

CHAPTER 1
Strategic Context and Vision for Kildare

## 1 STRATEGIC CONTEXT AND VISION FOR KILDARE

# 1.1 Background: Policy Context

The National Spatial Strategy (NSS) is a 20 year spatial strategy providing a framework to guide policies, programmes and investment. Kildare is part of Dublin and the Mid East Regions, which are considered jointly due to their strong functional relationship. These regions are identified for consolidation and in strategic terms the following issues are of particular importance for Kildare:

- Effective integration of land use and transportation policy
- Supporting the region's capacity for innovation
- Facilitating ease of movement of people and goods
- Maintaining a high quality environment

Kildare County Council adjoins the Midlands and South-East Regions. The Midlands Region contains the linked Gateway of Athlone-Mullingar-Tullamore. The future growth and development of the Gateway, as envisaged in the National Spatial Strategy, will impact on the North West of the County. This region is identified for reinforcing in the NSS.

The South of the County has strong links to the South East Region, in particular Carlow Town, which is designated as a County Town. The development of the M9 motorway will assist in linking Kildare to the Gateway of Waterford and hubs of Kilkenny and Wexford together with port facilities at Rosslare, Belview and New Ross.

This region is identified for "reinforcing" and "strengthening" in the National Spatial Strategy. Therefore towns such as Athy on the periphery of the Mid-east and South-east region would have to play a strengthening and reinforcing role.

The NSS reflected the Strategic Planning Guidelines, for the Greater Dublin Area 1999 (SPGGDAs) whilst acknowledging that in the future they must take into account the relationship with other regions, hubs and gateways, in addition to their relationship to Dublin.

The recently published Regional Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area (July 2004) supersedes the Strategic Planning Guidelines (SPGGDAs). Building upon the SPGs the RPGs strategy is based on two development policy areas (a) the Metropolitan Area (which includes the towns of Celbridge, Kilcock, Leixlip & Maynooth) and (b) the Hinterland Area. A settlement typology has been established identifying five classifications of urban centres based on size and function and in line with the NSS. Figure 1.1 and table 1.1 across outline the Settlement Hierarchy as set out in the Regional Planning Guidelines.

Figure 1.1 Settlement Hierarchy

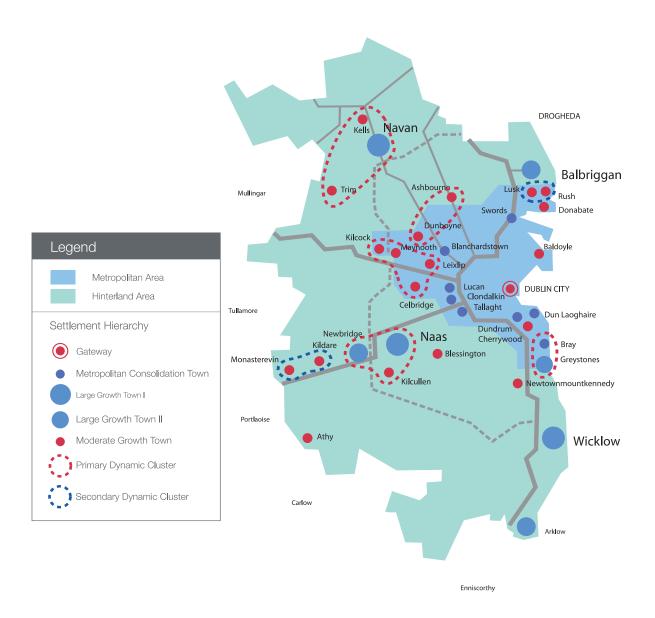


Table 1.1 Indicative Settlement Hierarchy

| Settlement<br>Type                           | Population<br>Range  | Accessibility                                                                                   | Typical Distance from higher level settlement | Economic Function                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Metropolitan<br>Consolidation<br>Towns       | 40,000 to<br>100,000 | Quality Bus Corridors/<br>Rail/ Major<br>radial routes                                          | Close to City Centre                          | Main attractor for major investment. Strong international marketing. |
| Large<br>Growth Town I<br>("Satellite town") | 25,000 to<br>40,000  | At junction of major radial and orbital multi-modal transport corridors.  Commuter rail         | Within 40 km<br>from Dublin                   | Main attractor for major investment. Strong international marketing  |
| Large<br>Growth Town II                      | 15,000 to<br>25,000  | On major radial multi modal<br>transport corridor.<br>Commuter rail.                            | 15 km from satellite or<br>Dublin             | Subsidiary attractor for investment                                  |
| Moderate<br>Growth Town                      | 5,000 to<br>15,000   | On or near multi modal<br>transport corridor.<br>Rail if possible                               | 10 km from<br>Large Town                      | Attractor for substantial investment                                 |
| Small<br>Growth Town                         | 1,000 to<br>5,000    | On national primary or<br>secondary road. Good bus<br>links to railway and<br>major settlements | 10 km from Large Town                         | Attractor for investment                                             |
| Village                                      | Up to 1,000          | Improved Rural Road. Bus<br>links to railway and<br>larger settlements                          | 10 km from Small Town<br>(or other town)      | Small rural-<br>based enterprises                                    |
|                                              |                      |                                                                                                 |                                               |                                                                      |

