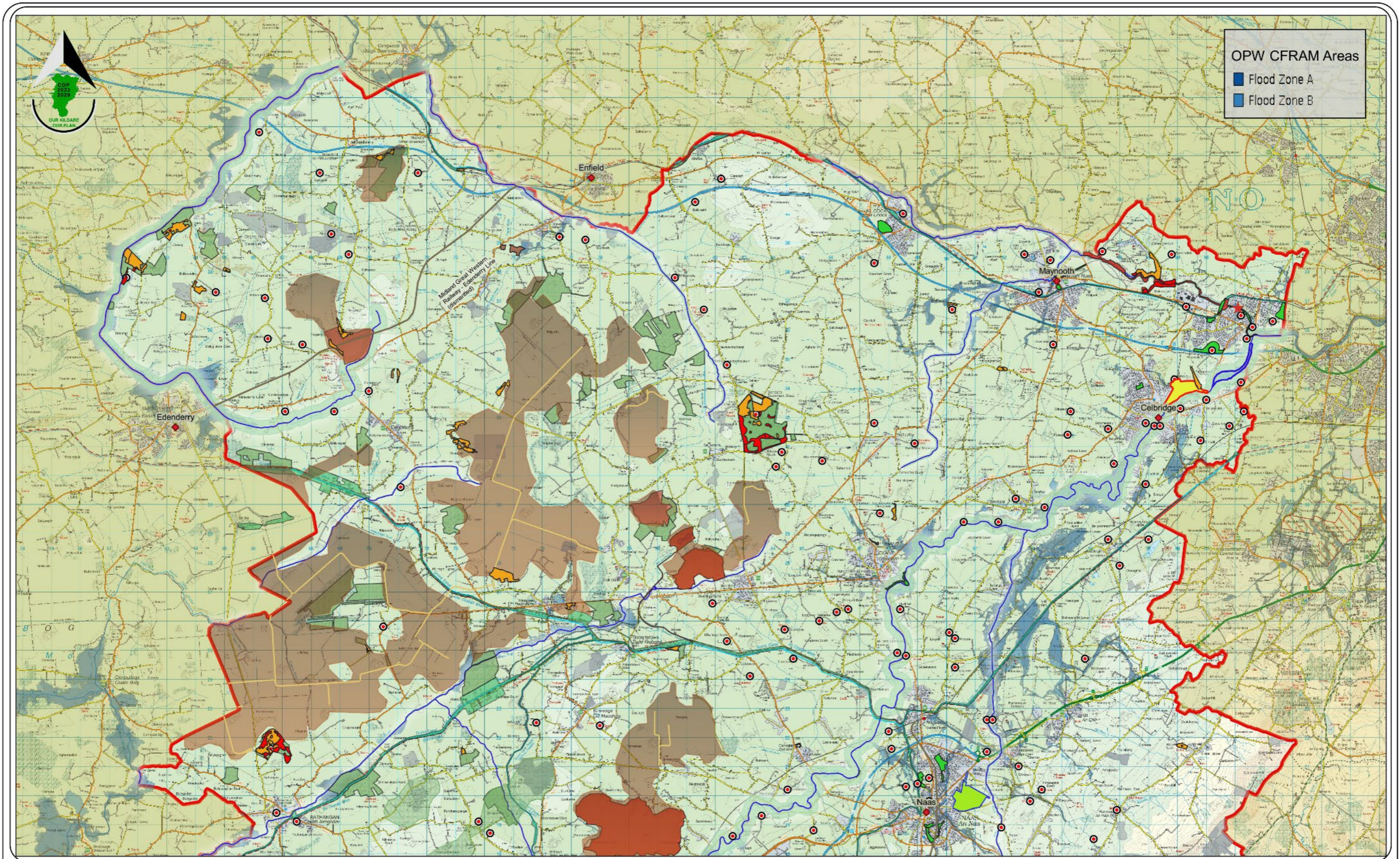
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Scale: N.T.S. Map Ref: V1-12.3

Date: July 2022 Drawing No.: 200/22/1245

Drawn By: M O'Loughlin Date: 19/07/2022	Checked By: L Craford Date: 19/07/2022	Approved By: C O'Donnell Date: 19/07/2022
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This drawing is to be read in conjunction with the written statement



OPW CFRAM Areas

- Flood Zone A
- Flood Zone B

Legend

- County Boundary
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
- Natural Heritage Area (NHA)
- Proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA)
- Special Protection Areas (SPAs)
- Bryophytes Location (NPWS)
- National Survey of Native Woodlands (NPWS)
- Ancient Long Established Woodland (NPWS)
- Commonage Areas (NPWS)
- Equine Sites
- Coillte Woodland
- Kildare County Council Parks
- Castletown House OPW
- Peat Bogs / Wetlands
- Quarries (active and disused)
- NIAH Survey of Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes
- Bord na Móna Rail Network
- Important Hills
- Tree Preservation Orders
- River Buffer Areas
- Canal
- River
- Lake

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Draft County Development Plan 2023-2029

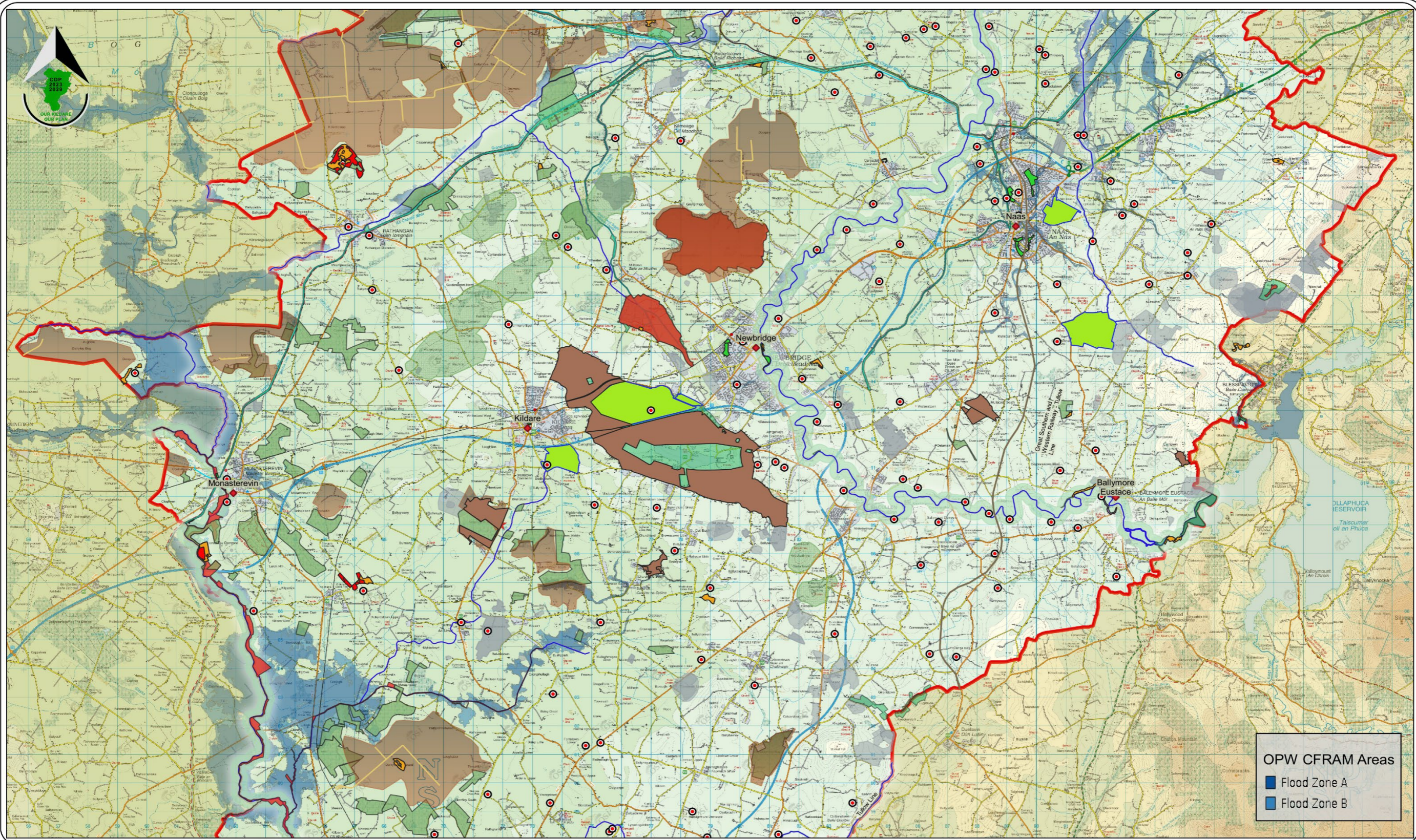
Green Infrastructure Kildare North

Stage	Date	Description
Proposed Draft County Development Plan	12/12/2021	Proposed Draft Plan Issued to the Elected Members
Draft County Development Plan	14/02/2022	Draft Plan Issued for Public Consultation

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Scale: N.T.S.	Map Ref: V1-12.4
Date: Feb 2021	Drawing No.: 200/22/1245
Drawn By: M O'Connell Date 08/03/2022	Checked By: L Crawford Date 08/03/2022
Approved By: C O'Donnell Date 08/03/2022	

This drawing is to be read in conjunction with the written statement



OPW CFRAM Areas

- Flood Zone A
- Flood Zone B

Legend

— County Boundary	★ Bryophytes Location (NPWS)	■ Equine Sites	■ Quarries (active and disused)	■ River Buffer Areas
■ Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)	■ National Survey of Native Woodlands (NPWS)	■ Coillte Woodland	● NIAH Survey of Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes	— Canal
■ Natural Heritage Area (NHA)	■ Ancient Long Established Woodland (NPWS)	■ Kildare County Council Parks	— Bord na Móna Rail Network	— River
■ Proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA)	■ Commonage Areas (NPWS)	■ Castletown House OPW	■ Important Hills	— Lake
■ Special Protection Areas (SPAs)		■ Peat Bogs / Wetlands	■ Tree Preservation Orders	

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Draft County Development Plan 2023-2029

Green Infrastructure Kildare Middle

Stage	Date	Description
Proposed Draft County Development Plan	12/12/2021	Proposed Draft Plan Issued to the Elected Members
Draft County Development Plan	14/02/2022	Draft Plan Issued for Public Consultation

