

Kildare County Council
Leixlip Local Area Plan
SEA Statement

Ref/1

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1 Introduction

1.1 The Purpose of the SEA Statement

This Statement forms part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the adopted Leixlip Local Area Plan (LAP) 2020 - 2023 ('The Plan'). SEA is a systematic, on-going process for evaluating (at the earliest possible stage) the quantity and consequences of implementing certain plans and programmes on the environment. This SEA Statement is the final stage of the SEA process and it is required under the European Communities Regulations 2004¹ (EU SEA Regulations) and national legislation² (SEA Regulations).

The purpose of the SEA Statement is to provide information on the decision-making process, and to document environmental considerations, the views of stakeholders and outline how recommendations arising from the SEA have been taken into account in the Plan. The four key requirements of this SEA Statement are to highlight:

- The incorporation of environmental considerations;
- Stakeholder involvement;
- Alterations considered; and
- Monitoring

The SEA Statement is chronological in nature and includes the following:

- An outline of the methodology for undertaking a SEA;
- Scoping - an overview of the scoping process and summary of how the submissions received from stakeholders have been taken into account;
- Environmental Assessment- description of how environmental considerations have been integrated into the SEA;
- Alternatives - an outline of the reasons for choosing the plan to be adopted, in light of the other reasonable alternatives considered;
- Monitoring - an overview of the measures to monitor the plan going forward; and
- Final Appraisal - evaluation of the effectiveness of the SEA.

This SEA Statement will accompany the adopted Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020 - 2023 and be made available to the public.

¹ European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations, as amended by European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations 2004

² Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations, as amended by the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations (2004)

1.2 Statement of the SEA Process for the adopted Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020 - 2023

The adopted Leixlip LAP 2020 - 2023 is a statutory document containing guidelines as to how the town and its environs should develop over the plan period. The adopted Leixlip LAP provides the overall strategy for the proposed planning and sustainable development within the plan area in the context of the Kildare County Development Plan 2017 - 2023 and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Eastern and Midlands Region (2019-2031). It represents the main public statements of planning policies and objectives for the plan area.

The policies and objectives are critical in determining the appropriate location and form of different types of development as the Leixlip LAP is the primary statutory land use policy framework against which planning applications are assessed. The objectives also guide Kildare County Council's activities and indicate priority areas or action and investment such as focusing on attracting employment into town, improving infrastructure or enhancing the town as a centre for sustainable tourism.

Current planning legislation identifies mandatory objectives which a plan must address including land use zoning and provision of services and infrastructure, the integration of social, community and cultural requirements, sustainable development and protection of the environment amongst others. In addition to these mandatory objectives, the Leixlip LAP also includes a section which details the plan's compliance with the Core Strategy contained in Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023 and sets out medium to longer term quantitative targets for the plan area. The Core Strategy sets out the overall population projection for the county and the extent of population growth to be accommodated in the towns, villages and rural areas and demonstrates that the Leixlip LAP and its objectives are consistent with the National Planning Framework and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Eastern and Midlands Region (2019-2031).

A broad SEA was carried out using an objective led approach to assess likely significant impact. The assessment was mostly qualitative in nature, with some assessment based on expert judgement. This qualitative assessment compared the likely impacts against the SEA objectives, targets and indicators to see which policies and objectives meet these and which, if any, contradict these.

A matrix system was developed to facilitate the assessment and to highlight potential impacts under a number of environmental headings namely biodiversity, population and human health, soil, water, air and climate factors, cultural heritage, landscape and material assets.

2 SEA Methodology

2.1 Overview

This section describes how the SEA was undertaken in accordance with legislative requirements including EU’s Council Directive 2001/42/EC (the SEA Directive), national legislation and associated regulations. The SEA was undertaken iteratively to facilitate discussions with Kildare County Council in order to implement mitigation where possible at the earliest possible stage.

