

Kildare County Council

Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (extended) Changes to Amendment No. 1 (Confey Masterplan)

Addendum to the Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment of Changes to Amendment No.1

Reference:

| 17 April 2024

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Job number

Ove Arup & Partners Ireland Limited
50 Ringsend Road
Dublin 4
D04 T6X0
Ireland
arup.com

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1. Introduction

Kildare County Council (KCC) is proposing to non-materially alter Amendment No.1 to the Leixlip Local Area Plan (LLAP) 2020-2023 (as extended), in accordance with Section 20(3) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

In December 2023, KCC proposed to incorporate the Confey Masterplan to the LLAP by way of a Statutory Amendment (hereafter referred to as “Amendment No. 1”) to the LLAP to ensure compliance with the requirements of the LLAP and the associated Confey Urban Design Framework (UDF).

The Confey Masterplan was prepared in accordance with Objective CON 1.1(a) of the LLAP, which states that ‘*no residential development shall take place on the lands identified within the Confey Urban Design Framework until such time as a masterplan is prepared and integrated into the Leixlip Local Area Plan by way of a statutory amendment to the Local Area Plan, pursuant to Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).*’ Ove Arup & Partners Ireland Limited has prepared the Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report and the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the Amendment No. 1. The purpose of these reports was to determine whether the Proposed Amendment No.1 required Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA). The Screening Reports (Arup, 2023) concluded that no further assessment would be required of the Proposed Amendment No. 1. The Amendment was adopted by KCC at a special meeting on the 25th of March 2024 with a number of non-material changes.

This addendum considers the effects of these non-material changes to the conclusions of the environmental screenings.

2. Screening of the Changes to Amendment No. 1

2.1 SEA Screening

Ove Arup & Partners Ireland Limited prepared the Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report (Arup, 2023) of Amendment No. 1. The purpose of this report was to determine whether the Proposed Amendment No.1 required SEA. The SEA Screening Report concluded that no further assessment of the Proposed Amendment No. 1 was required.

The purpose of this Addendum to the SEA Screening Report that was carried out of the Amendment No.1 is to assess whether the changes to the Amendment adopted by KCC alter the conclusions of the SEA Screening Report for Amendment No.1.

It can be concluded that the 18 changes proposed by KCC to the Amendment No.1 consist of minor, non-material alterations which include, but are not limited to, textual changes/ clarifications, the removal of text, and the expansion on existing content. As the proposed changes do not constitute material change, they do not change the conclusion that was made in the SEA Screening Report of Amendment No.1 (Arup, 2023).

2.2 AA Screening

Ove Arup & Partners Ireland Limited prepared the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report of Amendment No. 1 (Arup, 2023). The purpose of this report was to determine whether the Proposed Amendment No.1 required AA. The AA Screening Report (Arup, 2023) concluded that no further assessment would be required of the Proposed Amendment No. 1.

The purpose of this Addendum to the AA Screening Report (Arup, 2023) that was carried out of the Amendment No.1 is to assess whether the changes to the Amendment proposed by KCC alter the conclusions of the AA Screening Report of Amendment No.1.

It can be concluded that the 18 changes proposed by KCC to the Amendment consist of minor, non-material alterations which include, but are not limited to, textual changes/ clarifications, the removal of text, and the expansion on existing content in the LLAP. As the proposed alterations do not constitute material change, they do not change the conclusion made in the AA Screening Report of Amendment No.1 (Arup, 2023).

3. Conclusion

This Addendum concludes that none of the proposed changes to Amendment No.1 alter the outcome of the AA and SEA Screening Reports for Amendment No.1.

It can be concluded that the 18 changes proposed by KCC to the Amendment No. 1 consist of minor, non-material alterations which include, but are not limited to, textual changes/ clarifications, the removal of text, and the expansion on existing content. As the proposed changes do not constitute material change, they do not change the conclusions made in the SEA and AA Screening Reports of Amendment No.1 (Arup, 2023).



**Adopted Amendment No. 1 to the
*Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended)***


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) in relation to Amendment No. 1 to the *Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023*, which was adopted by Kildare County Council at a Special Meeting on the 25th March 2024.

A Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) determination has been made by Kildare County Council in accordance with Section 20(3) of the *Planning and Development Act 2000* (as amended) regarding the Adopted Amendment No. 1 to the *Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended to 2026)*. This decision has been informed by analysis prepared by ARUP in addition to other material pertinent to the European Sites held by the Council.

An *Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report of the Proposed Amendment No. 1* (ARUP, 2023) was prepared to determine whether the Proposed Amendment No. 1 required AA and concluded that no further assessment would be required in respect of the Proposed Amendment. Following the adoption of Amendment No. 1, an *Addendum to the AA Screening Report* (ARUP, 2023) was prepared, which concludes that the changes consist of minor, non-material alterations which include, but are not limited to, textual changes/clarifications, the removal of text, and the expansion of existing content in the *Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended)*. As the proposed alterations do not constitute material change, they do not change the conclusion made in the *AA Screening Report of Amendment No. 1* (ARUP, 2023).

In conclusion, in accordance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive and Section 177U of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010 (as amended), taking into account all matters relevant it has been determined that the Adopted Amendment No. 1 to the Leixlip LAP, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will not have likely significant effects on a European site.

The Addendum (ARUP, 2024) to the AA Screening Report on Amendment No. 1 to the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended) accompanies this determination.

Signed: 
Alan Dunney, Director of Services

Director of Services, Planning, Enterprise, Economic Development & Emergency Services.

Dated: 30th April 2024



Amendment No. 1 to the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended) as adopted by Kildare County Council at a Special Meeting on the 25th March 2024.

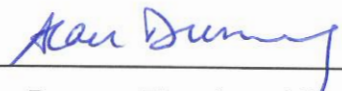
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Determination under *European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 435 of 2004)* as amended by *European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 200 of 2011)* provide requirements in relation to SEA for the adopted *Amendment No. 1 Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended)*.

A SEA screening assessment has been undertaken as part of this SEA process in order to establish whether *Proposed Amendment No. 1* of the *Leixlip Local Area Plan (as extended)* would be likely to result in significant effects on the environment and would necessitate full SEA. Such a determination is required to take account of relevant criteria set out in Schedule 1 ('Criteria for determining whether a Plan or Programme (or Modification thereto) is likely to have significant effects on the Environment') of the Regulations and submissions or observations from relevant environmental authorities. None of the prescribed bodies advised that a Strategic Environmental Assessment should be carried out. The information contained in the response from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been taken into account. The SEA Screening Report (Arup, 2023) concluded that no further assessment of Proposed Amendment No. 1 was required.

An Addendum to the SEA Screening Report was carried out following the adoption by Kildare County Council of *Amendment No. 1* to assess whether the changes to the Amendment alter the conclusions of the *SEA Screening Report* for Amendment No. 1. It can be concluded that the changes, which consist of minor, non-material alterations which include, but are not limited to, textual changes/clarifications, the removal of text, and the expansion of existing content in the *Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended)*. As the proposed alterations do not constitute material change, they do not change the conclusion that was made in the SEA Screening Report of Amendment No. 1.

Therefore, it is determined that *Amendment No. 1* to the *Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended)* adopted on the 25th of March 2024 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects on the environment and does not necessitate full SEA.

The Addendum (Arup, 2024) to the *SEA Screening Report on Amendment No. 1 to the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended)* accompanies this determination.

Signed: 
Alan Dunney, Director of Services

Director of Services, Planning, Enterprise, Economic Development & Emergency Services.

Dated: 30th April 2024