Source: Regional Planning Guidelines Greater Dublin Area

The RPGs also introduce the concepts of Primary Dynamic Clusters and Secondary Dynamic Clusters, which comprise differing urban settlements within the five-tier hierarchy. These clusters should be developed in a mutually dependent way so that the amenities and economies of the whole are greater than the sum of the parts. They will not merge into a unitary town in the usually understood sense of being contiguous, developed, well-serviced urban areas.

Designated clusters for Kildare include:

- Primary Dynamic Cluster: Naas, Newbridge, Kilcullen
- Primary Dynamic Cluster: Maynooth, Celbridge, Kilcock & Leixlip.
- Secondary Dynamic Cluster: Kildare & Monasterevin

Overview of the Recommended Strategy as per Kildare County Development Plan 1999 'The heart of the 1999 Development Plan strategy was to redirect outward movement of population flowing along the N4, in the North East of the County, in a Southward direction.'

Map 1.1 of this Plan clearly indicates the success of this strategy, with the highest growth having been recorded in the centre of the County. According to the 2002 census approximately 70 percent of jobs in the county were located outside the North East region, with 40 percent in the central area, including Naas, Newbridge and Kilcullen.

Since the 1999 County Development Plan the Council has successfully lobbied to have the Outer Orbital Route Drogheda-Navan-Naas-Wicklow included in the schedule of Strategic National Road Projects in the Regional Planning Guidelines.

The recent approval of the M9 Motorway Scheme will also serve to link the County not only to Dublin but also to Waterford, a designated gateway, as well as the major transit ports in the South East Region.

The Council has also successfully lobbied for the provision of the Inner Relief Street for Athy to be included in the schedule of Strategic National Road Projects in the RPGs. This scheme is currently awaiting an Oral Hearing on Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO's) and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Southern Regional Water Supply Scheme (Barrow Abstraction Scheme) will also constitute a key driver to securing the development of Athy and the south of the County.

This plan differs from its predecessors in that it is the first development plan for County Kildare to be prepared under the new Planning and Development Act 2000-2004 and the first to be prepared within a clear hierarchy of plans at national, regional and local level. The development strategy seeks to build upon the success of the previous plan and to direct growth in accordance with the new settlement hierarchy.

## 1.2 Strategic Goal

To make Kildare the first choice as a place to live, work, visit and do business by ensuring sustainable, balanced growth and the enhancement of the built and natural environment.

# 1.3 Strategic Objectives

- (1) To provide for balanced and sustainable distribution of economic and social growth across the county.
- (2) To provide infrastructure and transportation in accordance with the principles of sustainable development.
- (3) To ensure the highest quality living environments, urban centres and civic spaces as well as open space and recreational facilities accessible to all the citizens of Kildare.
- (4) To sustain traditional rural communities, by supporting agriculture, bloodstock & other rural based industry & promoting balanced development of rural settlements to cater primarily for the indigenous population of Kildare.
- (5) To protect, conserve and enhance the built and natural heritage of Kildare for future generations.
- (6) To have regard to the Regional Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area and to cooperate with adjoining Regional Authorities.

### 1.4 Demographic profile of Kildare

#### 1.4.1 Historical Trends

### Extent and pattern of population growth in the County

The population of Kildare County has increased in excess of 128 per cent over the period 1971-2002. As illustrated in Table 1.2, most of this growth occurred in two periods: during the 1971-1981 intercensal period, where total population increased by 45 per cent; and during the most recent period (1996 to 2002) when a further 21 per cent increase was recorded.

In terms of absolute population changes, the County expanded by 12,000 persons in the period 1981-86, slowed to 6,000 in the period to 1991, rose again to 12,000 in the period 1991 to 1996 and then accelerated to record a 29,000 increase in the last five years.

Table 1.2 Population of Kildare County during the period 1971 - 2002

| 1971   | 1979   | 1981    | 1986    | 1991    | 1996    | 2002    | Change 1971 - 2002 |
|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| 71,977 | 97,185 | 104,122 | 116,247 | 122,656 | 134,881 | 163,944 | 91,967             |

Source: Census of Population, CSO

A similar trend is evident in the development of towns within the County, which grew rapidly during the period 1981-1986, recorded a slower rate of growth during the intercensal period 1986-1991, and then expanded quickly from the first half of the 1990s onwards.

Kildare is further characterised by an uneven distribution of population, with nearly one third of total population concentrated in Celbridge Rural District, containing the towns of Celbridge, Maynooth and Leixlip (Table 1.3).