The methodology for the SEA is based on legislative requirements and guidance from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) thus ensuring compliance with the SEA Directive and associated national legislation. The key stages outlined in Figure 2.1 were identified and are discussed in the following sections.

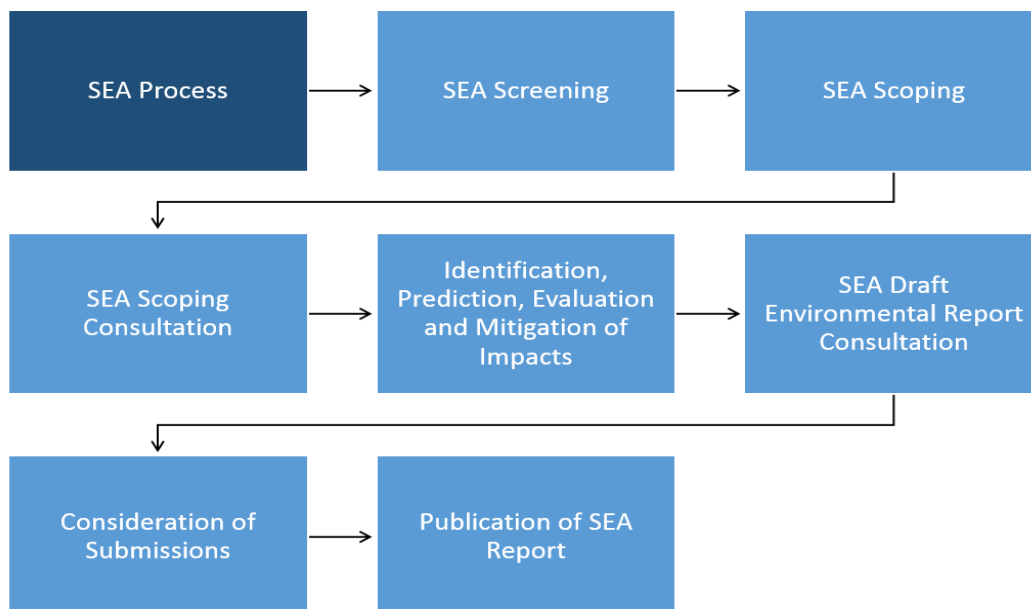


Figure 2.1: Key Stages of the SEA Process

2.2 Screening

Screening is the process for deciding whether a particular plan would warrant SEA. A screening assessment was undertaken as part of this SEA process to determine if the adopted Leixlip LAP required a SEA. This assessment concluded that a SEA was required due to the population within the plan area.

2.3 Scoping

Scoping is the process for establishing the range of environmental issues to be covered in the SEA and the level of detail that the assessment will investigate. Scoping also allows input from the environmental authorities and stakeholders to be incorporated. Essentially responses submitted as part of the scoping process provide greater focus on the evolution of the adopted Leixlip LAP.

The considerations addressed during the scoping process for the Draft LAP are as follows:

- The key elements of the Draft LAP to be assessed;
- The environmental aspects to be assessed as part of the SEA;
- Identification of relevant international, national and local plans, objectives and environmental standards that may influence or impact on the Draft LAP;
- Development of draft environmental objectives, indicators and targets to allow the evaluation of impacts as part of the SEA; and
- Identification of any reasonable alternative means or scenarios for achieving the strategic goals of the Draft LAP.

A scoping report for this SEA was prepared on behalf of Kildare County Council which asked key questions of stakeholders.

2.4 Baseline Assessment

Gathering relevant information that describes the current environment within the plan area is an integral part of the SEA process. The SEA Directive requires that certain information on the existing environment is presented to help assess the implementation of the Leixlip LAP, as well as helping establish how the environment would change if the Leixlip LAP is not implemented.

Baseline information has been collected from readily available sources, and a Geographical Information System (GIS) was used to graphically present and analyse relevant information. The baseline of the plan area, i.e. the area to which the adopted Leixlip LAP applies, is reported in Section 4 of the Environmental Report ('Current State of the Environment').

