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25th January, 2019.

Forward Planning Unit,
Planning Department,
Monaghan County Council,
The Glen,
Co. Monaghan.

**Submission Re: Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Monaghan County
Development Plan 2019-2025**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Introduction

Please find hereunder the comments of Meath County Council in respect of the proposed material alterations to the Draft Monaghan County Development Plan 2019-2025. Meath County Council welcome the opportunity to comment on the material alterations and respectfully request that Monaghan County Council take into consideration the issues raised within this submission in finalising the Development Plan.

N2 Strategic Transport Link

The N2 corridor is a strategic economic artery which links Meath with Monaghan and the wider region. It is important to facilitate strategic traffic movement and to maintain and improve accessibility, particularly to employment areas. Meath County Council requested that a policy be included in the Draft Plan reflecting the strategic importance of this route and the need for upgrades having regard to the objective included within the NTA Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035 re; providing enhancements of the N2/M2 National route to provide for inter alia additional capacity on the non-motorway sections of this route.

Meath County Council welcome the inclusion within the proposed Material Alterations specific reference to the upgrading of the N2 in collaboration with Transport Infrastructure Ireland and adjoining local authorities within policy NRP6 where it states *"To seek to progress and ensure the upgrade of the N2 in co-operation with Transport Infrastructure Ireland and the relevant adjoining local authorities"*.

Greenways

Meath County Council fully supports the Greenway programme and recognises the economic, health, social and community benefits that can accrue from these initiatives. The Lakelands Greenway (Navan – Kingscourt). This route is a standalone route. However, it will ultimately link through Navan to the Boyne Greenway and with corridors 1, 2, 5 and 13 of the National Cycle Network. The route links Navan and Kingscourt, and specifically the Dun Na Ri Forest Park with the Blackwater Park in Navan. It has potential to extend and link to Carrickmacross and Dundalk. This would bring the possibility of connecting into the coastal route from Dundalk to Drogheda and Cycle Corridor 5 leading back to Dublin. The Council is of the view that a specific policy reflecting the potential of extending the Greenways in collaboration with adjoining local authorities should be referenced within the Plan.

Conclusion:

Meath County Council requests that the relevant policy sections addressed above are fully considered in the completion of the preparation of the Monaghan County Development Plan. Please do not hesitate to contact the Council if you require clarification on any of the matters raised in this submission or any further information which may be of assistance to you in finalising the Plan.

Yours Sincerely,



Pat Gallagher,
Senior Planner