Table 1.3 Population Change by Urban/ Rural District

| Y                                                                     | ear                                             |                                                |                                                  |                                                  |                                                  |                                                  | Percentage Change                         |                                           |                                          |                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
|                                                                       | 1971                                            | 1981                                           | 1986                                             | 1991                                             | 1996                                             | 2002                                             | 1981-<br>1986                             | 1986-<br>1991                             | 1991-<br>1996                            | 1996-<br>2002                                |
| Athy U.D. Athy R.D. Celbridge R.D. Edenderry R.D. Naas U.D. Naas R.D. | 4270<br>13240<br>11322<br>5915<br>5078<br>32152 | 4920<br>15086<br>24750<br>6840<br>345<br>44181 | 4734<br>15441<br>32199<br>7337<br>10017<br>46519 | 5204<br>14587<br>37494<br>7259<br>11141<br>46971 | 5308<br>14747<br>43135<br>7416<br>14071<br>50204 | 6049<br>16307<br>51622<br>9038<br>18288<br>62620 | -3.8<br>2.3<br>30.1<br>7.3<br>20.0<br>5.3 | 9.9<br>5.6<br>16.4<br>-1.1<br>11.2<br>1.0 | 2.0<br>1.1<br>15.0<br>2.2<br>26.3<br>6.9 | 14.0<br>10.6<br>19.4<br>21.8<br>29.9<br>24.8 |
| Kildare                                                               | 71977                                           | 104122                                         | 116247                                           | 122656                                           | 134881                                           | 163944                                           | 11.6                                      | 5.5                                       | 10.0                                     | 21.4                                         |

Source: CSO: boundary change in 1991 which saw part of Athy Rural DED included in Athy Urban District).

Population change in the County is primarily influenced by proximity to the Dublin region. *Naas Urban District*, within the commuter influence of Dublin, grew by 30 percent in the period to 2002. However, even towns previously considered outside the Dublin commuting belt have shown considerable increases - *Athy Urban District* grew by 14 percent. Nevertheless, historically, towns located in the North Eastern corner of Kildare recorded highest growth rates.

#### 1.4.2 Population change by DED 1986-2002

During the 1986-1991 intercensal period, less than half of the 89 DEDs in the County recorded population decline. In the 1991 to 1996 period the number was further reduced to 28, and in the period 1996 to 2002 it was just eight. Those that experienced the greatest decline were located predominately in the South, mainly in *Athy Rural District*. Population declined in 19 of the 29 DEDs in this Rural District during 1986-1991, in 15 during the next five years and in six in the period 1996 to 2002.

Within *Edenderry Rural District*, the direction of population change was almost equally balanced in 1986-91. The district recorded population decline in seven of its 14 DEDs, an increase in six, with population in one DED remaining constant. In 1991-96, however, the number of DEDs experiencing a decline fell to four. There is evidence that the area was beginning to experience

overspill pressure from the centre and North-East of the County. This trend was further reinforced in the latest period, when no declines were recorded.

In 1986 to 1991, population increased in 19 of the 34 DEDs in *Naas Rural District*, one DED remained constant and 14 recorded a decline. The position was considerably altered in the next period - declines in just nine and increases in 25. In 2002, just one DED showed a decline.

In contrast, Celbridge Rural District, containing the main population centres of Celbridge, Leixlip and Maynooth, experienced considerable population growth in 8 out of the 9 DEDs in 1986-91 and in all DEDs subsequently.

In the period 1996 to 2002, exactly two thirds of the population increase in the County was accounted for by ten DEDs - Kilcock, Clane, Morristownbiller, Kildare, Leixlip, Maynooth, Bodenstown, Droichead Nua (Newbridge) Urban, Celbridge and Naas Urban. [See Map 1.1]

#### 1.4.3 Household Growth

Table 1.4 Household numbers in County Kildare during the period 1981 - 2002

| 1981   | 1986   | 1991   | 1996   | 2002     | Change 1981 - 2002 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------|--------------------|
| 24,971 | 28,519 | 31,843 | 39,041 | 50,889 * | 25,918             |

Source: Census of Population, CSO \* Normally resident private households

The number of households in the County has doubled since 1981, with the largest single increase being in the last inter-censal period. Household growth has been faster, pro rata, than population growth, as a result of the population age structure and rising headship rates. However, headship rates grew very little in the last period, as a result of housing affordability issues. The spatial pattern broadly follows that of population.

#### 1.4.4 Patterns of Urban Growth within the County

The fast rate of growth experienced by County Kildare is all the more remarkable for being concentrated in just a few settlements within the County, and indicates the extent of pressure for development that now exists. This is most clearly demonstrated by the increasing urbanisation in the County, which has been recorded, with each succeeding Census of Population. The most rapid increase in the aggregate town population was recorded during the period 1971-1981, during which period the aggregate urban population more than doubled¹. Kildare is now the most urbanised County in Ireland, outside Dublin.

