

## **Addendum I**

### Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

**NOTES** **A3**

Proposals for Development of the lands classified for H & H2 use and shown shaded herein shall be the subject of a Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment appropriate to the nature and scale of development being proposed. Such Development Proposals shall also:

- (i) Indicate and quantify loss of floodplain storage arising from the development proposal;
- (ii) Provide compensatory storage located within or adjacent to the proposed development;
- (iii) Indicate measures to ensure that water-vulnerable elements of the Development would not be flooded during the 100year flood;
- (iv) Ensure that existing flow paths for flood waters will not be compromised.



REV	DATE	BY	DETAILS

STATUS  
PLANNING

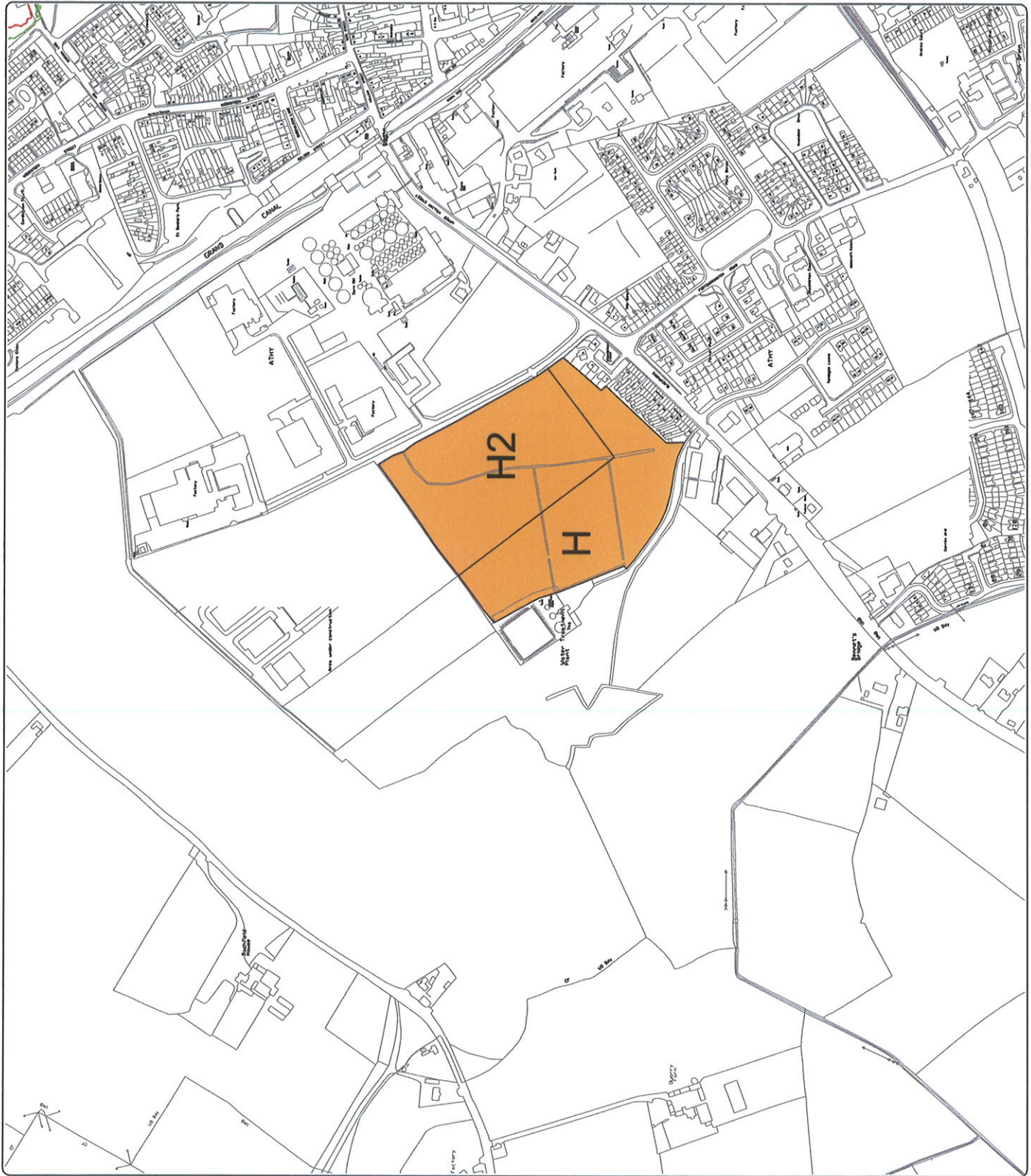
CLIENT  
ATHY TOWN COUNCIL

PROJECT  
DRAFT STRATEGIC FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT  
ATHY TOWN DEVELOPMENT PLAN

TITLE  
LANDS CLASSIFIED FOR H & H2 USE AT THE N78 /  
BALLYLYNAN ROAD

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CHKD:	HK	DATE:	14/11/11				



## **Addendum II**

Environmental Report on the SEA of & the Draft Athy Town Development Plan  
2012-2018

# Addendum II

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TO THE  
SEA ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT & APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT  
OF THE  
DRAFT ATHY TOWN DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
2012-2018

## SEA ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT ON & APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

**for: Athy Town Council**

Rathstewart  
Athy  
County Kildare



**by: CAAS Ltd.**

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**NOVEMBER 2011**

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# 1 Introduction

Under section 12, subsection 7 (aa) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2010, Athy Town Council determined that both Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) are required to be carried out as respects the proposed amendments. This determination is included as Appendix I to this second addendum to the SEA Environmental Report and AA of the Draft Athy Town Development Plan 2012-2018.

Section 2 of this document identifies, with regard to the SEA Environmental Report and AA, the environmental consequences of relevant proposed amendments to the Draft Plan as agreed by the Elected Members of the Council.

Section 3 identifies updates which have been made to the SEA Environmental Report and AA which have arisen from submissions which were made on the SEA Environmental Report, AA and Draft Plan while they were on public display.