2.5 Environmental Assessment

The environmental assessment ran in parallel to the development of the adopted Leixlip LAP. The process is described in detail in Section 4 of this SEA Statement.

The environmental assessment process was undertaken in accordance with best practice SEA principals and guidance. This included review of baseline information, specialist investigation into the likely impacts associated with both the Leixlip LAP and its material alterations, and recommendations for suitable mitigation measures.

An appraisal matrix was developed to facilitate the assessment of the policies and objectives outlined in the adopted Leixlip LAP and its material alterations. The matrix led assessment basis provided a holistic, integrated and interactive approach to the formation of the policies and objectives in the adopted Leixlip LAP.

The assessment also considered the findings of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA).

3 SEA Scoping

3.1 Scoping Process

Scoping Process

The SEA Scoping was a key part of the assessment process as it set out the extent of the SEA and AA and provided information to allow consultation with defined statutory bodies and environmental authorities on the scope and level of detail to be considered and incorporated at an early stage in the assessment.

The scoping report for this SEA was published on 17th January 2019 and outlined that the SEA would assess the following aspects:

- Biodiversity (including Flora and Fauna);
- Population and Human Health;
- Soil;
- Water;
- Air and Climate Factors;
- Cultural Heritage;
- Landscape; and
- Material Assets

The report summarised the key environmental issues and outlined relevant plans and programmes that were likely to affect or be affected by the Leixlip LAP.

This information was then used to set out a series of draft SEA objectives, indicators and associated targets. The objectives and targets established aims and thresholds which would be taken into consideration to effectively assess the impact of the Leixlip LAP on the environment. Indicators were used to track the achievements of objectives and targets, describe the baseline situation, monitor the impact on the environment and predict impacts.

Essentially, any issues/comments submitted as part of the scoping provides greater focus on the development of aspects of the Leixlip LAP. The issues addressed as part of the Scoping Report were:

- The key elements of the Leixlip LAP to be assessed;
- The key environmental issues to be assessed;
- Research of the relevant international, national and local plans, objectives and environmental standards that may influence or impact on the Leixlip LAP;
- Development of draft environmental objectives, indicators and targets to allow the evaluation of impacts; and
- Identification of reasonable alternatives means of achieving the strategic goals of the Leixlip LAP.

3.2 Scoping Consultation

The SEA Scoping Report was published on 17th January 2019 for review and comment by defined statutory bodies and environmental authorities.

Seven No. submissions were received in response to the SEA Scoping Report, from: The Electricity Supply Board (ESB), the Health and Safety Authority (HSA), the Health Service Executive (HSE), Irish Water, Meath County Council, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). All comments, observations and submissions contained therein were considered and incorporated into the assessment process, as considered relevant. Appendix A of this report contains a summary of the submissions received on the SEA Scoping Report, and how they were responded to.

Once scoping was complete, the project team (including the SEA and AA teams and Kildare County Council) worked together to identify and resolve issues and mitigate potential impacts.

The matrix led assessment basis of the SEA provided a holistic, integrated and iterative approach to the development of the policies in the Leixlip LAP. To this effect, the two processes were seamless and facilitated necessary amendments to accommodate the mitigation of environmental impacts.

4 Environmental Assessment

As outlined in Section 2.5, the environmental assessment comprised a review of the baseline data, identification of likely impacts and development of appropriate mitigation measures for the Leixlip LAP. The environmental assessment was undertaken by way of the appraisal matrix and recorded in the Draft SEA Environmental Report which went out for public consultation on 30th May 2019 seeking feedback from stakeholders.

The Leixlip LAP was updated to reflect input from the public, statutory and non-statutory bodies and local representatives provided during the period of public consultation. The SEA team and Kildare County Council worked together on this, continuing the iterative process to optimise outcomes arising from the Leixlip LAP. Each time a revision of wording was considered, the appraisal matrix and associated Environmental Report were also adjusted as required.