Table 1.5 Aggregate Urban and Rural Population of Kildare County and Percentage Change, 1971-2002

|                                | Aggregate Urban Area* |               |               |               |               | Aggregate Rural Area** |               |               |                |               |               |        |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------|
| Year                           | 1971                  | 1981          | 1986          | 1991          | 1996          | 2002                   | 1971          | 1981          | 1986           | 1991          | 1996          | 2002   |
| Population Ann Av %            | 24,902                | 51,320        | 62,184        | 70,239        | 80,339        | 106,195                | 47,075        | 52,802        | 54,063         | 52,417        | 54,541        | 57,749 |
| Growth rate<br>Share of County | 7.5<br>34.60%         | 3.9<br>49.30% | 2.5<br>53.50% | 2.7<br>57.30% | 4.8<br>59.60% | 64.80%                 | 1.2<br>65.40% | 0.5<br>50.70% | -0.6<br>46.50% | 0.8<br>42.70% | 0.4<br>40.40% | 35.20% |

<sup>\*</sup>towns of 1500 and over \*\*remainder of County

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It should be noted that where environs of towns have been revised in subsequent volumes of the Census of Population, definitions refer to the census environs as defined in each Census at the time of that Census.

Table 1.5 shows that the rate of increase in aggregate urban population slowed between the two quinquennial periods of 1981-86 and 1986-91 and the absolute increase also declined. After 1991, the absolute change increased once more. After 1986, the aggregate rural area population started to decline in absolute terms, but recovered from 1991 onwards. Some 89 per cent of the population increase in the last six years, took place in the urban centres of the county.

Table 1.6 Main Towns and their Environs (1,500+) in Kildare County ranked by Size

|                                                                                            | Year                             |                                           |                                                        |                                                    |                                           | Percenta                             | ge Change                    | <b>;</b>            |                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Town                                                                                       | 1981                             | 1986                                      | 1991                                                   | 1996                                               | 2002                                      | 1981-86                              | 1986-91                      | 1991-96             | 1996-2002                    |
| Population of 10,000+<br>Leixlip*<br>Droichead Nua & Environs<br>Naas U.D.*                | 9,306<br>10,716<br>8,345         | 11,938<br>11,503<br>10,017                | 13,194<br>12,069<br>11,141                             | 13,395<br>13,267<br>14,071                         | 15,016<br>16,739<br>18,288                | 28.3<br>7.3<br>20.0                  | 10.5<br>4.9<br>11.2          | 1.5<br>9.9<br>26.3  | 11.6<br>26.2<br>29.9         |
| Population of 5,000-10,000 Celbridge Maynooth Athy U.D.* Kildare                           | 4,583<br>3,388<br>5,565<br>4,016 | 7135<br>4,768<br>5449<br>4,268            | 9629<br>6,027<br>5,204<br>4,196                        | 11,971<br>8,512<br>5,308<br>4,268                  | 16,016<br>10,151<br>6,049<br>5,694        | 55.7<br>40.7<br>-2.1<br>5.6          | 35.0<br>26.4<br>-4.5<br>-1.7 | 41.2<br>2.0<br>1.7  | 30.3<br>19.0<br>14.0<br>33.1 |
| Population of 3,000-5,000<br>Clane                                                         | 1,718                            | 1,767                                     | 1822                                                   | 3,058                                              | 4,417                                     | 2.9                                  | 3.1                          | 67.8                | 41.3                         |
| Population of 1,500-3,000 Sallins Kilcock Monasterevin Kill Rathangan Prosperous Kilcullen | 854<br>1,150<br>2,146<br>1,268   | 2,922<br>1,414<br>2,143<br>1,503<br>1,270 | 242.2<br>1551<br>2,224<br>1518<br>1,129<br>814<br>1664 | 1,838<br>2,302<br>1,739<br>1,190<br>1,523<br>1,637 | 2,740<br>2,583<br>2,246<br>1,811<br>1,483 | 23.0<br>-0.1<br>18.5<br>87.1<br>10.1 | 9.7<br>3.8<br>1.0<br>52.2    | 18.5<br>3.5<br>14.6 | 50.1<br>12.2<br>31.3         |

<sup>\*</sup> Denotes a town with a legally defined boundary

Source: 1991 Census of Population

1996 data are estimates based on growth in the DEDs in which the towns are situated, in the period 1991-96.

The largest percentage increase in population has occurred in towns in proximity to and within commuting distance of Dublin. This includes the Urban District of Naas as well as North Eastern towns of Leixlip, Maynooth and Celbridge and extends to the expanding town of Droichead Nua as well as smaller settlements such as Kill, Rathangan and Prosperous. Growth in Leixlip since 1991 has been constrained by the lack of availability of zoned land.