Changes are not made to the original SEA Environmental Report or AA at this stage; this Addendum forms part of the documentation of the ongoing SEA/AA/Plan-making process. It supplements and should be read in conjunction with the Environmental Report and Addendum I<sup>1</sup>. On adoption of the Plan the findings of this Addendum will be used to update the SEA Environmental Report and Draft AA, as appropriate. These documents will also be amended to take account of any submissions on this Addendum and any modifications made to the proposed amendments by the Elected Members. The final SEA Environmental Report and AA together with an SEA Statement<sup>2</sup> will be made available to the public alongside the adopted Plan.

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<sup>1</sup> Addendum I details responses to the submissions on the SEA Environmental Report and AA which were made during the first period of public display of the Draft Plan, SEA Environmental Report and AA (and accompanied the Manager's Report on submissions and observations). It proposes updates to the SEA Environmental Report and AA as a result of these submissions, as appropriate.

<sup>2</sup> The SEA Statement will detail, inter alia, how environmental considerations have been integrated into the Plan.

## 2 Environmental Consequences of Proposed Amendments

### 2.1 Summary and Key Issues

A number of proposed amendments would be likely to contribute towards the protection of the environment that is already contributed towards by the Draft Plan while a number would potentially conflict with this protection.

Measures which have been integrated into the Draft Plan, including those which arose out of the SEA and AA processes, will ensure that potentially adverse environmental effects arising from the amendments are mitigated and that the amendments will not affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

**Note:**

The text in black is the text as contained in the Draft Athy Town Development Plan 2012-2018 and is not changing.

Proposed amendments involving additional text are shown in green

Proposed amendments involving deletion of text are shown in ~~red~~

Content of the Draft Plan which does not comprise policies or objectives is not within the scope of the SEA and therefore was not evaluated in the initial SEA Environmental Report or Natura Impact Statement. Consequently, proposed amendments to such content are generally not considered by this Addendum. Where supporting text, referred to in policies is being amended and where such amendments would change the evaluation provided in the SEA Environmental Report and Natura Impact Statement, then such amendments are considered.

