

Title of Report: Item 8: Donegal County Council - Consultation on Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Seven Strategic Towns Local Area Plan 2018-2024	Officer Presenting: Senior Planning Officer
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1 Purpose of Report / Recommendations

- 1.1 The purpose of this Paper is to advise Members of a public consultation recently received from Donegal County Council on Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Seven Strategic Towns Local Area Plan (the Draft LAP) 2018-2024 and associated Environmental Report. The consultation runs from 11th May 2018 to 6th June 2018.

2 Background

- 2.1 Members were appraised of the background to The Draft Seven Strategic Towns Local Area Plan at the 10th January 2018 Planning Committee. The Seven Strategic Towns are: Dungloe; Ballybofey-Stranorlar; Ballyshannon; Bridgend; Carndonagh; Donegal Town and Killybegs. The initial consultation period that ran from 24th November to 24th January 2018 received 1,152 public submissions and 9 from Prescribed Bodies and Environmental authorities. These submissions were the subject of a Chief Executive's Report in February 2018.

The documents can be viewed at:

<http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/developmentplansbuilttheheritageincludinggrants/material%20alteration%20draft%20seven%20strategic%20townslap/>

- 2.2 Members of Donegal County Council considered the draft Local Area Plan in March 2018 and the Chief Executive's Report and decided to amend the Draft Local Area Plan. The amendments include a total of 118 proposed material Alterations and these are now the subject of this 4 week public consultation.

3 Key Issues

- 3.1 Planning officials have reviewed the supplied documents. The majority of the proposed material alterations relate to specific changes in text to policy wording or updated text to reference an updated Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Report and have no planning implication for this District
- 3.2 Of specific relevance are the following proposed alterations:
- New text to update on recent INTERREG VA funding for the North-West Greenways Network project for construction of a Greenway between Derry and Bunrana via Bridgend. (Section 7.10.1)
 - New text to state that the Greenway will pass through the entire length of one of the Strategic Economic Development Opportunity sites (SEDOS 1) identified in Bridgend. (Section 7.5.1)
 - New Plan Objective text to state that a joint management approach to the development of the SEDOS site 1 with DC&SDC would allow for the construction of the Derry-Bunrana Greenway. (Section 7.5.2)
 - New paragraph proposing a Residential Opportunity site and additional Policy within Bridgend to allow for a small residential development. (Section 7.6.1& 7.6.3)
- 3.3 Planning officials are content that the proposed material alterations above are the most pertinent to this District and reflects the ongoing strategic liaison between both authorities to secure the mutual planning benefits and issues of proposed residential/commercial infrastructural development in Bridgend.

Environmental Report & Appropriate Assessment

- 3.4 DCSDC Planning officials have reviewed the Addendums to the previously published Environmental Report and Appropriate Assessment and are largely satisfied with the level of scope, detail and the resulting findings for the proposed alterations.

4 Financial, Equality, Legal, HR, Improvement and Other Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial, equality, legal, HR, Improvement or other implications arising from this report.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 Members are requested to note the contents of this Paper and agree to issue the attached response from this Council to Donegal County Council Planning officials as attached at Appendix 7.

Background Papers

Appendix 7 – Draft Consultation response to issue to Donegal County Council Planning Officials.