Advice was provided to Kildare County Council regarding the options for mitigation that could be incorporated to optimise benefits and lessen adverse environmental impacts arising from the Leixlip LAP.

Appendix B contains a summary of the submissions received during public consultation (as they relate to the SEA only), and how they were responded to.

4.1 Establishment of the Baseline

The SEA requires the assessment of the likely impacts of the Leixlip LAP against the current environmental conditions, i.e. the baseline. The establishment of the baseline was cognisant of the local nature of the Leixlip LAP and considered existing conditions within the plan area as well as pressures, inter-relationships and factors of relevance for the following environmental aspects:

- Biodiversity (including Flora and Fauna);
- Population and Human Health;
- Land and Soil
- Water;
- Air and Climate Factors;
- Cultural Heritage;
- Landscape; and
- Material Assets.

4.2 Interactions and Interrelationships

In accordance with the SEA Directive, the inter-relationship between environmental aspects must be taken into account. The interaction and inter-relationships of relevance for the environmental baseline aspects was an important consideration for the environmental assessment.

Table 4.1 outlines the identifiable inter-relationships that were taken into account during the environmental assessment. It is noted that all environmental aspects interact with each other to some extent, however only significant relationships were considered (where direct relationships are pink and indirect relationships are orange. Where no effect is identified- this is represented in grey).

Table 4.1: Key inter-relationships between environmental aspects.

	Biodiversity	Population and human health	Land and soils	Water resources	Air, noise and climate	Heritage	Landscape and visual	Material assets
Biodiversity	Grey	Orange	Pink	Pink	Orange	Grey	Orange	Grey
Population and human health	Orange	Grey	Pink	Pink	Pink	Orange	Pink	Pink
Land and Soil	Pink	Pink	Grey	Orange	Orange	Orange	Pink	Pink
Water	Pink	Pink	Pink	Grey	Orange	Grey	Pink	Pink
Air and climate factors	Orange	Pink	Orange	Orange	Grey	Grey	Orange	Pink
Cultural Heritage	Grey	Orange	Orange	Grey	Grey	Grey	Pink	Orange
Landscape	Orange	Pink	Pink	Pink	Orange	Pink	Grey	Orange
Material assets	Grey	Pink	Pink	Pink	Pink	Orange	Orange	Grey

4.3 Objectives, Indicators and Targets

The objectives, indicators and targets are the aspects for which the Leixlip LAP is assessed against. The policies and recommendations in the Leixlip LAP are assessed against a range of environmental objectives and targets established for the purpose of the SEA. Further, indicators that are recommended in the SEA are utilised over the lifetime of the Leixlip LAP to quantify the level of impact that the proposed plan may have on the environment. It is then possible to establish whether Kildare County Council were successful in promoting the sustainable development of the plan area.