Responses to the proposed amendments with regard to the SEA Environmental Report are shown in blue text.

Responses to the proposed amendments with regard to the Appropriate Assessment and Natura Impact Statement are shown in orange text.

### 2.2 Chapter 2: Core Strategy

**AMENDMENT 2.7**

Amend policy CS1 as follows:

“It is the policy of the Council to facilitate sustainable levels of housing growth at appropriate locations within the town in tandem with **the delivery of physical**, social and community infrastructure along with local services adequate to meet the needs of the population of the town and surrounding rural area.”

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER as social and community infrastructure was envisaged as potentially including physical infrastructure during the assessment.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 2.8**

Amend Section Policy **CS 9** as follows:

"To promote and facilitate the development sustainable communities through land use planning, by providing for **appropriate** land uses capable of accommodating employment, community, leisure, recreational and cultural facilities, accessible to and meeting the needs of all individuals and local community groups, in tandem with the delivery of residential and physical infrastructure to create quality environments in which to live."

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the AA.

### **AMENDMENT 2.9**

Amend Policy **CS 10** as follows:

"To ensure that developments are **appropriate and** accessible to meet the needs of all individuals and local community groups."

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 2.10**

Amend Policy **CS 11** as follows:

"To seek the delivery of **adequate and appropriate** physical and community infrastructure in conjunction with high quality residential development to create quality living environments."

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

## **2.3 Chapter 3: Economic Strategy**

### **AMENDMENT 3.1**

Amend Policy ED1 as follows:

ED1: To facilitate and support the **sustainable** growth of Athy as an attractive location for employment development.

By adding the word 'sustainable' this amendment would reduce the potential for conflicts to occur as a result of development arising from this policy, however; the potential for conflicts to occur would still remain and the amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.



### **AMENDMENT 3.2**

Amend ED 4 as follows:

**ED4:** To support the **appropriate** development of a high quality built environment to attract and sustain enterprise and employment.

This Amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 3.3**

Amend ED 10 as follows

**ED 10:** To encourage the development of existing manufacturing industries in the town while establishing and expanding new categories of business in Athy and support their development **in a phased and sustainable manner**.

By adding the phrase 'in a phased and sustainable manner' this amendment would reduce the potential for conflicts to occur as a result of development arising from this policy, however; the potential for conflicts to occur would still remain and the amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 3.4**

Amend ED 11 as follows

**ED11:** To facilitate the **sustainable** development of knowledge-intensive and technology based companies in Athy and to encourage the provision of Research and Development/ Innovation facilities and SMEs to support enterprise and employment.

By adding the word 'sustainable' this amendment would reduce the potential for conflicts to occur as a result of development arising from this policy, however; the potential for conflicts to occur would still remain and the amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 3.6**

Amend AG 2 as follows

**AG 2:** To support **and protect** the development of agriculture within the agricultural zone in Athy; to develop a sustainable agricultural sector that is compatible with the sustainable development of the town and maintains the viability of farming.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 3.7**

Amend ED03 as follows

**EDO 3:** To ensure the provision of **adequate and appropriate** water, wastewater treatment and waste management facilities to accommodate future economic growth of the town.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 3.8**

Amend TS9 as follows:

**TS 9:** To support the *sustainable* development of *appropriate* new tourist facilities or upgrading / extension of existing tourist facilities, including hotels, guesthouses and B&B's, in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

By adding the word 'sustainable' this amendment would reduce the potential for conflicts to occur as a result of development arising from this policy, however; the potential for conflicts to occur would still remain and the amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 3.9**

Insert new policy as follows:

**"It is the policy of the Council to facilitate the appropriate use and development of White Castle as a tourist attraction, in order to ensure its conservation and protection."**