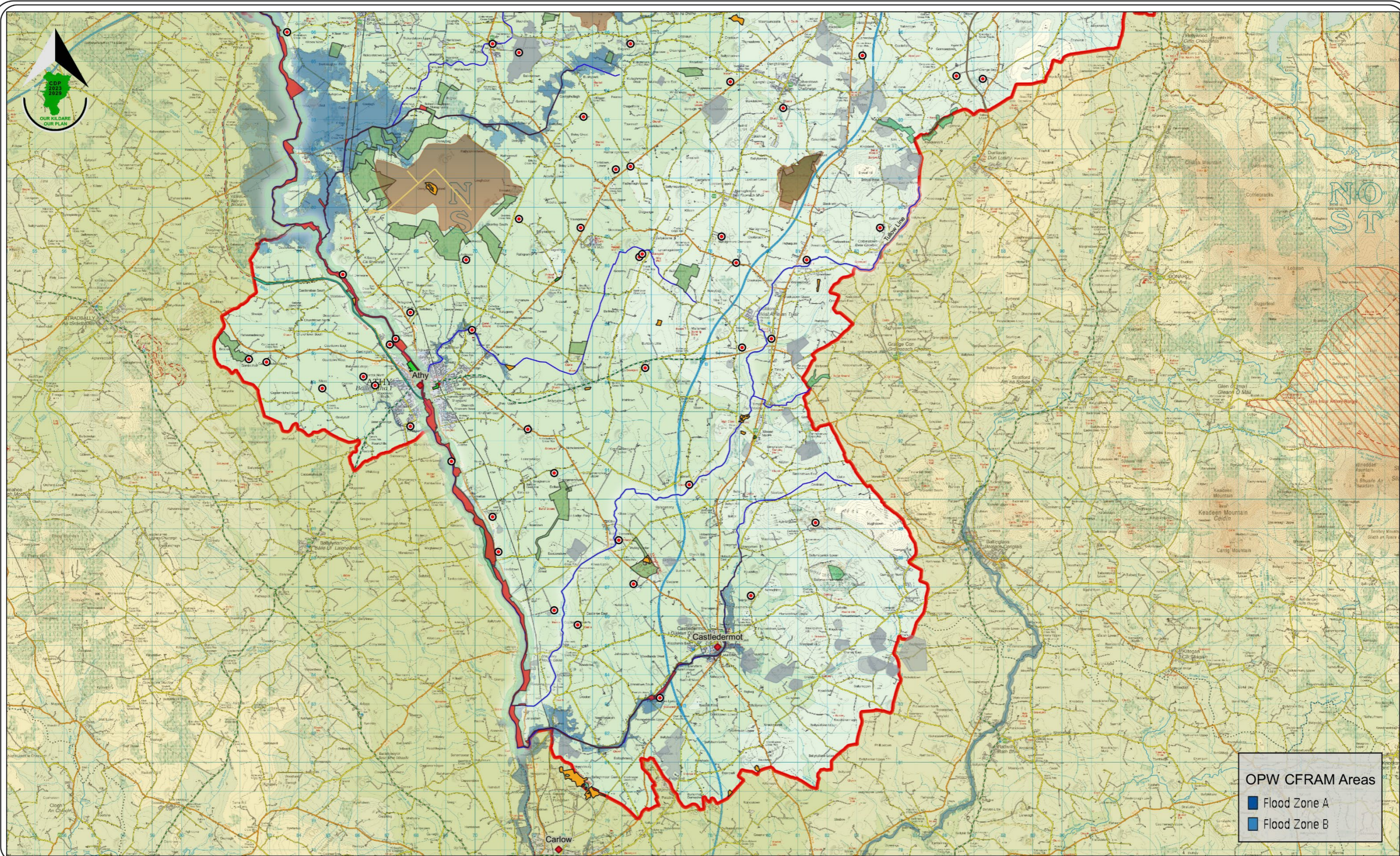
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Scale: N.T.S. Map Ref: V1-12.5

Date: Feb 2021 Drawing No.: 200/22/1245

Drawn By: M O'Laughlin Date 08/03/2022	Checked By: L Crawford Date 08/03/2022	Approved By: C Crawford Date 08/03/2022
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This drawing is to be read in conjunction with the written statement



OPW CFRAM Areas


- Flood Zone A
- Flood Zone B

Legend

- County Boundary
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
- Natural Heritage Area (NHA)
- Proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA)
- Special Protection Areas (SPAs)
- Bryophytes Location (NPWS)
- National Survey of Native Woodlands (NPWS)
- Ancient Long Established Woodland (NPWS)
- Commonage Areas (NPWS)
- Equine Sites
- Coillte Woodland
- Kildare County Council Parks
- Castletown House OPW
- Peat Bogs / Wetlands
- Quarries (active and disused)
- NIAH Survey of Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes
- Bord na Móna Rail Network
- Important Hills
- Tree Preservation Orders
- River Buffer Areas
- Canal
- River
- Lake



Kildare County Council
 Planning & Strategic Development Department
 Áras Chill Dara,
 Devoy Park, Naas, Co Kildare.



Draft County Development Plan 2023-2029

Green Infrastructure Kildare South

Stage	Date	Description
Proposed Draft County Development Plan	12/12/2021	Proposed Draft Plan issued to the Elected Members
Draft County Development Plan	14/02/2022	Draft Plan issued for Public Consultation

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Scale: N.T.S.	Map Ref: V1-12.6
Date: Feb 2021	Drawing No.: 200/22/1245
Drawn By: M O'Loughlin Date 08/03/2022	Checked By: L Crawford Date 09/03/2022
Approved By: C O'Donnell Date 08/03/2022	

This drawing is to be read in conjunction with the written statement

Chapter 13: Landscape, Recreation and Amenity

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.1

Amend LR O4 as follows:

Ensure that local landscape features, including historic features and buildings, hedgerows, shelter belts and stone walls, are retained, protected and enhanced where appropriate, so as to preserve the local landscape and character of an area, whilst providing for future development.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.2

Amend LR O10 as follows:

Recognise that the lowlands and the transitional area are made up of a variety of working landscapes, which are critical resources for sustaining the economic and social well-being of the county and include areas of significant landscape and ecological value, which are worthy of protection. Such landscapes include the internationally recognised landscape of Punchestown and its environs.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.3

Amend LR O12 as follows:

Recognise that boglands, including cutaway and cut-over bogs, are critical natural resources for ecological and environmental reasons, particularly for climate mitigation and adaptation. Development proposals for boglands that reduce biodiversity and increase methane emissions greenhouse gas will be strictly limited will not be considered. Appropriate environmental assessment should be carried out for any development proposals which impact on boglands.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.4

Amend LR O13 as follows:

Recognise that some cutaway and cut-over boglands may represent degraded landscapes and/or brownfield sites and thus are may potentially be fit to absorb a variety of development provided that the development proposal does not increase Green House Gas emissions or damage protected habitats or species. Projects which result in increases in ammonia emissions to watercourses will not be considered.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.5

Add new objective after LR O15 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Require the undertaking of a peatland stability assessment, carbon emissions balance assessment and hydrological and ecological impact assessments, as appropriate, when developing project proposals for development on peatlands.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.6

Amend LR A1 as follows:

Review and update the County Landscape Character Assessment, within two years of the adoption of this Plan, having regard to the European Landscape Convention Florence 2000, in accordance with all relevant legislation and guidance documents and to ensure consistency with the forthcoming National and Regional Landscape Character Assessment. All landscape character designations will be fully reviewed having regard to updated best practice guidance, LCAs of adjoining Local Authorities

and other local relevant considerations, including clusters of biodiversity rich areas and the Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.7

Amend LR T1 as follows:

Endeavour to increase the territory of County Kildare designated to **increase** nature ~~from 3% to~~ **by 27% from its current base of 3%** by the end of this Plan period, in response to the Government's commitment to designate 30% of the territory of Ireland for nature by 2030 and in accordance with the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030. This may be achieved, **in part**, by the development of the proposed ~~Midlands Peatlands~~ **National Peatlands Park** (see objectives in Section 13.6). **Such endeavours, such as the development of the National Peatlands Park, shall be subject to an AA Screening Report, and where applicable, Stage 2 AA. They shall have a regard for any hydrological connection shared with a European Site and their qualifying interest species. The project shall account for any potential likely significant effects and provide mitigation and monitoring where appropriate.**

Update the graphics below LR T1 and LR T2 to reflect the proposed material alteration.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.8

Amend LR T2 as follows:

~~On average, increase newly planted forest by 161 hectare per annum, in line with the Government's Climate Action Plan (2019) 2021 and the emerging Forestry Programme (expected to be published in 2023).~~

Update the graphics below LR T1 and LR T2 to reflect the proposed material alteration.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.9

Add new sentence after the first sentence in the first paragraph of Section 13.4.4 as follows:

The River Liffey and the River Barrow valleys are of significance in terms of landscape and amenity value and as such are sensitive to development. The River Barrow is a designated Special Areas of Conservation (SAC).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.10

Amend LR O19 as follows:

~~Co-operate with all relevant stakeholders including the Department of Defence, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the racehorse industry, the owners with sheep grazing rights~~ **those with sheep grazing rights** and the various interests currently with rights to the Curragh in the implementation of the Curragh Conservation, Management and Interpretation Plan, designated as a cNHA⁴.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.11

Add new objective after LR O25 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Support the recreational amenity of wetlands.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.12

Add new objective in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Support and facilitate Waterways Ireland and other relevant stakeholders with the provision of additional mooring and berthing facilities at appropriate locations throughout the County.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.13

Add new objective in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Normally only permit development proposals associated with water sports adjacent to waterways (including lakes) where the proposed facilities are compatible with the existing use of water including non-recreational uses, which will not result in damage to important features of archaeological heritage or Natura 2000 sites and where they can be satisfactorily integrated into the landscape so that they will not have an unacceptable impact on visual or environmental amenities especially in areas of high amenity or scenic importance.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.14

Add new objective in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Protect, enhance and improve existing public rights of way and where possible, provide additional access to inland waterways through agreement, permissive access and/or the acquisition of land for public rights of way and parking and lay-by facilities.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.15

Add new objective in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Ensure any proposed walking or cycling route does not significantly impact the following:

- Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)
- Special Protection Areas (SPAs)
- Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs)
- Other areas of importance for the conservation of flora and fauna.
- Known sites of Flora Protection Order species
- Zones of Archaeological Potential.
- The vicinity of a recorded monument.
- Sensitive landscape areas as identified in Chapter 13 of this Plan.
- Scenic views and prospects.
- Protected Structures.
- Established rights of way and walking routes.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.16

Add new objective in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Established walking routes shall be identified prior to any new forestry planting, new infrastructural, energy/telecommunications or golf course developments.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.17

