



TO: JOHN MCCORMACK, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
FROM: DENIS MALONE, SENIOR PLANNER
SUBJECT: STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF AMENDMENT 1 TO CALLAN,
CASTLECOMER AND GRAIGUENAMANAGH LOCAL AREA PLANS AND AMENDMENT 2 TO
THOMASTOWN LOCAL AREA PLAN
DATE: 16TH DECEMBER 2011

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

In accordance with the requirements of Article 14A, 'screening' of the proposed amended Plans was undertaken in respect of SEA. A letter setting out the Council's considerations with regard to the relevant criteria for determining whether the amended plans were likely to have significant impacts on the environment as set out in Schedule 2A of S.I. No. 436/2004 was submitted to the following environmental and planning authorities:

- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- The Minister of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DoECLG)
- The Minister for Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht Affairs, and
- Carlow County Council (for the Graiguenamanagh Local Area Plan)

None of these authorities advised that a Strategic Environmental Assessment should be carried out; the information contained in the response received from the EPA has been taken into account.

The SEA screenings, which had regard to the criteria set out in schedule 2A of S.I. No. 436/2004, did not indicate that that any of the proposed amended Plans were likely to have significant impacts on the environment.

Recommendation

I therefore recommend that a Strategic Environmental Assessment is **not required** for the proposed Amendments to the Callan, Castlecomer, Graiguenamanagh and Thomastown Local Area Plans 2009, as per the provisions of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2011.

Denis Malone,
Senior Planner

I agree with the above recommendation.

John McCormack,
Director of Services