This amendment would potentially conflict with environmental components including biodiversity and flora and fauna, archaeological heritage, architectural heritage, the landscape however; measures which have been integrated into the Draft Plan will ensure that potentially adverse effects are mitigated and that the amendment will not affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 3.10**

Insert new policy as follows:

Insert additional policy under Section 3.12.1 as follows:

**"It is the policy of the Council to recognise the importance of the malting industry to the economy of Athy and to support and encourage the development of the town's association with the malting industry as a tourist attraction."**

This amendment would potentially conflict with environmental components including cultural heritage however; measures which have been integrated into the Draft Plan will ensure that potentially adverse effects are mitigated and that the amendment will not affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 3.10**

Amend TSO10 as follows:

**TSO10:** To encourage the *sustainable* development of tourism activities such as waterways activities, agri-tourism, green/eco-tourism, niche retailing, food markets, local and other craft type activities so as to diversify the tourism product in Athy.

By adding the word 'sustainable' this amendment would reduce the potential for conflicts to occur as a result of development arising from this policy, however; the potential for conflicts to occur would still remain and the amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

## 2.4 Chapter 4: Housing

### AMENDMENT 4.2

Insert additional policy as follows:

**"It is the policy of the Council to require planning applications for new housing to demonstrate good pedestrian and cycle links between residential developments and key destinations within Athy."**

This amendment would be likely to contribute towards improving sustainable mobility including efforts to reduce car dependency and minimise travel related emissions to air.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

## 2.5 Chapter 6: Retail

### AMENDMENT 6.1

Delete Policy RS 2 ~~RS-2: "It is the policy of the Council to define the Core Retail Area of Athy Town Centre in accordance with Map 6.1"~~ as core retail area is defined in Map 6.1 (refer to revised Map 6.1) and amend numbering of remaining Policies RS 3 – RS 5.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

## 2.6 Chapter 7: Movement and Transport

### AMENDMENT 7.1

Amend bullet point 3 of policy GT 15 to read as follows:

**"...Demonstrate how each route has taken due account of, and accommodated ecological considerations and legislative requirements including the Precautionary Principle."**

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### AMENDMENT 7.2

Amend Policy WC 12 (pg 72) as follows:

**"...it's locations within the ACA and the SAC status of the River Barrow and the associated requirements of the Habitats Directive."**

By adding the phrase indicated above, this amendment would further reduce the potential for conflicts to occur as a result of development arising from this policy, however; it is noted that

measures which have already been integrated into the Draft Plan will ensure that the Plan as altered will not affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 7.3**

Revise Policy WC13 to read as follows:

**It is the policy of the Council to encourage the provision of secure bicycle parking facilities in the town centre e.g Emily Square and Edmund Rice Square and at public facilities such as schools, the library, the train station and in all new developments in accordance with the standards set out in the development management standards in Chapter 15.**

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 7.4**

Insert an additional objective under Section 7.7.1 to read as follows:

**It is an objective of the Council to further upgrade and improve the pathway between St. John's Lane and Greenhills in order to maximise the accessibility and amenity value of the area. These works should be carried out within the context of a strategic plan to upgrade and improve pedestrian connectivity and permeability throughout the town.**

This amendment would be likely to contribute towards improving sustainable mobility including efforts to reduce car dependency and minimise travel related emissions to air. This amendment would also potentially conflict with biodiversity and flora and fauna, however; measures which have been integrated into the Draft Plan will ensure that potentially adverse effects are mitigated and that the amendment will not affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 7.5**

Insert additional policy under Section 7.4 as follows:

**"It is the policy of the Council to ensure that the national roads system throughout County Kildare is planned for and managed in an integrated manner enabling sustainable economic development of the County and wider area while encouraging a shift towards more sustainable travel and transport in accordance with the Draft Spatial Planning and National Road Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2010) as may be amended."**

This amendment would be likely to contribute towards improving sustainable mobility including efforts to reduce car dependency and minimise travel related emissions to air. This amendment would also potentially conflict with a number of environmental components including human health, biodiversity and flora and fauna, water quality and cultural heritage, however; measures which have been integrated into the Draft Plan will ensure that potentially adverse effects are mitigated and that the amendment will not affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### **AMENDMENT 7.6**

