

Chapter 8: Urban Centres and Retail

General comments

8.11 Retail Warehouse Parks

We note and welcome all objectives RET O66-RET O69 relating to the discouragement of further out-of-town retail park development and attendant restrictions.

8.16.1 Outdoor Dining: Section 254 License application

We note and particularly welcome the following objective. However, given the dire litter situation in all of Kildare's settlements, along with our climate mitigation targets, we suggest insertion of the following:

RET O80 - *Encourage, support and promote outdoor dining facilities that contribute to vitality and vibrancy of centres at all levels of the County Retail Hierarchy, while ensuring these facilities have appropriate layouts, adequate management and contain high quality design components in line with Section 254 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 and the Licensing Outdoor Dining and Seating Guidance Document August 2021 by Kildare County Council. To reduce the volume of waste production and associated littering in Kildare's settlements, outdoor dining using disposable plate, cups and cutlery will be discouraged*

Additionally, in line with our climate mitigation goals, we suggest that reduced Commercial Rates are applied for a period of time to encourage, promote and incentivize the establishment of Zero Waste/Local Food shops in retail areas.

Increasingly, there are a number of successful examples appearing in Ireland. For example:

- <https://noms.ie/>
- <https://www.cultzero.ie/>

We recognise that the establishment phase may be difficult for many of these innovative outlets, and suggest that KCC might consider ways to facilitate.

Additionally, in line with the Brigid annual bank holiday and proposed activities, we suggest that retail opportunities for beer and wool might be supported to mirror her legacy.