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## **Meath County Council**

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**Forward Planning Section**

**Forward Planning Unit**  
Monaghan County Council  
The Glen  
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**April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Re: Draft Monaghan County Development Plan 2019-2025**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find hereunder the comments of Meath County Council in respect of the Draft Monaghan County Development Plan 2019-2025. Meath County Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the process and respectfully requests that Monaghan County Council takes into consideration the issues raised in the enclosed submission in finalizing the Development Plan.

### **N2-Strategic Transport Link**

The N2 corridor is a vital economic artery which connects Meath to Monaghan and the wider region. It is necessary to facilitate strategic traffic movement and to maintain and improve accessibility to employment areas. The NTA Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035 includes an objective to provide enhancements of the N2/M2 national route to provide for inter alia additional capacity on the non-motorway sections of this route. The National Planning Framework also endorses these infrastructure improvements. Meath County Council remains committed to supporting and facilitating TII, Monaghan County Council, Louth County Council and Fingal County Council in the planning and delivery of upgrades to the N2, which is considered to be essential infrastructural development and has reflected same in its current Development Plan. To reflect the strategic national importance of this route, the need for upgrades and to further support the written statement of the Development Plan it is suggested that a specific policy be included in this regard.

### **Greenways**

Meath County Council fully supports the Greenway programme and recognises its value from an economic, health, community and rural regeneration perspective. The delivery of the Lakelands Greenway (Navan – Kingscourt) which forms part of the northern greenway extending into Counties Cavan, Monaghan and Louth is of considerable importance. It is anticipated that funding for Phase 1 of the project will be made

available in 2018. Cross border greenway projects are recognised within the National Planning Framework as an opportunity to maximise market exposure from a tourism perspective and the provision of a north – south long distance cycling route is supported within this document. Meath County Council supports the delivery of a north – south greenway in partnership with neighbouring Local Authorities including Monaghan County Council and those within Northern Ireland. To this end the Council welcomes the inclusion of CFP 12 in the Draft Plan as follows:

***Policy CFP12** To work with in conjunction with adjoining local authorities including Meath, Louth and Cavan to develop the border kingdoms route across Dundalk, Inniskeen, Carrickmacross, Kingscourt, Nobber, Navan and Drogheda.*

Meath County Council welcome further opportunities for collaboration with Monaghan County Council on projects of mutual benefit such as the provision of green infrastructure and other heritage focused projects.

### **Conclusion**

Meath County Council respectfully requests that the relevant policies prescribed in the aforementioned plans and points outlined above are fully considered in the finalisation of the Monaghan County Development Plan. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require clarification of any of the issues raised in this submission or any further information on Meath County Council policies or strategies which is necessary for the finalisation of the new Monaghan County Development Plan.

Yours sincerely



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**Pat Gallagher,  
Senior Planner,  
Planning Department.**