Insert additional policy under Section 7.7.3 as follows:

**"It is the policy of the Council to review and set out an implementation plan for the roads programme, including the improvement of walking and cycling routes, as part of a "local**

**traffic plan” to be prepared following publications of the NTA Transport Strategy for the GDA and in accordance with Section 65 of the DTA Act 2008.”**

This amendment would be likely to contribute towards improving sustainable mobility including efforts to reduce car dependency and minimise travel related emissions to air. This amendment would also potentially conflict with a number of environmental components including human health, biodiversity and flora and fauna, water quality and cultural heritage, however; measures which have been integrated into the Draft Plan will ensure that potentially adverse effects are mitigated and that the amendment will not affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

**AMENDMENT 7.7**

Include additional policy in Section 7.6 as follows:

**To review all parking standards, in consultation with relevant stakeholders during the life of this Plan”.**

This amendment would potentially conflict with a number of environmental components including biodiversity and flora and fauna, water quality and cultural heritage, however; measures which have been integrated into the Draft Plan will ensure that potentially adverse effects are mitigated and that the amendment will not affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

**AMENDMENT 7.8**

Amend Map 16.1 showing the connection of the SDR to the train station.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

## **2.7 Chapter 8: Water, Drainage and Environmental Services**

**AMENDMENT 8.1**

Include additional policy in Section 8.5.1:

**“It is the policy of the Council to provide a clean water supply which meets the requirements of the European Communities (Drinking Water) (No 2) Regulations 2007 and any subsequent amendments to the regulations during the period of this Plan.”**

This amendment would further contribute towards the protection of human health and the provision of adequate and appropriate water services, both of which are already contributed towards by the Draft Plan. Potential conflicts could arise between this policy and the protection of biodiversity and flora and fauna and the status of water bodies.

Abstraction of surface water or groundwater through the development of new or existing water sources has the potential to impact on the Natura 2000 network, depending on where the water is sourced from. Abstraction of drinking water and subsequent effects on water levels may lead to loss or fragmentation of habitats downstream of the extraction point. Water dependant species such as salmon, lamprey and white clawed crayfish may also be negatively impacted, through loss of breeding and feeding habitat and subsequent reduction in species number and density. Any development that occurs through the implementation of this policy shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment in accordance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive. Other measures included in the Plan, including the following policies - NH 2, NH6, NH 7, NHO 1, will ensure that the integrity of the Natura 2000 network will not be affected

#### **AMENDMENT 8.4**

##### **Amend Policy L3 as follows:**

"It is the policy of the Council to continue education and awareness programmes in local schools and to promote grant schemes and initiatives to residential associations and other groups, **in particular the Tidy Towns Committee**, which aim to reduce litter in the town.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

## **2.8 Chapter 10: Social, Community and Cultural Development**

#### **AMENDMENT 10.1**

Insert additional policy under Section 10.7, Arts and Culture in the Community, to read as follows:

**"It is the policy of the Council to facilitate the development of a cinema at an appropriate location within the Town Centre area of Athy.**

This amendment would be likely to contribute towards improving sustainable mobility and would also potentially conflict with a number of environmental components including biodiversity and flora and fauna, cultural heritage and protected views and prospects, however; measures which have been integrated into the Draft Plan will ensure that potentially adverse effects are mitigated and that the amendment will not affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

#### **AMENDMENT 10.2**

Insert additional policy under Section 10.3 as follows:

**"It is the policy of the Council to work with Kildare Leader Partnership to develop Social and Community Projects within the town."**

This amendment could support built development which could potentially conflict with a number of environmental components including biodiversity and flora and fauna, the status of water bodies, cultural heritage and protected views and prospects, however; measures which have been integrated into the Draft Plan will ensure that potentially adverse effects are mitigated and that the amendment will not affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