A summary of the objectives, in indicators and targets is included in Table 4.2

Table 4.2: Objectives, Indicators and Targets

Environmental Category	Objectives	Target	Indicators
Biodiversity including Flora and Fauna	Conserve the diversity of habitats and species by limiting adverse impacts on habitats and species of conservation concern, including the Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC and to contribute to the protection of the ecological, visual, recreational, environmental and amenity value of the Royal Canal pNHA and Liffey Valley pNHA.	<p>Consider siting of new development on non-sensitive sites.</p> <p>Improve/conservate and protect all designated sites and species within and adjacent to the Plan area.</p> <p>Deliver the requirement of the Habitats Directive (Article 4, Paragraph 4) for the maintenance or restoration of annexed habitats and species within SACs at a “favourable conservation status.</p> <p>Promote the maintenance and, as appropriate, achievement of favourable conservation status of habitats and species, in association with the NPWS and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Protect SPAs, Annex I bird species, and regularly occurring migratory bird species and their habitats, and avoid pollution or deterioration of important bird habitats outside SPAs.</p> <p>Improve the ecological coherence of Natura 2000 sites by encouraging the management of, maintaining, and where appropriate developing, features of the landscape which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora. Such features are those which, by virtue of their linear and continuous structure (such as rivers with their banks or the traditional systems for marking field boundaries) or their function as stepping stones (such as ponds or small woods), are essential for the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species.</p> <p>Protect NHAs, National Parks, Nature Reserves, Wildfowl Sanctuaries, Refuges for Fauna or Flora and sites proposed for designation.</p> <p>Improve/maintain protection for important wildlife sites, particularly urban wildlife corridors and linear and stepping stone features for migration, dispersal and exchange of wildlife.</p> <p>Improve access for the appreciation and promotion of wildlife.</p>	<p>Census population data.</p> <p>Number and extent of Protected Sites.</p> <p>Areas actively managed for conservation.</p> <p>Population and range of Protected Species.</p> <p>Achievement of the Objectives of Biodiversity Plans.</p>

Environmental Category	Objectives	Target	Indicators
Population and Human Health	Meet the future housing demand of Leixlip and provide all of the services required to sustainably meet this demand (e.g. health and sanitation services including waste collection, wastewater treatment and potable water supply, electricity, gas, telecommunications, transportation, education and amenity access).	<p>Minimise population exposure to high levels of noise, vibration and air pollution.</p> <p>Increase modal shift to public transport.</p> <p>Co-ordinate land use and transportation policies.</p> <p>Improve access to recreation opportunities.</p>	<p>Census population data.</p> <p>Rates of unemployment per area.</p> <p>Dependency ratio.</p> <p>Deprivation Index.</p> <p>Commuting times and modes of transport.</p> <p>% increase in housing (number and type).</p>
Land and Soils	Protect quality and quantity of existing soil and geology and maintain and preserve the Louisa Bridge warm spring site (Leixlip Spa) of geological heritage.	<p>Prevent pollution of soil through adoption of appropriate environmental protection procedures during construction and maintenance works on site.</p> <p>Ensure polluting substances are appropriately stored and banded.</p> <p>Ensure appropriate management of existing contaminated soil in accordance with the requirements of current waste legislation.</p> <p>Re-use of brownfield lands, rather than developing greenfield lands, where possible.</p> <p>Minimise the consumption of non-renewable sand, gravel and rock deposits.</p>	<p>Rates of re-use/recycling of construction waste.</p> <p>Rates of quarrying.</p> <p>Rates of brownfield site and contaminated land reuse and development.</p> <p>Rates of greenfield development.</p>
Water Resources	Improve/maintain water quality and the management of the River Rye and River Liffey to comply with the standards of the Water Framework Directive and incorporate the objectives of the Floods Directive into sustainable planning and development.	<p>Support the achievement of “good” ecological and chemical status/potential of waterbodies in accordance with the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>Minimise flood risk through appropriate management of flood vulnerable zones.</p> <p>Promote sustainable drainage practices to improve water quality and flow</p>	<p>Compliance of potable water sources to water quality regulations.</p> <p>Compliance of surface waters with national and international standards.</p> <p>Potable and wastewater treatment capacities versus population.</p> <p>% of wastewater requiring treatment.</p> <p>Achievement of the Objectives of the River Basin Management Plans.</p> <p>Amount of new developments within flood plains.</p> <p>Annual costs of damage related to flood events.</p>