Analysis of growth rates of towns in Kildare County reveal the substantial growth experienced by the NE towns in comparison to towns located in the South and North West. All areas, however, experienced strong growth, and amongst the 48 rural areas (as against towns with legally defined boundaries) in Leinster outside Dublin, three of the Kildare areas were in the top 10, and Athy was number 20.

Table 1.7 Towns and their Environs in Kildare County ranked according to Growth, 1991-2002

| Town                 | Year   |        |        |        | % Change  |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|
|                      | 1986   | 1991   | 1996   | 2002   | 1991-2002 |
| Clane                | 1,767  | 1822   | 3,058  | 4,417  | 142.4     |
| Kilcock              | 1,414  | 1551   | 1,838  | 2,740  | 76.7      |
| Maynooth             | 4,768  | 6,027  | 8,512  | 10,151 | 68.4      |
| Celbridge            | 7,135  | 9,629  | 11,971 | 16,016 | 66.3      |
| Naas U.D.*           | 10,017 | 11,141 | 14,071 | 18,288 | 64.2      |
| Rathangan            | 1,270  | 1,129  | 1,144  | 1,811  | 60.4      |
| Kill                 | 1,503  | 1518   | 1,739  | 2,246  | 48.0      |
| Droichead Nua & Env. | 11,503 | 12,069 | 13,267 | 16,739 | 38.7      |
| Kildare              | 4,268  | 4,196  | 4,268  | 5,694  | 35.7      |
| Monasterevin         | 2,143  | 2,224  | 2,302  | 2,583  | 16.1      |
| Leixlip*             | 11,938 | 13,194 | 13,395 | 15,016 | 13.8      |
| Kilcullen            | 1,693  | 1664   | 1,637  | 1,483  | -10.9     |

<sup>\*</sup> Denotes a town with a legally defined boundary

Source: Census of Population

Table 1.8 below, sets out the regional population shares in the Mid-East Region, as well as in the Greater Dublin Area, indicating that Kildare's share has been rising steadily over time, but never more rapidly than in the last inter-censal period.

Table 1.8 County Kildare as a percentage of the Mid-East Region (total population)

|                      | 1971  | 1979  | 1981  | 1986  | 1991  | 1996  | 2002  |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Kildare              | 34.3  | 35.7  | 36.3  | 36.9  | 37.7  | 38.9  | 39.7  |
| Meath                | 34.2  | 33.4  | 33.2  | 33.0  | 32.4  | 31.6  | 32.5  |
| Wicklow              | 31.6  | 30.9  | 30.5  | 30.0  | 29.9  | 29.6  | 27.8  |
| Mid-east Region      | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Kildare share of GDA | 6.8   | 7.7   | 8.1   | 8.7   | 9.1   | 9.6   | 10.7  |

Although the share of the Mid-East and GDA regional population accounted for by Kildare, has risen steadily in the last 30 years, the recent trends in house completions show that the County is completing a diminishing share of dwellings since the mid 1990s - though the most recent complete year available (2002) appears to reverse this trend.

## 1.5 Summary of key issues arising for development planning:

- Population of the County is growing rapidly and whilst now not entirely concentrated in the area adjacent to the Capital, this area predominates with resultant population imbalance.
- Some 65 per cent of the County population is now living in urban areas: they account for 90 per cent of the population growth within the County
- The proportion of the population of the rural settlements and rural countryside is declining relative to the total population of the County, but is growing in absolute terms rural growth in Kildare is amongst the most buoyant in Leinster.

- Analysis of growth rates of individual towns in Kildare County confirms the expected substantial growth in all larger settlements without exception, though in general, those at the furthest remove from Dublin experience the slowest growing rates.
- Table 1.9 below sets out the projection for 2011, consistent with the framework set out in the Regional Planning Guidelines (RPG).

Table 1.9 Housing Growth to 2011

| Area                     | 2002 Actual | Private households 2002 | Constructed<br>2002 - 2011 | Share of dwellings constructed (%) |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Central Growth area      | 42,472      | 13,630                  | 7,343                      | 33                                 |
| Celbridge Rural District | 51,622      | 15,306                  | 5,393                      | 24                                 |
| Kildare - Monasterevin   | 11,446      | 3,575                   | 4,167                      | 18                                 |
| Athy * and Remainder     | 42,839      | 13,106                  | 3,560                      | 15                                 |
| Clane                    | 5,179       | 1,639                   | 631                        | 3                                  |
| DEDs on Dublin Border    | 10,386      | 3,221                   | 1,469                      | 7                                  |
| COUNTY                   | 163,944     | 50,477                  | 22,564                     | 100                                |