#### **AMENDMENT 10.3**

Insert additional policy under Section 10.5.3 as follows:

**It is the policy of the Council to support the provision of social and physical infrastructure to encourage the development of Athy as an Age Friendly Town."**

This amendment could support built development which could potentially conflict with a number of environmental components including biodiversity and flora and fauna, the status of water bodies, cultural heritage and protected views and prospects, however; measures which have been integrated into the Draft Plan will ensure that potentially adverse effects are mitigated and that the amendment will not affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

## 2.9 Chapter 11: Recreation and Amenity

### AMENDMENT 11.1

Insert additional policy under Section 11.4 as follows:

**"To encourage and support the development of water safety awareness initiatives in association with Kildare Water Safety."**

This amendment would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

## 2.10 Chapter 13: Natural Heritage and Biodiversity

### AMENDMENT 13.1

Insert additional policy under Section 13.4.4 to read as follows:

**"It is the policy of the Council to ensure that development does not have a significant adverse impact on plant species, animals and birds listed in the Flora Protection Order, Wildlife Act 1976-2000, those listed in Annex IV of the Habitats Directive and those listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive."**

This amendment would further contribute towards the protection of biodiversity and flora and fauna which is already contributed towards by the Draft Plan.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### AMENDMENT 13.2

Amend objective NHO 7 as follows:

It is an objective of the Council to request National Parks and Wildlife Service to prioritise the preparation of a Management Plans **for the River Barrow a Natura 2000 Sites** ~~which are located in the vicinity of the town~~ **and to have regard to the objectives and management practices proposed in the Management Plan as appropriate.**

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### AMENDMENT 13.3

Amend policy NH1 of the Draft Plan to read as follows:

**"To ~~have regard to~~ implement** the actions contained in the County Biodiversity Plan 2009-2013 through the identification of priority actions subject to the availability of funding."

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

### AMENDMENT 13.4

Amend policy NH 2 as follows:

**"To facilitate the conservation, protection and enhancement of the Grand Canal pNHA, and the River Barrow cSAC, including the adjacent wetlands and associated habitats and to ensure that development does not significantly adversely affect conservation values."**

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

#### **AMENDMENT 13.5**

Amend NH 21 policy as follows:

"To consult, as appropriate, with ~~the relevant Fisheries Board~~ Inland Fisheries Ireland in relation to developments that could potentially impact on the aquatic ecosystems and associated riparian habitats."

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

#### **AMENDMENT 13.7**

Insert additional objective NHO 8 as follows:

**"It is an objective of the Council to identify suitable buffer zones between designated ecological sites and areas zoned for development."**

This amendment would further contribute towards the protection of biodiversity and flora and fauna which is already contributed towards by the Draft Plan.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

## **2.11 Chapter 14: Urban Design and Opportunity Areas**

#### **AMENDMENT 14.1**

Revised design brief to reflect the permissions granted on the site.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

#### **AMENDMENT 14.2**

Amend the legend of Figures 14.3, 14.6, 14.7, 14.8, 14.9, 14.10 as follows:

Replace the term **"Active Frontage"** with **"Building Frontage"** on the all of the above keys. The exact building use or type will be determined on a case by case basis at a later stage through the Development Management process."

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

## **2.12 Chapter 15: Development Management Standards**

#### **AMENDMENT 15.1**

Insert additional policy in Section 15.3 as follows:

**"It is the policy of Council that it shall be a condition of planning permission for new housing schemes that the developer will submit a scheme for the naming, numbering, traffic calming measured and public lighting of the estate and implementation of same on a phased basis prior to the commencement of the development. The naming of housing estates shall reflect in as far as possible the local context in which it is located. On approval of the naming of the scheme the developer will be required to provide nameplates and numbers as required by the Council."**

This amendment would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.