Add new objective in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Take the potential impact of proposed development into account when considering/assessing applications for permission in the vicinity of established walking routes that might impinge on walking routes (including long distance or potential walking routes).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.18

Add new objective in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
All developments that would be visible from the canal network shall be required to submit a visual assessment of the proposal relative to the canal in order to determine any negative impacts on the visual amenity and environmental quality of the canal.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.19

Add new objective in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Identify and assess the impact of the development of cycle and walkways on built and archaeological heritage in the location and design of all cycleways and greenways.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.20

Add new objective in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Allow for narrower cycleways and greenways when located within highly sensitive ecological areas along the length of the route, as appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.21

Add new objective in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Applications or proposals for recreational / amenity activities involving natural areas such as watercourses, bogs, etc... shall be accompanied by a management plan indicating projected numbers of users, hours of operation, seasons of operation, and an undertaking to protect the natural environment in the form of a risk assessment with proposed amelioration measures in respect of flora, fauna, hydrology, geology and soils.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.22

Add new objective in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
New cycling trails and pedestrian routes should first be subject to the undertaking of feasibility assessment. Where feasibility is established, a Corridor and Route Selection Process will be undertaken where appropriate, for relevant new infrastructure in two stages”, Stage 1 – Route Corridor Identification, Evaluation and Selection and Stage 2 – Route Identification, Evaluation and Selection.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.23

Add new action in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:
Develop Monitoring and Management Plans for Greenways, Blueways, Peatways and Trails, in their ownership, with the protection and enhancement of biodiversity at their core, to ensure the success of these routes and environmental sustainability.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.24

Add new action in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:
Liaise with Waterways Ireland and other agencies to investigate the feasibility of creating inland Marinas / mooring facilities on canals at Lullymore / Lodge, Ummeras, and Ticknevin Bogs.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.25

Add new action in Section 13.6 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

Progress the implementation of the Liffey Valley Linear Park, prepare a map of the extent of the routes and identify policies that support the development of the linear park for inclusion in relevant Local Area Plans.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.26

Add the following new paragraph at the end of Section 13.6.1:

Commonage and other rough grazing land should be regarded primarily as an important recreational, environmental and amenity resource.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.27

Amend the title of Section 13.6.4 as follows:

13.6.4 Greenways, Blueways, Peatways, and Trails and Peatland Railways

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.28

Add new paragraph before the second last paragraph of Section 13.6.4 as follows;

It is acknowledged that Kildare's strong tradition associated with the peatlands has resulted in some attractive industrial rail lines which cross some of the county's local roads and afford scenic qualities and remnants of our past. Some continue to be utilised by Bord na Móna. Consideration should be given to reserving the line of such railways / rights of way for possible future re-use. The national rail network which traverses the county also provides an opportunity for individuals to attain an overall perspective of the quality of the landscape of Kildare.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.29

Amend LR P4 as follows:

Protect and maintain the existing recreation infrastructure in County Kildare and support the diversification of the rural economy through the development of the recreational potential of the countryside in accordance with the forthcoming National Outdoor Recreation Strategy, subject to all relevant and cumulative environmental assessments and planning conditions.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.30

Amend LR O37 as follows:

Promote and enhance public access for all to the upland areas, rivers, lakes, and other natural amenities of County Kildare, in conjunction with the relevant landowners and agencies, while protecting environmental sensitivities, and ecological corridors and built heritage.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.31

Amend LR O38 as follows:

Ensure the biodiversity value of all sites are considered and protected in the development of outdoor recreational facilities including greenways through the preparation of an Ecological Impact Assessment, to include the impacts of recreational disturbance to ground-nesting birds, particularly within cutover and cutaway bogs which shall guide the location and design of such facilities.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.32

Amend LR O40 as follows:

~~Support and facilitate investigate the feasibility of developing~~ development of a Midlands Peatlands National Peatlands Park in consultation with Offaly and Laois County Councils, Bord na Móna, Coillte, NPWS, local landowners and all other relevant stakeholders to include areas of (inter alia) high nature value, amenity, education/science and eco-tourism potential.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.33

Amend LR O41 as follows:

Support the proposed Umeras Peatlands Park development of Umeras Community Development and explore links between the bog and nearby blueways and greenways, whilst ensuring nearby properties would not be negatively affected, in consultation with Offaly County Council, Waterways Ireland and all other relevant stakeholders. The proposed development shall be subject to an AA Screening Report, and where applicable, Stage 2 AA. They shall have regard for any hydrological connection shared with a European Site and their qualifying interest species. The project shall account for any potential likely significant effects and provide mitigation and monitoring where appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.34

Amend LR O42 as follows:

Lead and support the extension and interconnection of Greenways, Blueways, Peatways and trails within and outside County Kildare in consultation with Coillte, Bord na Móna and all other relevant stakeholders, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA so as to ensure and protect the favourable status of European sites and their hydrological connections. Such developments will have regard for protected species and provide mitigation where applicable.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.35

Amend LR O43 as follows:

~~Investigate the feasibility of connecting the Barrow Blueway with Portarlinton, Co. Laois along the Mountmellick Grand Canal and Peatways, and, where considered feasible, to undertake all necessary works, subject to all appropriate consents, in consultation with Laois County Council and Waterways Ireland.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.36

Amend LR O46 as follows:

~~Explore the feasibility of developing~~ Support the development of the Turas Columbanus walking trail in conjunction with all relevant stakeholders and neighbouring Local Authorities, subject to obtaining all relevant assessments and consents.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.37

Amend LR O47 as follows:

Facilitate the development of a walking route between Ballymore Eustace, Golden Falls, Poulaphouca/Blessington Greenway, Russborough and Barrettstown, in cooperation with landowners and government agencies, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA so as to ensure and protect the favourable status of European sites and their hydrological connections. Such developments will have regard for protected species and provide mitigation where applicable.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.38

Amend LR O49 as follows:

Support the development of ancillary infrastructure for Greenways and cycle routes (i.e. trailheads, signage, rest areas, parking, lighting, toilets, etc.) in line with the Greenways and Cycle Routes Ancillary Infrastructure Guidelines (2018) of the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport in co-operation with landowners, Waterways Ireland, Government Departments and other Local Authorities. For the provision of larger infrastructure, regard will be given to European sites, their hydrological connections and qualifying interest species where potential likely significant effects exist may occur.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.39

Add a new objective after LR O52 and renumber objectives accordingly:

Explore the feasibility of restoring the dry dock in Athy, in consultation with Waterways Ireland.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.40

Amend the second bullet point of LR O56 as follows:

Progress the implementation of the following flagship projects identified in the report 'Towards a Liffey Valley Park Strategy' (2006) or any superseding plan, while ensuring that environmental and built heritage sensitivities are not negatively impacted upon.

- The acquisition and development of the Donaghcumper land into a public park with the opportunity to create a linkage with Castletown estate in co-operation with the OPW and all other relevant stakeholders.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.41

Amend LR O58 as follows:

Preserve the pedestrian and cycle link between the River Liffey and the Grand Canal at the Leinster Aqueduct and to explore making the existing underpass fully accessible as recommended in the report 'Towards a Liffey Valley Park Strategy.'

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.42

Amend LR O59 as follows:

Preserve, protect, promote and improve for the common good, existing rights of way which contribute to general amenity, particularly those which provide access to archaeological sites and National Monuments and amenities, including upland areas and water corridors, and to create new ones or extend existing ones where appropriate either by agreement with landowners or through the use of compulsory powers, without adversely affecting landscape conservation interests, subject to AA screening and where applicable, Stage 2 AA so as to ensure and protect the favourable status of European sites and their hydrological connections. Such developments will have regard for protected species and provide mitigation where applicable.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.43

Amend LR O64 as follows:

Encourage the planting of pollinator friendly trees and plants, where appropriate, to improve pollinator populations within state and publicly owned land, ~~peatlands, river, canal and railway corridors, grass verges along public roads and existing and future greenways,~~ public parks and public open spaces in towns and villages, including as part of mixed use and residential developments, in accordance with the All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.44

Add new objective after LR O65 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Support the protection and retention of peatland railway lines including narrow gauge railway lines and rolling stock where possible to support amenity use of the peatlands.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.45

Amend paragraph three of Section 13.7.5 as follows:

New playgrounds have been provided in Kill, Sallins, Eadestown, Caragh, Timahoe and Castledermot. A new skatepark was provided in Newbridge in 2019 and a pilot scheme is underway in Celbridge for the development of an outdoor ~~teen~~ youth facility. This pilot scheme will inform the development of other play facilities in County Kildare.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.46

Amend the following actions as follows:

- (A) LR A16: Develop an outdoor ~~teen~~ youth facility in Celbridge as a pilot scheme to inform the development of other play facilities in County Kildare.
- (B) LR A21: Deliver Cherry Avenue Park in Kildare Town as a recreation and amenity centre to include (inter alia) dedicated facilities for the youth. ~~teenagers~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.47

Amend part ii) and add new text as part iv) and part v) to LR O67 as follows:

Ensure that new developments are compatible with the availability and size of passive and active open space and recreational facilities,

ii) accessible to all, regardless of age, physical mobility, disability or social disadvantage, ~~and~~

iv) includes disabled parking bays, and

v) includes accessible play recreational facilities/equipment.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.48

Amend LR O71 as follows:

Facilitate additional non-mainstream facilities for the youth ~~teenagers~~ and sport facilities that lend themselves to lifelong participation for ~~the elderly~~ older people through the provision of suitable facilities in all towns and villages.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.49

Add new objective after LR O83 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:

Explore the feasibility of developing an Urban Neighbourhood Park by integrating the existing local park at Abbeyland and undeveloped strategic open space as a River Liffey Park in Clane.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.50

Add new objective before LR O85 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Support and facilitate, the establishment of a community run nursery to grow native plants, at an appropriate location.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.51

Add new objective after LR O85 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Support and facilitate allotments/ community gardens on roofs of buildings where they do not pose a safety risk to the users of such spaces. Each proposal shall be assessed on its own merits.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.52

Add new objective after LR O85 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Support and facilitate allotments/ community gardens on vacant, underutilised and derelict sites throughout the county.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.53

Amend LR O87 as follows:

Minimise the environmental impact of external lighting at sensitive locations within the Green Infrastructure network to mitigate adverse impacts on sensitive fauna and protected species, and to achieve a sustainable balance between the recreational needs of an area, the safety of walking and cycling routes and the protection of light sensitive species such as bats.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.54

Amend part (b) of LR A17 as follows:

(b) Support new and additional the need for playgrounds/play facilities for communities in Brannockstown, Kildangan, Cutbush, Straffan, Johnstown Bridge, Carbury, Derrinturn, Donadea, Maynooth, Leixlip, Celbridge, Robertstown, Kilmeague, Two Mile House, Newbridge, Athgarvan, Kildare, The Curragh, Calverstown, Kilberry, Ballitore, Kilkea and Maganey and Ardclough and to deliver same, if deemed appropriate, during the lifetime of this Plan.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.55

Delete LR A18 and renumber actions accordingly:

~~Progress plans for the provision of a regional swimming pool in North Kildare in conjunction with other relevant bodies.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 13.56

Add new action before LR A21 as follows and renumber actions accordingly:

Support sustainable management of our parks and residential areas which will include areas of reduced mowing.

