



Variation (No.1): Kilcullen Settlement Plan of the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029

Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination in accordance with the EU's Habitats Directive Article 6(3) and the Section 177U of the *Planning and Development Act 2000* (as amended)

An Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination has been made by Kildare County Council regarding Variation (No.1): Kilcullen Settlement Plan of the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029.

Variation No.1 [Kilcullen Settlement Plan] of the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029, through a series of objectives and policies, will ensure that a planning framework is in place which will set out the vision and direction for the future development of Kilcullen up to 2029.

Under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) a land use plan must be subject to a Screening for Appropriate Assessment where there is the potential for a plan to have a likely significant effect upon the Natura 2000 network (European sites). A Screening for Appropriate Assessment is being made by Kildare County Council on Variation No.1 [Kilcullen Settlement Plan] of the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 (CDP).

Section 13(6) of the *Planning and Development Act 2000* (as amended) requires, inter alia, a determination to be made as to whether the Variation No.1 to the Kildare County Development Plan (CDP) regarding the 'Settlement Plan' for Kilcullen town warrants the undertaking of an AA. The Screenings for Appropriate Assessment reports of Variation (No.1): Kilcullen Settlement Plan of the *Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029*, including the final proposed material alterations, concludes that the land use plan (Variation and Settlement Plan), either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects, will not give rise to likely significant effects and there is, therefore, no potential for adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites of the Natura 2000 network, in view of their conservation objectives.

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above, agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above. The undersigned hereby determines, pursuant to Section 13(6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is not required.

This decision has been informed by analysis prepared by ARUP in addition to the Variation No.1 [Kilcullen Settlement Plan] of the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 and other material pertinent to the European Sites held by the Council.

Signed

Alan Dunney

Date

31/3/2025

Signatory (Approved Officer):

Alan Dunney
Director of Service