## 2.13 Chapter 16: Land Use Zoning

30 Amendments are proposed to be made to Map 16.1 - Land Use Zoning Objectives Map.

Amendments: 16.1, 16.6, 16.7, 16.9 to 16.13, 16.15, 16.18, 16.19, 16.24, 16.27 to 16.29

The 15 amendments listed above would be likely to significantly contribute towards efforts to improve sustainable mobility and minimise flood risk as well as significantly contributing towards maintaining the status of various environmental components including human beings, biodiversity and flora and fauna, water, soil and cultural heritage. This is because these 15 amendments propose a switch from a land use zoning objective which would be more likely to favour built development, such as 'C: New Residential', to an objective which would be less likely to favour built development, such as 'F: Open Space and Amenity' or 'I: Agriculture'.

If the Plan is amended as proposed, the Section 7 of the SEA Environmental Report will be updated so that it identifies that the selected Plan conforms to Alternative Scenario 4 (*Consolidation and Limited Expansion around Existing Development Envelope*).

These 15 amendments would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

Amendments: 16.2, 16.14, 16.17, 16.20, 16.21 and 16.23 .

These 9 amendments propose the switching of land use zoning objectives which would favour built development to a comparable extent and they would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the SEA ER.

These 9 amendments would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

Amendments: 16.3, 16.4 and 16.8

These 3 amendments propose a switch from a 'C: New Residential' land use zoning objective, which would provide for new residential development, associated residential services and community facilities within the plan period to 2018, to a 'W: White Lands' objective, which would act as a strategic land reserve for future development, directing and accommodating future development outside of the period of the plan, up to 2022.

These amendments would therefore change when potential environmental effects would be likely to arise. The selection of white lands had regard to the proximity of lands to sensitive areas and to the spatial peripherality of lands [which affects the sustainability of patterns of mobility - with resultant effects on energy use and generation of additional emissions to air and increased noise]. By potentially delaying the development of certain lands further away from the town centre, these amendments could potentially further contribute towards the provision of sustainable mobility patterns which are provided for by the Plan and further facilitate the accompaniment of water services infrastructure with new development. By potentially delaying the development of an amount of land within the Plan boundary, these amendments potentially contributes towards the protection of other environmental components.

These 3 amendments would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

Amendments 16.22 and 16.26

These 2 amendments would potentially conflict with a number of environmental components including human health, biodiversity and flora and fauna, water quality and cultural heritage as well as with efforts to improve sustainable mobility and minimise flood risk, however; measures which have been integrated into the Draft Plan will ensure that potentially adverse effects are mitigated and that the amendment will not affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

These 2 amendments would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

#### Amendment 16.25

This amendment would be likely to contribute towards improving sustainable mobility including efforts to reduce car dependency and minimise travel related emissions to air. This amendment would also potentially conflict with a number of environmental components including human health, biodiversity and flora and fauna, water quality and cultural heritage as well as with efforts to minimise flood risk, however; measures which have been integrated into the Draft Plan will ensure that potentially adverse effects are mitigated and that the amendment will not affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

#### Other Commentary

- C3 and C4 from C: New Residential to F: Open Space and Amenity.
- C5 and C 32 from C: New Residential to I: Agricultural.
- Part of lands zoned H: Industry & Warehousing to I: Agricultural.

The above amendments would change the assessment provided under Section 7.5 of the Environmental Report 'The Draft Development Plan which was chosen by the Elected Members to be placed on public display'. As well as benefitting other environmental components, this amendment would contribute towards compliance with both The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities and the Floods Directive and would contribute towards the protection of human health.

This amendment would not change the findings of the assessment provided in the NIS.

## 2.14 Record of Protected Structures

7 Amendments propose to include on the Record of Protected Structures specified parts, e.g. front façade, of the relevant structure only.

By removing the inclusion of certain parts of structures from the Record of Protected Structures these amendments would remove the protection of the parts of the structures which would be provided for by inclusion on the record, however; measures which have already been integrated into the Draft Plan will contribute towards the protection of these parts of the structures.