Chapter 14: Urban Design, Placemaking and Regeneration

Proposed Material Alteration No. 14.1

Add third paragraph to Section 14.2 as follows:

A critical element of healthy placemaking is the need to incorporate high-quality architecture into our built environment. This is recognised in Places for People (2022) Ireland's updated national policy on architecture. It outlines ways to promote and embed quality in architecture and the built and natural environment over the coming years, and also aims to improve data and research on our built environment. The National Policy on Architecture is seen to represent another critical policy mechanism in assisting the implementation of key priorities such as Project Ireland 2040 (NPF and NDP), the Climate Action Plan 2021, Housing for All, Heritage Ireland 2030 and Town Centre First.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 14.2

Amend UD P1 as follows:

Apply the principles of people-centred urban design and healthy placemaking as an effective growth management tool to ensure the realisation of more sustainable, inclusive, and well-designed settlements resilient to the effects of climate change and adapted to meet the changing needs of growing and aging populations including aging and disabled persons.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 14.3

Add new paragraph to Section 14.5.2 as follows:

Kildare County Council has adopted a design-led approach in managing settlement expansion and in providing for the rejuvenation of historic urban cores. To this end, the Council has developed a flexible suite of placemaking strategies that can be applied to a range of different spatial and developmental contexts. This emphasis on 'placemaking' highlights the importance of the role of urban design in achieving town and village renewal and in providing for plan-led settlement growth and expansion. As illustrated in Table 14.1, the various strategies are designed to be supported by objectives of the Development Plan or relevant Local Area Plans, thereby grounding these strategies in evidence-based policy and providing them with a robust level of statutory support. Several of the placemaking strategies outlined in Table 14.1 are also designed so that they can be presented as comprehensive supporting documents alongside future applications for funding for regeneration and development projects by the Council.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 14.4

Amend part (ii) of UD O6 as follows:

(ii) Preparing and implementing Town/Village Renewal Masterplans for settlements of all sizes across the county.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 14.5

Delete UD O8 from Chapter 14, amend and relocate to Chapter 2:

~~Address new settlement areas already in the planning process, in the appropriate Local Area Plan process and to ensure that future new settlements are considered in conjunction with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan to support new distributed growth in Co. Kildare during the lifetime of this Plan to inform the next CDP.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 14.6

Replace UD O11 with the following new objective:

~~Investigate the feasibility of a pilot scheme for a Kildare town to reduce vacancy levels, in conjunction with all relevant stakeholders.~~ **Review the Athy pilot scheme and implement similar town and village renewal schemes on a phased basis for the settlements of County Kildare in order to reduce vacancy levels in conjunction with all relevant stakeholders.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 14.7

Amend UD A1 as follows:

Continue to seek funding from relevant agencies and Government sources including the Rural and Urban Regeneration and Development Funds (RRDF/URDF) to secure financial support for all town and village renewal projects in the county and to explore possibilities for community-led and social financing opportunities.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 14.8

Amend UD A2 to include **“Naas to Newbridge Strategic Employment Zone”**.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 14.9

Amend UD A3 as follows:

Prepare and implement on a phased basis Town/Village Renewal Masterplans for the following settlements: Naas, Maynooth, Newbridge, Leixlip, Celbridge, Monasterevin, Athgarvan, Castledermot, Rathangan, Derrinturn, Straffan, Allenwood, Coill Dubh (inc. Coolearagh), Johnstownbridge, Kilmeague, Ardclough and a combined plan for the Curragh settlements (Ballysax, Brownstown, Curragh Camp, Cutbush, Maddenstown, Suncroft) and Robertstown (public amenities area).

Proposed Material Alteration No. 14.10

Amend the first sentence of UD A5 as follows:

Continue to tackle vacant residential vacancy and derelict sites within town centres through various initiatives, including the following:

Proposed Material Alteration No. 14.11

Add sentence to the end of the last paragraph of Section 14.8 as follows:

For more information relating to the application of the Guidelines on Urban Development and Building Heights in a Kildare Context refer to Section 3.7.

Chapter 15: Development Management Standards

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.1

Amend the last paragraph of Section 15.1.5:

The Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended), specify mandatory thresholds above which Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) Assessment Reports (EIARs) are required in relation to certain types and scales of development proposals. Where it appears to the Planning Authority that a development proposal that falls below the threshold set out in the Planning and Development Regulations would be likely to have a significant environmental effect, a subthreshold/discretionary EIS EIAR can be requested by the Planning Authority. All planning applications will undergo Environmental Impact Assessment screening or preliminary assessment.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.2

Amend the third paragraph of Section 15.1.7 as follows:

The Council will ~~endeavour to facilitate~~ encourage and actively facilitate pre-planning discussions through individual meetings / planning clinics/ emails/phone calls/remote meetings as deemed appropriate. The carrying out of consultations shall not prejudice the performance by the Council of any other of its functions under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), or any regulations made under the Act, and cannot be relied upon in the formal planning process or in legal proceedings.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.3

(A) Amend Section 15.2.1 as follows:

15.2.1 Site Coverage and Plot Ratio

~~Site coverage standards are intended to avoid the adverse effects of overdevelopment particularly in urban areas thereby safeguarding sunlight and daylight within or adjoining a proposed layout of buildings. Traditionally, site coverage and plot ratio were used as tools to measure and control the extent of development. Site coverage relates to the percentage of the development site covered by buildings and structures (excluding the public roads and footpaths) and is calculated using the formula below:~~

$$\text{Site Coverage} = \frac{\text{Total area of ground covered by buildings}}{\text{Total ground area within the site curtilage}}$$

Plot ratio refers to the relationship between the extent of development proposed as a quotient of the total site area and is calculated using the formula below:

$$\text{Plot Ratio} = \frac{\text{Gross building floor area}}{\text{Gross site area}}$$

~~The maximum site coverage shall be 50% for residential development, 75% for industrial and 66% for retail and commercial development. Within town centre zones, the maximum site coverage shall be 80% for all development.~~

Appropriate site coverage and plot ratio will now be considered on a qualitative basis, rather than quantitative, having regard to the quality of design, response

to site context (including sensitivity to Architectural Conservation Areas where applicable) and potential impacts on the surrounding environment. Higher site coverage levels of development may be permissible in certain limited circumstances such as:

- Locations adjacent to public transport corridors
- ~~to facilitate areas identified~~ Locations identified for regeneration purposes
- ~~areas where~~ When an appropriate mix of both residential and commercial uses are proposed.
- Where exceptional design is achieved, meeting the requirements of Chapter 14.6 of this Plan and the Urban Design Manual –A companion document to the Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas and the Sustainable Urban Housing; Design Standards for New Apartment Guidelines (2020) where applicable.

~~These site coverage standards shall be acceptable only where consistent with other standards such as open space requirements, car parking, plot ratio, building lines and building heights, fire safety and building regulations together with the amenity of adjoining dwellings / properties.~~

In considering applications for redevelopment of existing sites, due regard will be given to the established site coverage.

(B) Delete Section 15.2.2 Plot Ratio.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.4

Amend the first paragraph of Section 15.2.3 as follows:

15.2.23 Overlooking / Separation Distances

~~In general, a minimum distance of 22 metres between opposing above ground floor level windows (including extensions to existing houses) will be required for habitable rooms, normally resulting in a minimum rear garden depth of 11 metres. Traditionally a minimum distance of 22m is required between directly opposing first floor windows. However, where sufficient alternative private open space (e.g., to the side) is available, and in cases of innovative design, (e.g., where overlooking into habitable rooms does not occur), this figure may be reduced, subject to the maintenance of privacy and the protection of adjoining residential amenities and privacy, the quality of design and adherence to the Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartment Guidelines (2020) where applicable.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.5

Amend the second paragraph of Section 15.2.4:

All new developments are required to ~~comply with~~ have regard to the recommendations of Site Layout Planning for Daylight and Sunlight: A Guide to Good Practice (B.R.209, 2011) and British Standard (B.S.) 8206 Lighting for Buildings, Part 2, 2008: Code of Practice for Day Lighting or other updated relevant documents. Where an applicant cannot fully meet all of the requirements of the daylight provisions, this must be clearly identified and a rationale for any alternative, compensatory design solutions must be set out, which will be considered by the planning authority on a case-by-case basis.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.6

Amend Section 15.2.5 as follows:

Planting and landscaping should be used to incorporate new buildings into their surroundings and provide privacy between dwellings. New planting should consist of local native plant types with consideration given to providence **and origin** of plants indigenous to the area. **and The planting should** be incorporated into the site to enhance overall appearance, **and to conserve** biodiversity (Refer to Table 15.2) and **to contribute** to the green infrastructure of the area.

