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20 July 2016

To: Each Member of Cork County Council

Re: Making of the Draft Cork County Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2016-2021

Background

In accordance with Section 66C (4)(a) of the Local Government Reform Act (2014) each Local Authority is required to make a six-year Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) for its area. The purpose of this plan is to identify and implement actions to strengthen and develop the economic and community dimensions of the county.

The Cork County Local Economic and Community Plan was prepared in conjunction with the Council's Economic Development Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) and the 3 no. Cork County Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs).

The Plan has been drafted by Cork County Council's Planning Policy Unit in an integrated manner and shall be adopted by Cork County Council as a unified plan. This integrated economic and community plan provides the basis for a coherent, streamlined and co-ordinated approach to service delivery planning and implementation locally.

Process

An Advisory Steering Group was established; it was tasked with overseeing the preparation of this LECP. The preparation of the plan involved:

- Preparation of a socio-economic profile of the county;
- Extensive consultation with community and economic interests, key relevant stakeholders and the public at large;
- Quality of Life Survey;
- Review of all relevant strategies and plans for Cork County.

The draft LECP, as circulated, has been completed and approved under the auspices of the Advisory Steering Group and the Economic Development SPC and the 3 no. Cork County LCDCs. The making of the plan is a reserved function of members of the Local Authority.

In accordance with the process outlined above, each of the Cork County eight Municipal Districts and the Southern Regional Assembly considered the draft Local Economic and Community Plan and adopted the following Statements:

Municipal District Adopted Statement on the Cork County Local Economic and Community Plan

‘Cork County Municipal Districts being Kanturk-Mallow; Fermoy; Blarney-Macroom; Ballincollig-Carrigaline; Cobh; East Cork; Bandon-Kinsale and West Cork have considered the Draft Cork County Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021 in accordance with Section 66C of the Local Government Reform Act and are satisfied that the economic and community elements of this Plan are consistent with the following:

- (i) The core strategy and objectives of the Cork County Development Plan 2014-2020;*
- (ii) The South West Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022;*
- (iii) The Economic and Community elements of the draft Local Economic and Community Plan for Cork County are consistent with each other.’*

Southern Regional Assembly Adopted Statement on the Cork County Local Economic and Community Plan

In accordance with Section 66C of the Local Government Act 2014, it is hereby confirmed that the Cork County Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 - 2021 has demonstrated, as far as is practicable, consistency:-

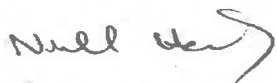
- (i) with the core strategy and objectives contained in the Cork County Development Plan 2014 – 2020, and the Town Development Plans for Cobh (2013), Clonakilty (2009-2015), Fermoy (2009-2015), Kinsale (2009-2015), Macroom (2009-2015), Mallow (2010-2016), Midelton (2013), Skibbereen (2009-2015) and Youghal (2009-2015) ;*
- (ii) with the Regional Planning Guidelines for the South – West Region 2010 – 2022;*
- (iii) between the community and economic elements of the LECP.*

Following the adoption of these statements the Local Government Reform Act (2014) requires that the Draft Plan shall be made by the elected council of the local authority, with or without amendment, and any amendment by it shall relate only to the consistency of the plan with –

- (i) the core strategy and the objectives of the County Development Plan of the Local Authority concerned and
- (ii) any regional spatial and economic strategy or as appropriate Regional Planning Guidelines that apply to the area of the Plan,

Please note the making of the final Plan by the elected council of the local authority is a reserved function of full council.

Yours sincerely,



Niall Healy
LCDC Chief Officer



Louis Duffy
Director of Service