5 Amendments propose to remove structures from the Record of Protected Structures

By removing structures from the Record of Protected Structures these amendments would remove the protection of the structures which would be provided for by inclusion on the Record, however; measures which have already been integrated into the Draft Plan will contribute towards the protection of these structures.

### 3 Updating of the SEA Environmental Report and Natura Impacts Statement Arising from Submissions

The following identifies updates to the SEA Environmental Report and AA which have arisen from submissions which were made on the Draft Plan, SEA Environmental Report and AA while they were on public display.

A) To give further consideration to the description of conflicts identified in Section 8 of the SEA Environmental Report.

B) To add the following text to Section 9 of the SEA Environmental Report:

Appendix II to the SEA Scoping Report included 35 suggestions for policies and objectives to be integrated into the Plan. All of these suggestions were integrated into the Draft Plan through individual or multiple plan provisions and some have been included verbatim. The individual/multiple plan provisions are identified in this section.

C) To add the following source for biodiversity to Table 10.1 in the SEA Environmental Report:

River Basin Management Data.

D) To add the following information to 'probable conflict' interactions in Section 7.5 of the SEA Environmental Report:

<b>Probable Conflict - unlikely to be mitigated</b>	<b>Positive or negative effects</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>	<b>Short, Medium or Long term</b>	<b>Temporary or Permanent</b>
Car dependency, travel related greenhouse gas emissions, brownfield development	Negative	Yes as a result of factors including piecemeal development over a large extent of zoned lands, some of which are located in peripheral areas	All	Permanent
Ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats	Negative	As above	All	Permanent
Provision of appropriate water Services and interaction with water resources, drinking water and human health (in the absence of significant extra investment)	Negative	As above	All (in the absence of significant extra investment)	Permanent (in the absence of significant extra investment)
Conflict with minimisation of flood risk	Negative	As above	All	Permanent

E) To add the following sentence to Section 10.4 of the SEA Environmental Report:

Indicators and targets will be reviewed during the preparation of the preliminary monitoring evaluation report.

F) To update paragraph 4 in Section 2.7 of the SEA Environmental Report as follows:

The Environmental Report is required to contain the information specified in Schedule 2 of the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (SI No. 4356 of 2004) (see Table 2.1).

G) To reword SEO B2 in the SEA Environmental Report as follows:

SEO B2: To ensure compliance with Article 10 of the Habitats Directive with regard to the protection of corridors, stepping stones and contiguous areas of habitat<sup>3</sup> which are important at Town and environs level for wild fauna and flora and essential for the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species and to protect protected species.

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<sup>3</sup> Important corridors, stepping stones and contiguous areas of habitat include the River Barrow and the Grand Canal. It is recommended that important corridors, stepping stones and contiguous areas of habitat are identified as part of the monitoring programme and that time resources are spent in the monitoring of these rather than in the monitoring of corridors or areas of habitat which are not important at Town and environs level.

## Appendix I Determination

### ATHY TOWN COUNCIL Athy Town Development Plan 2012-2018

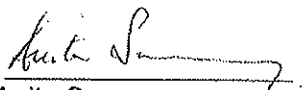
**Re: Determination for requirement for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) & Appropriate Assessment (AA) in respect of Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Athy Town Development Plan 2012-2018**

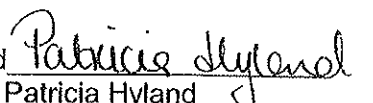
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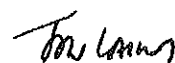
I refer to the proposed material alterations to the Draft Athy Town Development Plan 2012-2018 which were made at the meeting of Athy Town Council on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

Pursuant to section 12, subsection 7 (aa) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2010, I determine that SEA and AA are required to be undertaken on the proposed material alterations.

The SEA and AA shall be completed on or before Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 and will be placed on public display alongside the proposed material alterations.

Signed   
Anita Sweeney  
Senior Executive Planner

Signed   
Patricia Hyland  
Assistant Planner

Signed   
John Lahart  
Director of Services

Signed   
Michael Malone  
County Manager

**Date: 21.10.2011**