The Planning Authority will require the following in relation to site development and landscaping works:

- ...
- A detailed replanting proposal shall be submitted should the removal of hedges / trees be required during development, those to be removed shall be identified on drawings. This proposal should provide for the replacement of, at minimum, an equal amount of similar **indigenous native** hedgerows and the planting of a minimum of five mature / established trees per tree felled. ~~These shall be incorporated into the overall design of the scheme.~~
- ...
- Where a large site adjoins a green corridor, public open space or area of high ecological value, any new public open space on the site should be contiguous to same and encourage visual continuity and expansion of the green infrastructure/biodiversity network. **The appropriate grading or transition of public open space towards a green biodiversity corridor shall be factored into the consideration.**
- Landscaping works ~~shall should~~ incorporate nature based drainage systems ~~sustainable urban drainage systems~~ such as biodiversity areas or wetlands, which can reduce surface water run-off. Green roofs, walls, **street trees** and permeable surfaces will be encouraged.
- **Street trees shall be encouraged into developments where possible and facilitated by way of appropriately designed tree pits.**
- ...
- ~~Mounding will generally not be acceptable.~~
- **Leylandii trees Cupressocyparis 'Leylandii', Cupressocyparis 'Castlewellan Gold' and Laurel Prunus laurocerasus shall no longer be permitted as part of landscaping proposals for any new development. Leylandii because of their nuisance and safety risk they pose when not managed and Laurel due the invasive nature of this species.**
- **The planting of species listed as of concern by invasive species Ireland, including species such as Cherry Laurel Prunus Laurocerasus and also species of a potential invasive nature as outlined by invasive species Ireland such as Cornus sericea L. shall neither be permitted in rural nor urban areas.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.7

Rename Table 15.2 as 15.2(a) and add two new rows to the Table. Also include two new tables and supporting text after Table 15.2 (a) as follows:

Common name	Height (max)	Suitable for public open spaces	Suitable for streets and confined spaces	Suitable for tubs, containers and raised beds etc.	Guide to planting: See key below
Grey Willow	10m	Yes	No	No	AHDV
Purging/ Common Buckthorn	8m	Yes	No	No	HP

Table 15.2 (a) - Native Trees and Shrubs

Key – Table 715-2 (a) (Native Trees and Shrubs)

- A** Grows in a wide variety of soils
- C** Climber
- H** Suitable for hedging
- I** Suitable as an individual tree
- D** Tolerates or prefers damp conditions
- P** Tolerates smoke or pollution
- S** Tolerates shades
- V** Invasive

STREET TREES	
Species	Flowering
Juneberry Tree Amelanchier x grandiflora 'Robin Hill'	April
Hawthorn Crataegus monogyna 'Stricta'	May
Pillar Crab Malus tschonoskii	May
Callery Pear Pyrus calleryana 'Chanticleer'	April-May
Rowan Sorbus acuparia varieties	May-June
Lime Tilia x europaea 'Euchlora' (cultivars as many can grow to large tree size proportions that will exceed allotted roadside space)	June-July

Table 15.2 (b) - Street Trees (Source: Pollinator friendly planting code, NBDC).

OPEN SPACE TREES	
Horse Chestnut	Aesculus hippocastum
Juneberry	Amelanchier species (not A. lamarki which may be invasive)
Indian Bean Tree	Catalpa bignonioides
Hawthorn	Crataegus species

OPEN SPACE TREES	
Apple	Malus species / cultivars
Foxglove Tree	Paulownia tomentosa
Wild Cherry	Prunus avium
Bird Cherry	Prunus padus
Japanese Flowering Cherry	Prunus serrulate 'Tai Haku'
Pear	Pyrus species and cultivars
Rowan	Sorbus species/cultivars
Willow	Salix

Table 15.2 (c) - Open Space Trees

The trees outlined above are fast growing and excellent for pollinating insects producing large quantities of nectar and pollen. Choice of appropriate species / cultivar for the right situation requires careful consideration. Priority should be given to native species. However, recommended non-native species include:

- Salix aegyptiaca (early spring flowering)
- Salix alba (spring flowering)
- Salix abla 'Liempde' Salix alba var. vitellina
- Lime
- Tilia (Tilia Americana 'Redmond', Tilia cordata, Tilia x europea, Tilia platyphyllos, Tilia tomentosa).

The range and diversity of Tilia is large therefore a small selection is recommended. These are outlined above.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.8

Amend the second bullet point of Section 15.2.6 as follows:

- Use of permeable paving/surfaces, bio-retention areas, tree pits, rain gardens, swales and other nature based sustainable urban drainage system methods, (SuDS); such that rainfall is not directed immediately to surface water drains. Such methods can serve to reduce the risk of flooding, by minimizing run-off and maximizing efficient management of surface water thus helping to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.9

Add new standard in Section 15.2.6 as follows:

The use of artificial grass in all new residential developments shall not be permitted, save in exceptional circumstances including for children's play areas.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.10 (A – E)

(A) Amend Section 15.3 as follows:

This Plan advocates a collaborative and multi-disciplinary approach to achieving high quality urban design and placemaking outcomes. A prerequisite for this is that development proposals are anchored in a comprehensive understanding of the form and character of the receiving environment. As such, it is considered that design statements are a vital tool

which can assist all parties involved in the development management process in assessing the suitability of proposed design solutions for specific sites.

(B) While a design statement can be prepared for all development proposals, the Planning Authority will require one to be submitted alongside applications for the following:

-
- Sites within or adjacent to designated Architectural Conservation Areas.
- **Development proposal affecting Protected Structures.**
- Sites with a steep and / or varying topography.
-

(C) Furthermore, the Planning Authority has the discretion to require a design statement to be prepared for any proposed development which it considers may have a significant impact on **the receiving environment including**

- **the visual sensitivities of an area**
- **the landscape character, and/or the**
- **environmental sensitivities of an area.** For medium to larger scale developments a finalised design statement submitted alongside a planning application should be reflective of the outcomes of meaningful pre-application discussions with the Planning Authority.

(D) While the level of detail to be included in a design statement shall be proportionate to the scale and complexity of the development proposed, it should generally be a focused and concise document and should not duplicate information that is already included in the planning application. ~~The primary intention of the design statement is to provide the applicant with an opportunity to explain the thought process behind a development proposal and justify why the selected design solution is the most suitable in terms of the design and massing of built form and the quality of spaces created, and in particular its contribution to placemaking and the identity of an area.~~

(E) The following details should be included in a design statement:

- A clear explanation of the design process, ~~the design~~ **including** options considered, ~~and how the development proposal was selected.~~
- A demonstration of how the development adheres to the relevant provisions of the **County** Development Plan, including explicit reference to the Urban Design Standards Checklist, as outlined in Table 14.2.
- **Any relevant** ~~The statement must also show how it complies with the contents of any~~ Local Area Plan, Masterplan, or other placemaking strategy affecting the site.
- Where relevant, the design statement should demonstrate how the development adheres to the guidance and principles set out in the 'Urban Design Manual' (DoEHLG, 2009), particularly to show where and how the 12 Criteria (as per the 'Urban Design Manual – A Best Practice Guide') have **each** been considered. ~~Each of the 12 Criteria is of equal importance and all must be considered in an integrated manner.~~

- A site and area appraisal including photographs of the site and its surroundings accompanied by illustrations such as photomontages, perspectives, and sketches, along with summaries of relevant studies and details of any recent consultations.
- In urban areas, **a demonstration of the design statement should explicitly demonstrate** how the development responds to the established urban structure, movement and accessibility, land uses, density, urban grain, visual context and built form.
- **A demonstration of how existing and new green infrastructure features will be integrated into the scheme.**
- Detailed proposals for open space illustrating how the provision of such areas have been designed in from the beginning ~~and demonstrate how existing and new green infrastructure features will be integrated into the scheme.~~
- A comprehensive high quality open space and landscape design plan including specifications, prepared by suitably qualified professionals.
- A statement setting out how energy efficiency and other climate mitigation measures have been incorporated into the proposed development.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.11

Amend the first paragraph of Section 15.4 as follows:

~~Well-designed and integrated housing developments can make a huge significant contribution to the quality of life and wellbeing of residents and therefore improve the overall long-term sustainability of a settlement as a whole. In delivering high quality housing for a growing population Kildare County Council seeks to ensure that such development occurs in a manner which places the principles of people-centred urban design and healthy placemaking at the heart of the development management process.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.12

Amend the fourth bullet point of Section 15.4.1 as follows:

- **Retaining and integrating the existing green infrastructure features & enhanced biodiversity features (for example bird boxes, hedgehog streets etc.) into the layout and design of the open space.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.13

Delete the last sentence of the first paragraph and the second paragraph of Section 15.4.4 and add a new paragraph at the end of the section as follows:

~~If the Housing Mix statement forms part of a subsequent application, the overall scheme would need to be taken into account and a detailed statement on the breakdown of all units and the changes proposed will be required.~~

~~A Housing Mix Statement will also be required for applications that fall below the threshold outlined in Objective HO O16, where the number of units permitted under previous applications on the landholding, when taken in conjunction with the number proposed in the subject application, would cumulatively meet or exceed the threshold.~~

A cumulative approach to the assessment of housing mix will be applied. A Housing Mix Statement may be required for sub-threshold application where, when taken in conjunction with another application/development, the above threshold is reached. In determining an appropriate mix, a Housing Mix Statement will be required to consider other applications/previous developments in the same location in its assessment.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.14

Amend the following paragraphs of Section 15.4.5 as follows:

The layout of the open space should be designed in such a way as to be a focal point within the development and shall where present, incorporate existing natural features such as streams, mature trees and established vegetation. Car parking arrangements should be fully integrated into the landscaping scheme so that they do not overly dominate the streetscape or detract from the aesthetics and useability of public open space.

Street trees should be designed into new developments, and developments should incorporate a high level of active frontages and passive supervision of all public open space. Built form on corner sites should be dual aspect and have a responsive design appropriately addressing their more prominent location. Boundaries between public open space, semi-private open space and private open space should be clearly delineated.

The layout of residential housing should avoid backing onto historic field boundaries which contain mature trees and/or established hedgerow. Such features shall, as far as practical, be fully addressed by the development, and integrated into the open space provision as a design and green infrastructure feature. Furthermore, any development adjacent to a high amenity area (such as the Curragh) will require a soft boundary and/or approval by the Heritage Officer for boundary treatments. Further requirements in relation to soft landscaping features are outlined in Section 15.2.5.

As outlined in the Urban Design Manual and DMURS, residential developments will be required to create a strong level of urban enclosure where the built form fully addresses street frontages with façades being predominantly solid, allowing for intermittent gaps only. Accordingly, the need for boundary treatments such as railings or walls around residential developments should be limited to an absolute minimum. In situations where a design solution cannot mitigate against the presence of such physical boundaries, high railings and walls should be avoided and boundaries should take the form of a low wall (rendered, natural stone or brick), railing, or a planted native hedgerow, to incorporate hedgehog streets, depending on the characteristics and location of the site.

The requirement for new residential development to integrate seamlessly with the surrounding urban environment also means that monumental or overbearing entrances to housing developments will not be permitted. The design of bespoke entrances, in situations where they are deemed by the Council to be acceptable or necessary, should be refined and understated.