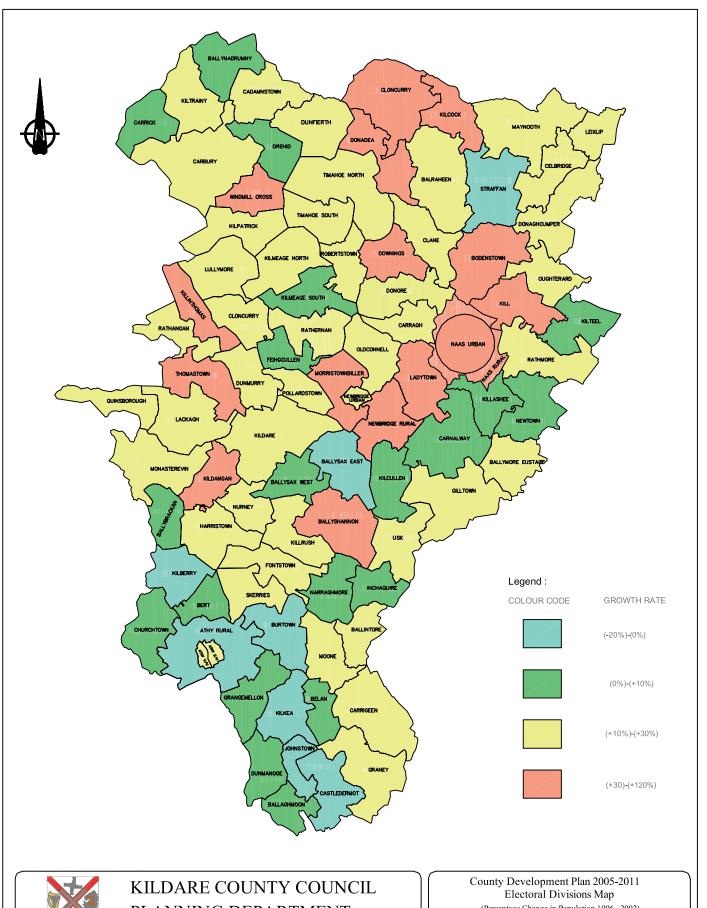
<sup>\*</sup> Housing growth allocation between the town of Athy and "Remainder" of the County will be subject to review in the light of progress on the M9 development and emerging patterns of urban development in the South of the County and in Carlow. The Town Council of Athy has established a population target for the town of 13,900 by 2006. The figure cited should not be regarded as contradicting this target. The allocation between Athy and the "remainder" is fluid.

These figures are consistent with the RPG guidelines and form the basis for the assessment of required building land contained elsewhere in this Plan. The net increase in the number of households over the period will be dependent upon a number of factors, including the number of second homes, the rate of obsolescence of the existing stock and the level of vacancies in the stock at any time.

Table 1.9 implies an annual construction of a little over 2,500 dwellings over the period 2002 to 2011. The RPG allocation over the period 2003 to 2010 is 2,421. The average number constructed in the period 1996 to 2002 inclusive was 2,405.

The Regional Planning Guidelines indicate a population for the County of 181,053 in 2010, with an average household size of 2.78 - compared to 3.25 in 2002. If the fall in average household size is slower, the population will be correspondingly larger for a given level of housing construction<sup>2</sup>. Because of both the sensitivity and uncertainty associated with this and other parameters, demographic projections in Tables 1.9 and 1.11 are restricted to housing construction figures.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For example, a household size of 3 would indicate a population of 201,000 in year 2011. A fall in the necessary 'excess' construction to deal with obsolescence and second homes, would also result in a population increase. The RPG assumption is 13% in the period. A fall to 10%, when combined with a slower fall in average household size, would imply a population of 212,000.





PLANNING DEPARTMENT St. MARY'S NAAS

(Percentage Change in Population 1996 - 2002)

|        | ,        |          | . *        |                                                      |
|--------|----------|----------|------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Scale: | N.T.S    | Map Ref: | 1.1        | © Ordnance Survey Ireland.<br>All rights reserved.   |
| Date:  | May 2005 | Drg No.: | 200/05/100 | Licence No.: 2004/07CCMA<br>(Kildare County Council) |

# 1.6 Settlement Structure For County Kildare

The development plan sets out policies designed to accommodate growth specified in the Regional Planning Guidelines to 2010. The Council will continue to monitor housing trends on the ground and make adjustments to policy where the de facto position requires it.

Generally in keeping with the definitions established in the National Spatial Strategy and the Regional Planning Guidelines the following table (table 1.10) illustrates the role of settlements within Kildare.