Gated developments will not be permitted as they reduce social inclusion and integration within the existing community and generally fail to address the existing streetscape.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.15

Amend the first bullet point after Table 0.3 as follows:

- ~~Dual aspect shall be incorporated into all dwelling units.~~ Apartment schemes shall deliver a minimum of 33% or 50% of units (depending on circumstances) as dual aspect, in accordance with the criteria as set out in 'Sustainable Urban Housing; Design Standards for New Apartments'

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.16

Amend bullet points of Section 15.4.6 as follows:

- Private open space should be designed and configured so that it is usable for the proposed residents. ~~Long narrow rear gardens or awkward shapes are therefore not acceptable.~~
- Utility boxes should be screened from public view particularly for terraced units.
- Windows in the gable / side walls of dwellings will not be permitted where the window would closely overlook the ~~curtilage~~ private open space of the adjoining dwelling. ~~or where the window would not provide adequate light or aspect to a habitable room.~~ However, windows featuring opaque glazing may be acceptable in certain instances.
- In relation to storage spaces the following requirements shall be applied:

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.17

Amend the fourth, tenth and eleventh paragraphs of Section 15.4.12 as follows:

The following basic principles shall be applied:

- A flexible approach will be taken to the assessment of alternative design concepts and high quality contemporary designs will be encouraged. A different approach may apply in the case of a Protected Structure, structures with significant heritage or within an Architectural Conservation Area.
- ~~New extensions shall match or complement the style and materials used in the main house, unless there are good architectural reasons for doing otherwise.~~
- An adequate area of private open space, relative to the size of the dwelling should be retained, generally not less than 25sq.m. ~~The physical extensions to the floor area of a dwelling should not erode its other amenities. In all cases a minimum private rear garden area (Section 15.6.7 refers) must be retained except in exceptional circumstances where it can be demonstrated that there are exceptional circumstances to reduce the private open space and there will be no negative impact on neighbouring residential amenity.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.18

Amend the first paragraph of Section 15.4.15:

Placenames are an important part of our cultural heritage and placemaking. The Council actively seeks to ensure that our rich heritage is protected and enhanced through the naming of new residential developments. The naming of residential and other developments shall reflect local heritage by incorporating local placenames or names of geographical, historical or cultural significance to the site location. It is the preference of the Council to promote the use of the Irish Language in the first instance for the naming of new residential developments in the County. Names of

developments shall include the use of the Irish Language, where appropriate and sensible. The Council promotes and encourages the use of Irish Language for the naming of new residential developments in the County. Names of developments shall include the use of the Irish language. Developers shall have regard to the Council's policy, Naming of New Residential Developments (2018). The Council will endeavour to review this document within two years of the making of this Plan.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.19

Amend the second paragraph of Section 15.4.16:

The Council's policy on the taking in charge of residential developments is set out in the Taking in Charge Policy Statement (June 2008) which is currently under review and should be considered from the outset (either in its current form or as subsequently amended), from the initial pre-application stage through to the post construction phase of a development.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.20

Add new bullet point at the end of the fourth paragraph of Section 15.5.2 as follows:

Any application for childcare facilities shall have regard to the following:

- Signage should be minimized and designed into the scheme.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.21

Add new paragraph at the end of Section 15.5.2 as follows:

The omission of a crèche previously permitted within a residential development will not generally be favourably considered.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.22

Amend the second sentence of the second paragraph of Section 15.5.3 and add a new bullet to the end of the paragraph as follows:

Appropriate locations are generally determined by the Department of Education; however, the Planning Authority will encourage them in built up areas and / or clustered with other community infrastructure to enable dual usage of facilities. New schools at edge of town locations should be serviced by safe sustainable travel infrastructure. Any application for education facilities shall have regard to the following:

- Boundary treatment to be sensitive to the location and a landscape plan carried out by a suitably qualified landscape architect.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.23

Amend the title of Section 15.5.4 as follows:

15.5.4 Health Facilities & Veterinary Clinic

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.24

Add sub-heading before the last paragraph of Section 15.5.4 as follows:

Veterinary Clinics

In the case of veterinary surgeries, full details of all services provided on site shall be submitted, car parking for clients/patients and including details of overnight facilities (e.g., kennels/staff accommodation) and out of hours services together with noise mitigation measures, where appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.25

Amend Section 15.6.4 as follows:

Natural / Semi-Natural Green Space (e.g., undeveloped, or previously developed land with habitats such as woodland or wetland areas) and Green Corridors (linear green spaces such as canal and river corridors) also provide valuable open space ~~enhancing~~ **conserving biodiversity, and enhancing** natural drainage, and carbon storage.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.26

Amend Section 15.6.6 as follows:

The provision of accessible open space is a key part of the provision of high-quality green infrastructure for communities. Public open space must be carefully designed as an integral part of the layout of all residential schemes / mixed schemes from the outset, being addressed at the initial design stages. All applications for residential developments shall include a landscape plan, **which shall be prepared in accordance with the Parks Section 'Open Space & Landscaping Pre-Planning Guidance for Applicants' document.** It is vital that landscape architects are involved in the early stages of the design process and attend any pre-planning discussions with the Planning Authority.

Open space **shall** be provided within the development site as follows:

- On greenfield sites, the minimum area of open space that is acceptable within the site is ~~20%~~ **15%** of the total site area. This may include Natural / Semi-Natural Green Spaces incorporating the planting of native species and pollinator friendly areas which enhance biodiversity up to a maximum of 8%.
- On institutional sites a minimum requirement of ~~25%~~ **20%** of the site area may be required. This may include Natural / Semi-Natural Green Spaces incorporating the planting of native species and pollinator friendly areas which enhance biodiversity up to a maximum of 10%.

....

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.27

Amend the second paragraph of Section 15.6.7 as follows:

Exceptions may be permissible in relation to the development of inner urban infill where there is a need to protect the established pattern of streets and spaces and the redevelopment of brownfield / regeneration sites. Flexibility will be considered for well-designed development proposals. ~~The private amenity space requirements may be relaxed in part or whole, on a case-by-case basis, subject to overall design quality, which may include generous internal proportions and internal recreation and amenity facilities.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.28

Amend the last two bullet points of the third paragraph and paragraph four of Section 15.6.7:

- In certain development circumstances, the requirements set out above may not be appropriate (e.g., housing requirements for special needs, housing for ~~the elderly~~ **older people** / sheltered housing) particularly where the development is within a 10-minute walking distance of a public park or other amenity.

- A reduced minimum standard ~~may~~ will be accepted for 1 and 2-bedroom houses for older people, where it is demonstrated that the design of the dwelling is specifically designed and safeguarded for older people.

~~Private open space associated with apartments and duplexes is important to ensure a suitable level of amenity for occupiers. Balconies and terraced areas are the primary form of private open space for apartment and duplex type schemes. Such spaces shall be accessible from the main living area and comprise balconies / terraces.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.29

Add new bullet point after first bullet point and amend fourth bullet point of section 15.7.2 as follows:

- ~~New cycle parking shall be designed in accordance with the National Cycle Manual (2011 and any subsequent updates).~~
- ~~The cycle parking standards set out in Table 15.5 shall apply and cycle parking provision shall be in accordance with Section 5.4.1 of this Plan. The cycle parking standards set out in Table 15.5 shall be taken as minimum standards.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.30

Amend Table 0.5 as follows:

Table 015.5 - Minimum Cycle Parking Standards

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.31

Add new bullet in Section 15.7.6 as follows:

- ~~In accordance with the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities, DECLG (2012), the creation of additional access points from new development or the generation of increased traffic from existing accesses to national roads to which speed limits greater than 50kph apply shall be avoided.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.32

Amend the last two rows of Table 15.8 in Section 15.7.7 and add the following new paragraph directly below the table:

Urban / County Road	18.5m
Distributor	18.5m

Table 150.8 - Building Lines from Public Roads in Rural Areas

~~Where developments are proposed within an area adjacent to a National or Regional Road, the Planning Authority will have regard to the requirements of Transport Infrastructure Ireland and The National Roads Design Office in relation to Building Lines.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.33

Amend the first bullet point and add a new bullet point to Section 15.7.8 as follows:

- ~~Car parking standards are set out in Table 15.9 below to guide proposed development. Other than 'Residential' parking Parking standards are maximum standards. Residential development in areas within walking distances of town~~

centres (800 metres i.e. a 10-minute walk) and high-capacity public transport services (including but not limited to Dart+ services, Bus Connects routes and any designated bus only or bus priority route) should be designed to provide for fewer parking spaces, having regard to the need to balance demand for parking against the need to promote more sustainable forms of transport, to limit traffic congestion and to protect the quality of the public realm from the physical impact of parking.

- The use of shared car schemes will be encouraged in appropriate town centre and urban locations.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.34

Amend Table 15.9 of Section 15.7.8 as follows:

Residential	
House 4 units bedrooms or greater

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.35

Add new sub bullet point below the second main bullet point under Table 15.9 and amend the third main bullet point under Table 15.9 as follows:

- Additionally, the maximum provision of parking should not be viewed as a target. Lower rates of parking and car-free developments should be considered in the first instance, particularly where such developments are close to and can avail of public transport. In addition, the Council will have regard to:
 - The nature of the uses of the site and likely durations of stays;
 - Park and Stride initiatives;
- The Council will normally require the provision of car parking spaces within the curtilage of the site or convenient to the development. ~~The provision should be based on the extent to which the development is likely to generate demand for additional parking spaces.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.36

Include the following as a new fourth bullet point after Table 15.9:

-car-borne traffic within a development
- The safe movement of walkers and cyclists shall be prioritized with a requirement to provide safe segregated cycling/walking routes where developments include substantial parking requirements.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.37

Add a new sub-bullet directly under main bullet point under Table 15.10 of Section 15.7.8 and amend second and third sub-bullet points as follows:

- New residential development should take account of the different criteria regarding car parking including:
 - A reduction of car parking standards will be considered on a case-by-case basis, having regard to 'Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments (2020)' where applicable.
 - ...
 - Vehicular parking for apartments, where appropriate, should generally be at basement or undercroft level. Where this is not possible, parking for apartments and terraced housing should be in informal groups overlooked by residential units;

- The visual impact of large areas of parking should be reduced by the use of screen planting including semi mature **native** trees ~~while~~ connecting to existing green infrastructure networks, where possible, low walls and the use of different textured or coloured paving for car parking bays; and

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.38

Amend the fourth bullet point of Section 15.7.9 as follows:

Require all lighting design strategies to be developed to minimise impacts on biodiversity, **particularly bats**, in accordance with Section 5.13 of this Plan.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.39

Amend the first paragraph of Section 15.8 as follows:

~~Sustainable Drainage Systems are the most appropriate way to managing surface water run-off, as they mimic natural drainage processes to reduce the effect on the quality and quantity of runoff from developments whilst also providing amenity and biodiversity benefits.~~ Nature Based Surface Water Management solutions should be considered in the first instance as they are measures which are inspired and supported by nature.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.40

Amend the third bullet point of Section 15.8 as follows:

- Proposals for surface water management shall be in compliance with the Greater Dublin Drainage Strategy (GDSDS), in particular Volume 2 Chapter 6 Stormwater Drainage Design Criteria, and CIRIA SuDS Manual (C753) **and with Nature-Based Solutions to the Management of Rainwater and Surface Water Runoff in Urban Areas Best Practice Interim Guidance Document (2021, DHLGH).**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.41

Amend the first bullet point and add two new bullet points to the end of Section 15.9.2 as follows:

In relation to industrial development the following should be taken into consideration:

- Individual buildings should exhibit a high quality of modern architectural design and finish (including the use of colour). **Prominent corner-face of buildings shall be appropriately articulated;**
- ...
- **Signage shall be an appropriate scale and designed into the scheme.**
- **Any mechanical plant or air handling units shall be appropriately screened.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.42

Add new bullet point before the first bullet point, amend the second, third and fifth bullet points and add two new bullet point at the end of the first group of bullet point under section 15.9.3 as follows:

The masterplan shall be consistent with the policies and objectives of this Plan and shall include the following:

- **Prominent corner / face of buildings shall be appropriately articulated.**
- ...
- A Green Infrastructure Plan which retains and enhances where possible existing wetland habitat, hedgerow, woodlands, meadows and habitats of species protected under European legislation and National Wildlife Acts **& provides for wildlife corridors.**

- Creates new green infrastructure assets such as public open space, green roofs, green walls, tree planting, **street trees** and natural pollination zones;
- ...
- Incorporates **Nature Based Sustainable urban Drainage Systems (SuDS)** such as ponds, bioretention areas, detention basins, infiltration basins, filter strips, **street trees**, wetlands, swales and rain gardens.
- ...
- **Signage shall be an appropriate scale and designed into the scheme.**
- **Any mechanical plant or air handling units shall be appropriately scaled.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.43

Add the following new bullet point to the end of section 15.9.3.1 as follows:

The design and siting of individual units in Business and Technology Parks shall comply with the principles of any Design Statement prepared as part of the masterplan for the overall site. In general,

-
- **Any mechanical plant or air handling units shall be appropriately screened.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.44

Amend the first bullet point of the 'Note' below Section 15.9.6 as follows:

Note:

- The Council favours the use of existing ~~licensed~~ **authorised and planning compliant** quarries over proposals for extraction from green field sites.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.45

Amend the last two bullet points in section 15.9.7 and add a new bullet point after the last bullet point as follows:

Planning applications for home based economic activity shall contain (at a minimum) the following details, though the Council may require additional information, as necessary, on a case-by-case basis;

- ...
- Arrangements for the storage of refuse and collection of waste; ~~and~~
- Appropriate levels of screening / landscaping-; ~~and~~
- **Whether or not the proposed development will be open to visiting members of the public.**

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.46

Amend the first and fourth bullet points of Section 15.9.8 as follows:

- In the construction and layout of agricultural buildings, the Council will require that buildings be sited as unobtrusively as possible, working with the contours of the land and that the finishes and colours used blend into the surroundings. The Council accepts the need for agricultural buildings and associated works (walls, fences, gates, entrances, yards etc.) to be functional, but they will be required to be sympathetic to their surroundings in scale, materials, and finishes. ~~Buildings should relate to the landscape and not the skyline. Traditionally this was achieved by having the roof darker than the walls;~~
- ...
- The removal of hedges to accommodate agricultural developments **shall only be permitted with the written agreement of the Planning Authority and shall only be**

considered as a last resort. It is important that hedgerows are retained in order to maintain and enhance existing green infrastructure networks in the interests of biodiversity. When retaining boundary hedgerows, the council requires suitably sized infill planting where possible. A landscaping plan is required as part of an application for agricultural development and should include screening and shelterbelt planting, composed principally of native species as listed in section 15.2.5 Chapter 15, Development Management Standards.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.47

Amend Section 15.10.2 as follows:

~~A Construction and Demolition Waste Management Plan, prepared in accordance with the Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects (Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2006), and any updated version of these guidelines, shall be submitted as part of development proposals for projects above any of the following thresholds:~~

- ~~• New residential development of 10 units or more.~~
- ~~• New developments other than above, including institutional, educational, health and other public facilities, with an aggregate floor area of more than 1,250 sq. m.~~
- ~~• Demolition / renovation / refurbishment projects generating more than 100 cubic metres in volume of Construction and Demolition waste; and~~
- ~~• Civil engineering projects generating more than 500 cubic metres of waste materials used for development works on the site.~~

~~A Construction and Demolition Waste Management Plan, as a minimum, should include provision for the management of all construction and demolition waste arising on site, and make provision for the reuse of said material and / or the recovery or disposal of this waste to authorised facilities by authorised collectors. Where appropriate, excavated material from development sites should be reused on the subject site.~~

Construction & Demolition waste management is now a priority objective under the new National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy. Detailed waste management plans will be required to be produced and delivered on for all new development regardless of their size in accordance with the latest EPA Guidelines, where the emphasis will be on waste minimisation and reuse, followed by sustainable and environmentally friendly disposal to suitably licensed facilities.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.48

Amend the first paragraph of Section 15.10.3 as follows:

Provision of “Bring Bank” facilities shall be required in conjunction with significant new commercial / retail developments (particularly convenience supermarkets) or extensions to same, and in conjunction with large scale residential and mixed- use developments. The Council shall move towards ensuring that bring bank facilities are accessible to as many members of the public as possible.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.49

Include new sentence at the end of section 15.11.1 as follows:

It is the preference of the Planning Authority that the spacing between turbines should be kept to a minimum in order to reduce the visual impact and footprint of the

development on the landscape, and where possible the distance between turbines should not be greater than the distance between a dwelling house and a turbine.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.50

Add new sub-section directly under Section 15.11.1 as follows:

15.11.2 Solar Energy Proposals

All applications for proposed solar farm developments shall have due regard to the considerations listed in Section 7.6 'Solar Energy' in Chapter 7.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.51

Amend Section 15.11.2 as follows:

~~In determining applications proximate to overhead power lines the planning authority will have regard to the clearance distances as recommended by the Electricity Supply Board (ESB):~~

- ~~• For development in proximity to a 10kv or a 38kv overhead line, no specific clearance is required by the ESB.~~
- ~~• For development in proximity to a 110kv overhead line, a clearance distance of 20 metres either side of the centre line or 23 metres around a pylon is recommended.~~
- ~~• For development in proximity to a 220kv overhead line, a clearance distance of 30 metres either side of the centre line or around a pylon is required.~~

In relation to development proposals proximate (within 23 metres) to overhead electrical infrastructure, developers / applicants should contact ESB in advance of completing or finalising designs etc. (i.e. prior to pre-planning stage), so as to ensure that the relevant clearances are maintained from any overhead electricity infrastructure. The Council will have regard to those clearances.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.52

Add new bullet point after the second bullet point of section 15.11.3 as follows:

Planning applications for new facilities should include:

- ...
- Site sharing and clustering of equipment will be encouraged.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.53

Amend the last paragraph of Section 15.12 as follows:

Developers of Seveso sites and any sites within the consultation distances of these industries (See Section 4.14) adjacent to Seveso sites are encouraged to consult with the HSA at the pre-planning stage to assess the impacts of their proposals.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.54

Add new bullet point at the end of Section 15.13.3 as follows:

- Proposals for shopping centres should include naming and advertising details.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.55

Amend Section 15.13.6 as follows:

15.13.6 Motor Service Areas / Petrol Filling Stations

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.56

Amend part (ii) of section 15.13.6 and the last paragraph of section 15.13.8 as follows:

(A) Part (ii) of section 15.13.6.
(ii) ~~Petrol~~ Fuel Filling Stations

~~Petrol~~ Fuel filling stations must be located on the outskirts of the town or village but inside the 50km or 60km speed limits. The preferred location is on the near side of the roadway on the way out of town.

The essential purpose of ~~petrol~~ fuel filling stations is to provide facilities for the sale of fuels for vehicles. The Council however recognises the more diverse role of ~~petrol~~ fuel filling stations in recent times, and the expansion from merely fuel depots to the provision of a wide range of convenience and other goods and services, including functioning as rest areas.

Applications for planning permission for such development should contain the following elements:

- Detailed proposals with respect to, inter alia, the following; ~~for the service station will be required, including~~ method of disposal of wastewater from carwash areas, traffic management including details regarding the queuing of vehicles to access EV-charging points, surface water outlet and oil interceptors etc. The development shall be designed and operated to avoid adverse effects on existing road drainage in the area.
- A high standard of overall design, architectural layout, and material content to ensure an attractive development that integrates with and complements or enhances its surroundings. Where proposals include a ~~The~~ forecourt canopy, it should be justified given the strategies to reducing carbon fuel sales and integrated into the overall design and sited so that it does not dominate the surrounding buildings.
- Air pump and ancillary services shall be provided as part of any proposal.
- ...
- The modification of standard corporate designs may be required by the Council in order to reduce the visual impact of the development in sensitive environments. In such instances, standard ~~petrol~~ fuel filling station canopies can be replaced with more sympathetic canopies designed to the satisfaction of the Council, such as light steel and glass or slated roofs with no attached advertising.
- ...
- The retail floor space of the shop shall not exceed 100 sq.m net; where permission is sought for a floor space in excess of 100 sq.m net, the sequential approach to retail development shall apply in accordance with the Retail Planning Guidelines, DECLG (2012) i.e. the retail element of the proposal shall be assessed by the planning authority in the same way as would an application for retail development (without ~~petrol/diesel~~ fuel filling facilities) in the same location.
- ...
- The safe movement of walkers and cyclists shall be prioritised over vehicle movements with a layout of segregated routes to protect vulnerable road users at points of entry/egress and within the site with dishings as required.

(B) Amend the last paragraph of Section 15.13.8.

Sales hatches may be acceptable where shopfronts are removed from the public footpath and a specific need is demonstrated (e.g., late opening petrol fuel filling stations).