Table 1.10 Kildare's Settlement Hierarchy

| Type of settlement                                                | Metropolitan                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Hinterland Area                                                                                                                                 |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Large Towns                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |  |
| Metropolitan Consolidation Towns                                  | None in Kildare                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |  |
| Large Growth Town Type (1)<br>"Satellite Towns" c.25,000 - 40,000 | -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Naas<br>[part of primary dynamic cluster]                                                                                                       |  |  |  |
| Large Growth Town Type (2)<br>15,000 -25,000                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Newbridge [part of primary dynamic cluster]                                                                                                     |  |  |  |
| Moderate Towns<br>> 5,000 - 15,000                                | Celbridge, Maynooth,<br>Leixlip, Kilcock<br>[part of primary dynamic cluster]                                                                                                                                                                  | Kilcullen [part of primary dynamic cluster] Kildare [part of secondary dynamic cluster] Monasterevin [part of secondary dynamic cluster] Athy   |  |  |  |
| Small Towns<br>1,500 - 5,000                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Clane, Kill, Prosperous,<br>Rathangan, Sallins                                                                                                  |  |  |  |
| Villages/Settlements                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |  |
| Commuter Villages                                                 | -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Johnstown                                                                                                                                       |  |  |  |
| Key Villages                                                      | -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Ballymore Eustace, Allenwood,<br>Athgarvan, Castledermot, Kilteel,<br>Straffan, Derrinturn, Ballitore<br>Moone, Timolin, Crookstown<br>Milltown |  |  |  |
| (iii) Villages within Rural Strategy [chapter 6 refers]           | Consolidating- Kildangan, Johnstown Bridg<br>Narraghmore, Cutbush, Twomilehouse, Coi                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |  |
|                                                                   | Strengthening- Kilmead, Brownstown, Ardclough, Rathcoffey, Staplestown, Kilberry, Maganey/Levitstown, Broadford, Nurney, Ballyshannon, Newtown, Kilshanchoe, Tirmoghan, Allen, Brannockstown, Suncroft, Timahoe, Milltown, Rathmore/Eadestown. |                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |  |
|                                                                   | Revitalising- Maddenstown, Ballyroe, Kilker<br>Moyvalley, Lackagh/Mountrice.                                                                                                                                                                   | a, Carbury, Clogherinka, Cadamstown,                                                                                                            |  |  |  |
|                                                                   | Rural Nodes- Ellistown, Newtownmoneenlu<br>Williamstown, Clongorey/Blacktrench, Bally<br>Tipperkevin, Killina.                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |  |

Table 1.10 above is an adaptation of Table 7.5 on page 136 of the Regional Planning Guidelines. It broadly illustrates how the indicative settlement hierarchy will apply to County Kildare. It is recognised that the population parameters are indicative population ranges and are not upper limits. Therefore while some towns already exceed the indicative population range this is not seen as a limiting factor as their growth will be determined in the context of any future review of the local area plan for their areas and having regard to the Regional Planning Guidelines as a whole.

Given the level of land currently zoned for housing (1093ha/ 2700acres) it is not anticipated that any further housing / residential zoning will be necessary during the period of this plan. This however does not preclude additional such zoning in specific locations where the council is satisfied that a clearly established need for such zoning is evident.

The subsequent table (Table 1.11) shows the indicative housing construction targets for 2002-2011.

Table 1.11 Indicative Construction Targets for 2002 -2011 (Includes Houses Built From 2002)

The distribution shown below is indicative only and may change, having regard to the level of development proposed in any particular area and the availability of services required to facilitate this development. The targets are not intended to be a governing constraint since commitments have already been made in terms of land previously zoned. The pace of development will depend on provision of social and physical infrastructure, including public transport.

| Sub-County Area Target at Sub-County                                      | Town                                                                 | Population 2002                                    | Housing Construction<br>Target 2002-2011 | Housing Construction<br>target 2002-2011<br>Area (See table 1.9) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| North East Area<br>including Metropolitan Area<br>Primary Dynamic Cluster | Celbridge<br>Leixlip<br>Maynooth<br>Kilcock <sup>*</sup><br>Straffan | 16,016<br>15,016<br>10,151<br>2,740<br>332         | 1,450<br>1,450<br>1,450<br>800<br>250    | 5,400                                                            |
| Central Area<br>Including the Hinterland Area                             | Naas                                                                 | 18,288                                             | 3,225                                    | 7,300                                                            |
| Primary Dynamic Cluster                                                   | Newbridge<br>Kilcullen                                               | 15,749<br>1,483                                    | 3,200<br>875                             |                                                                  |
| Kildare-Monasterevin<br>Secondary Dynamic Cluster                         | Kildare<br>Monasterevin                                              | 5694<br>2583                                       | 3,200<br>1,000                           | 4,200                                                            |
| Other Settlements<br>(population greater than<br>1,500 in 2002 census)    | Athy<br>Clane<br>Sallins<br>Kill<br>Rathangan<br>Prosperous          | 6,058<br>5,179<br>2,922<br>2,246<br>1,811<br>1,523 | 1,890<br>400<br>260<br>405<br>200<br>255 | 5,700                                                            |
| Remainder of County                                                       |                                                                      | 56,153                                             | 2,290                                    |                                                                  |
| Indicative total county constr                                            | uction 2002 to 2                                                     | 22,600                                             |                                          |                                                                  |