And any other consequential amendments throughout the Plan, as appropriate.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.57

Amend the sixth bullet point of Section 15.13.7 as follows:

- The design shall be required to respect the character of the street and the buildings; and particularly within Architectural Conservation Areas.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.58

Amend the third main bullet point of Section 15.14.2 as follows:

- The Council will discourage, through its advice and guidelines and through the imposition of conditions in planning permissions, or refusal of permission in certain cases, the following:
 - The removal of features or alterations to existing shopfronts where they are considered by the Council to be of historical or architectural interest, or of townscape value;

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.59

Amend the first bullet point of Section 15.14.5 as follows:

- ~~The installation of security shutters can visually destroy and deaden the shopping street at night, thereby detracting from the environment of the town. It is the policy of the Council to discourage the use of such roller shutters and to ensure the removal of unauthorised ones. The erection of a roller shutter and its associated housing requires planning permission.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.60

Amend Section 15.15, Section 15.15.1, 15.15.2 and 15.15.3 as follows:

- (A) Add a new bullet point after the first bullet point, amend last sub-bullet point, and add two new bullet points and a table at the end of section 15.15
- Proposals for signage on or at national roads will be assessed against Chapter 3 of the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DoECLG, 2012) and TII Policy on the Provision of Tourist & Leisure Signage on National Roads (March 2011).
 - The Kildare County Council's Shopfront Guidelines (2013) sets out the Council's approach to effectively manage signage (refer to Section 15.14.3 also). All applications for signage shall be considered having regard to this policy document in terms of:
 - Impact on built heritage and streetscape; and
 - The Council will carefully and sensitively manage the proliferation of advertising structures, visual clutter and brand advertising in particular in historic town and villages centres and approaches to all towns and villages in County Kildare in order to ensure the public realm is enhanced and protected.
 - Public Health Act curtailments regarding the advertisement of alcohol products in respect of proximity to schools shall be strictly adhered to.

Type of Sign	Restriction On use	Design Criteria
Fingerpost Sign	<p>Not permitted along motorways / interchanges or national routes</p> <p>Directional signs for major tourist attractions and community purposes will be considered but product advertising will not be permitted.</p> <p>Generally, only one sign per establishment will be permitted.</p> <p>Only the primary route to the facility shall be signed.</p> <p>The sign should be located within 2km of the facility or at a relevant junction.</p>	
Backlit Signs	Generally appropriate.	Lettering should generally not exceed 400mm in height
Billboard	May be permitted in limited circumstances for a specified time period, where it can be demonstrated that the development will enhance the area e.g. by screening an unsightly site or derelict structure	
Use of Gable/Side of Buildings for the Exhibition of Advertising Structures	Not Permitted	
Digital Boards/Signs	Generally not appropriate. Not permitted in an ACA or on or close to a Protected Structure. Not permitted on major roads unless signage relates to the signage strategy or traffic management and safety.	Applications should set out the details for the material, finishes and colours of the signage structure, maximum luminance of the advertisement display between dusk and dawn.

Type of Sign	Restriction On use	Design Criteria
		Only static images without movement shall be permitted, No more than one advertisement shall be displayed every ten seconds and fade transition shall be applied.
Bus Shelter	Generally appropriate	Purpose of illumination should be to light the shelter.
Fascias and Box Signs	Generally appropriate	Should not be internally illuminated. Lettering should not exceed more than 400mm in height.
Projecting Sign	Generally not appropriate	Should not be internally illuminated
Public Information Panels	Generally appropriate	Should not obstruct footpath/cycle paths. Advertising permitted on public information panels will be restricted and should constitute not more than 50% of the total area.
Neon Signs	Generally not appropriate	Should not be displayed in village centres, in ACAs or on or near A Protected Structure
Signs above Parapet	Not Permitted	
Moving Vane Signs	Not Permitted	
Free Standing Advertising Displays	Not permitted on or over footpaths	
Totem	Not generally permitted where nameplate signage on a façade of a building is sufficient in scale and design and clearly visible from a public road. In general, due to the size of this type of signage it is not acceptable within an ACA	Limit of 1 no. Totem Sign per specific site. Must be high quality material/finish. Position of sign should not interfere with vehicular and pedestrian sightlines.

Type of Sign	Restriction On use	Design Criteria
	or within the curtilage of a Protected Structure.	
Trailer/Mobile Trailer Signs/Parked Mobile Advertising	Not Permitted	
Window Signs	Generally appropriate	Should not occupy more than 25% of the window. Signs in windows should not be internally illuminated
Structures on Public Footpaths and Public Areas	Not Permitted	
Sundry Advertising Devices	Not Permitted	Includes pavement signs or sandwich boards, spotlights, flags, bunting, banners, neon moving message signs, fly posting and barrage/ balloons

Table 15.11 – Advertising Signage

(B) Delete sections 15.15.1, 15.15.2 and 15.15.3.

~~15.15.1 Impact on natural heritage, areas of high amenity and landscape sensitivity factors. Fingerpost Signage~~

- ~~• Such signs will not be permitted along motorways / interchanges or national routes.~~
- ~~• Proposed signage will be subject to the considerations in Section 15.15 above and the following additional considerations:~~
 - ~~○ Directional signs for major tourist attractions and community purposes will be considered but product advertising will not be permitted.~~
 - ~~○ Generally, only one sign per establishment will be permitted.~~
 - ~~○ Only the primary route to the facility shall be signed.~~
 - ~~○ The sign should be located within 2km of the facility or at a relevant junction.~~

~~15.15.2 Totem Signage~~

- ~~• The use of totem pole advertisement displays will be carefully considered and will not generally be permitted where nameplate signage on a façade of a building is sufficient in scale and design and clearly visible from a public road.~~
- ~~• In general, a proliferation of these structures shall be strictly controlled in the commercial/industrial zoned areas of the County and particularly in smaller settlements.~~
- ~~• Where the requirement for a totem sign can be justified, their height and width shall not be excessive and they should be sympathetic to the surroundings, in particular in town and village centres, within or near Architectural Conservation Areas, close to sites of heritage interest and where they adjoin residential areas.~~

- ~~The information displayed on the totem pole should not be excessive or appear unduly visually obtrusive.~~
- ~~The number of totem structures, serving a specific site, shall be limited to 1 no. sign, and should not be located in a position that would interfere with vehicular and pedestrian sightlines.~~

15.15.3 Outdoor Advertising Structures

- ~~Outdoor advertising structures, including trailer type structures, will not generally be permitted within the county, whether freestanding or attached to buildings. In particular, the use of gables or sides of buildings for the exhibition of advertising structures will not be permitted.~~
- ~~Billboards or similar types of advertisements may be permitted in limited circumstances for a specified time period, where it can be demonstrated that the development will enhance the area e.g. by screening an unsightly site or derelict structure.~~
- ~~The use of free standing signs / advertising boards on or over public footpaths will not be permitted.~~

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.61

Insert new section after Section 15.15 as follows:

15.16 Outdoor Dining

- The siting of outdoor dining and associated structures on a public footpath is subject to a licence in accordance with Section 254 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). Planning permission is required where the outdoor dining structures are located on private land.
- Kildare County Council's Licensing of Outdoor Dining and Seating Guidelines and Checklist Document (2021) set out the Council's approach to effectively managing outdoor dining. All applications shall be considered having regard to these guidelines.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 15.62

Add new paragraph to Section 15.16.1 as follows:

Bats will often roost in basements or attics of old buildings and could potentially be disturbed during works to protected structures. Bats are protected under the Wildlife Acts 1976 to 2012. It is an offence to intentionally disturb, injure or kill a bat or disturb its resting place and any work on a roost must be carried out with the advice of the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Bats are also protected under the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), Annex IV. It is important that expert advice is sought in determining the presence of bat species in older buildings to address the requirement of derogation licence that will be required if bats are found to be present.

Chapter 16: Monitoring and Implementation

Proposed Material Alteration No. 16.1

Amend the first sentence of the third paragraph of Section 16.1:

The Council's key priorities over the life of the Development Plan will be to secure the full quantum of new housing provision for the county as set out in the Core Strategy, accompanied by the timely delivery of servicing and community infrastructure, along with transitioning the county to a model of low carbon society and tackling the loss of biodiversity.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 16.2

Amend the description of 'Resilience' in the table under Section 16.2.3:

Resilience	The Covid-19 Pandemic has most recently shown the importance of resilience and adaptability. Resilience is a principle that also underpins the Plan and is described as 'the ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions'. (United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), 2009). Protecting biodiversity can help us adapt to the hazard of climate change. Healthy ecosystems will be more resilient to climate change and more able to maintain the supply of ecosystem services on which our prosperity and wellbeing depend. Resilience is therefore built into the strategic policies and recommendations of each of the cross-cutting themes: quality of life, sustainability, climate action, and inclusivity.
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Proposed Material Alteration No. 16.3

(A) Amend Second bullet point of section 16.3.3

- Application of the Vacant Site Levy ^{add footnote} to key residential and regeneration sites.

Footnote: Action 15.2 of Housing for All identifies the introduction of a new tax to activate vacant land for residential purposes as part of the pathway to increasing new housing supply, which will in time replace the Vacant Site Levy. The Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) was introduced by the Finance Act 2021 and will come into effect from 2024. The principal purpose of the residential zoned development land tax is to encourage the timely activation of serviced lands zoned for residential or mixed-use purposes.

(B) Amend Last two paragraphs of section 16.3.3

The Planning Department will also oversee ~~prepare and commence the preparation and implementation~~ of masterplans for strategic sites including in particular, the Northwest Quadrant and the Maudlins Key Development Area in Naas, ~~Naas Town Centre, Maynooth Town Centre~~ and the lands at Confey and Collinstown in Leixlip. The Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team will also oversee the preparation of Naas Town and Maynooth Town Renewal Masterplans.

With regard to the implementation of the Zoned Land Tax (ZLT), the collection of which will be commenced in 2023, it is intended that all work related to the Vacant Site Levy ^{add footnote} will provide the foundation for identifying sites to which this tax will be applied.

Footnote: Action 15.2 of Housing for All identifies the introduction of a new tax to activate vacant land for residential purposes as part of the pathway to increasing new housing supply, which will in time replace the Vacant Site Levy. The Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) was introduced by the Finance Act 2021 and will come into effect from 2024. The principal purpose of the residential zoned development land tax is to encourage the timely activation of serviced lands zoned for residential or mixed-use purposes.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 16.4

Add new objective to Section 16.3.4 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Implement the mitigation measures as set out in the SEA Environmental Report.

Proposed Material Alteration No. 16.5

Add new objective to Section 16.3.4 as follows and renumber objectives accordingly:
Implement the monitoring programme as set out in the SEA Environmental Report.
This will include the preparation of standalone SEA Monitoring Reports to accompany:

- a) The report required of the Chief Executive under section 15(2) of the Act, including information in relation to progress on, and the results of, monitoring the significant environmental effects of implementation of the development plan.
- b) In advance of the beginning of the review of the next County Development Plan, on the significant environmental effects of implementing this Plan.