<sup>\*</sup> Only refers to lands in County Kildare

Table 1.12 Key Land Use Zonings

| Local Area<br>Plan/Development<br>Plan | Town<br>Centre        | Amenity Open<br>& Space | Institutional & Educational | Industry &<br>Warehousing                          | Office Based<br>Industry | Light<br>Industry | New<br>Residential | General<br>Developmen |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Leixlip</b><br>LAP Mar 2002         | 9.1                   | 181                     | 16.9                        | 85.1                                               | n/a                      | n/a               | 22.7               | -                     |
| Straffan<br>LAP Jul 2002               | 5.7                   | 2.7                     | n/a                         | n/a                                                | 5.4                      | n/a               | 6.5                | -                     |
| Celbridge<br>DP Jun 2002               | 19.2                  | 6.65                    | 40.2                        | 32.2                                               | n/a                      | n/a               | 145                | -                     |
| Clane DP Feb 2002                      | 8.6                   | 30.4                    | 16                          | 14.9                                               | n/a                      | n/a               | 34.1               |                       |
| Johnstown<br>DP 1995                   | n/a                   | n/a                     | n/a                         | n/a                                                | n/a                      | n/a               | n/a                | -                     |
| Newbridge<br>DP Sep 2003               | 45.2                  | 99.8                    | 30                          | 268                                                | n/a                      | n/a               | 203.4              | -                     |
| Ballymore Eustace<br>DP Mar 1996       | n/a                   | n/a                     | n/a                         | n/a                                                | n/a                      | n/a               | n/a                | -                     |
| Athgarvan<br>DP Mar 1996               | n/a                   | n/a                     | n/a                         | n/a                                                | n/a                      | n/a               | n/a                | -                     |
| Rathangan<br>LAP Apr 2002              | 20.3                  | 12.8                    | 9.3                         | 20                                                 | n/a                      | n/a               | 27.4               | 10.5Ha                |
| Kilcullen<br>LAP Dec 2001              | 16.9                  | 16.2                    | 11.5                        | 25.9                                               | n/a                      | n/a               | 13                 | -                     |
| Kill<br>DP Feb 2002                    | 8.6                   | 8.0                     | 3.9                         | 30.7                                               | n/a                      | n/a               | 23.1               | -                     |
| Castledermot<br>DP Jan 2002            | 15.7                  | 2.27                    | 0                           | 0                                                  | n/a                      | n/a               | 6.4                | 40.7Ha                |
| Kildare Town LAP Dec 2001              | 25                    | 24.4                    | 19.4                        | 93.8                                               | 50.9                     | 24.2              | 127.7              | -                     |
| Kilteel<br>DP Nov 1995                 | n/a                   | n/a                     | n/a                         | n/a                                                | n/a                      | n/a               | n/a                | -                     |
| Monasterevin<br>LAP Dec 2001           | 15.8                  | 22.2                    | 55.5                        | 24.8                                               | 7 (commercial)           |                   | 46.8               | -                     |
| Maynooth DP Apr 2002                   | 38.9                  | 55.2                    | 107                         | n/a                                                | 82.8                     | n/a               | 47.7               | 16Ha                  |
| Sallins<br>LAP Dec 2001                | 21.6                  | 22.1                    | 0                           | n/a                                                | 24.1                     | n/a               | 8.2                | -                     |
| Prosperous DP 1985                     | n/a                   | n/a                     | n/a                         | n/a                                                | n/a                      | n/a               | n/a                | -                     |
| Kilcock DP Jan 2002                    | 26                    | 48                      | 4.6                         | 14.6                                               | 53.6                     | n/a               | 49.8               | -                     |
| Ballitore<br>LAP Jul 2002              | n/a                   | n/a                     | n/a                         | n/a                                                | n/a                      | n/a               | 18.9               | -                     |
| Crookstown LAP Jul 2002                | n/a                   | n/a                     | 3.5                         | n/a                                                | n/a                      | 0.8               | 1.9                | -                     |
| Timolin<br>LAP Jul 2002                | n/a                   | n/a                     | -                           | n/a                                                | n/a                      | n/a               | 5.8                | -                     |
| Moone<br>LAP Jul 2002                  | n/a                   | n/a                     | -                           | n/a                                                | n/a                      | n/a               | 3.8                | -                     |
| Derrinturn                             | 7.1                   |                         | 2.9                         | 2.4                                                | -                        | -                 | 15                 | -                     |
|                                        | Integrated<br>Tourism | Retail/<br>Commercial   | Educational                 | Industry (Various including SME, Warehousing etc.) |                          |                   | Residential        | Utilities             |
| Naas Environs                          | 104                   | 21                      | 9                           | 176                                                |                          |                   | 20                 | 10                    |