Environmental Category	Objectives	Target	Indicators
Air, Noise and Climate	Protection of the ambient environmental of Leixlip through the implementation of European, national and regional policy and legislation relating to air quality, greenhouse gases, climate change, light pollution, noise pollution and waste management.	Minimise air and noise emissions during construction and operation of new developments. Promote reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere. Limiting climate change and adapting to climate change.	Traffic, Transport and Vehicular survey data. National and region-specific emission data. Compliance with national standards. Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Number and extent of emission licensed facilities. Number of energy/renewable energy production facilities. Rates of energy/renewable energy consumption.
Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage	Promote the protection and conservation of the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage of Leixlip, specifically those buildings identified on the Record of Protected Structures, and Recorded Monuments within the plan area, and promote the historic character and visual setting of the Leixlip Architectural Conservation Area.	Regeneration of derelict and underutilised heritage sites. Improve appearance of areas with particular townscape character. Improve protection for protected archaeological sites and monuments and their settings, protected structures and conservation areas and areas of archaeological potential. Enhance access to sites of heritage interest.	Updating of inventories to include new sites/features. Achieving the objectives of development plans regarding heritage protection. Range and extent of areas of heritage potential. Range and extent of areas of special planning controls.
Landscape and Visual	Protect the landscape character, values, sensitivities, focal points and views in the Leixlip Plan Area, particularly the historic character and visual setting of the Leixlip Architectural Conservation Area.	Improve protection for landscapes of recognised quality. Maintain clear urban/rural distinctions. Enhance provision of, and access to, green space in urban areas. Ensure development is sensitive to its surroundings.	Range and extent of Amenity Landscapes. Rates of development within designated landscapes. Rates of urban expansion. Rates of deforestation. Rates of agricultural land re-development. % change of land use from rural to urban.
Material Assets	Make best use of existing infrastructure and phase the significant future growth of Leixlip in line with the capacity and delivery of the	Improve availability and accessibility of commercially provided facilities and public services. Increase local employment opportunities.	Location/level of Infrastructure. Achievement of development plan objectives.

Environmental Category	Objectives	Target	Indicators
	sustainable development of new physical infrastructure.	<p>Improve efficiencies of transport, energy and communication infrastructure.</p> <p>Promotion of sustainable transport infrastructure i.e. increased public transport.</p> <p>Reduce the generation of waste and adopt a sustainable approach to waste management.</p>	<p>Rates of deprivation.</p> <p>Rate of waste disposal to landfill statistics.</p> <p>Range and extent of recycling facilities and services.</p> <p>Rates of recycling.</p>

4.4 Consideration of Alternatives

This first stage of the SEA involved an environmental assessment of the alternative scenarios considered for the Leixlip LAP. The alternatives considered are summarised below:

Alternative Scenario 1- compact growth/consolidation and the densification of the existing town centre. Lands immediately adjoining the town centre are therefore prioritised. Exceeds requirement of 30% compact growth.

Alternative Scenario 2- compact growth/consolidation and the densification of the existing town centre- Lands immediately adjoining the town centre are therefore prioritised. Strictly meets requirements of 30% compact growth.

Alternative Scenario 3-30% compact growth and the northern expansion of the LAP area.

Alternative Scenario 4- 30% compact growth and a mix of northern and western expansion of the LAP area.

Alternative Scenario 5- compact growth, within or contiguous to the town centre, and a combination of lands considered within Scenarios 1-4 informed by findings of the Sustainable Planning and Infrastructural Assessment for the plan area.

The SEA team determined that based on the assessment findings, the emerging preferred scenario was Alternatives Scenario 5. Alternative Scenario 5 provides for a reduction in the area of land identified for development at Confey to that which is currently provided for under the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2017-2023 (the baseline scenario). Alternative Plan Scenario 5 provides for c. 1300 residential units at Confey. Approximately 1,500 residential units at Confey are currently identified for development under the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2017-2023.

A reduction in the size and scale of greenfield development at Confey is likely to result in reduced potential for negative environmental effects. However, this is countered by the identification of new greenfield land targeted for residential development the east of the town at Black Avenue and to the south of the town at Celbridge Road East. Any development on previously undeveloped or 'greenfield' lands has the potential to result in a negative environmental effect on biodiversity, soils and geology, water resources, landscape and visual and material assets.

Alternative Scenario 5 also provides for upgrades to the existing road network east and west of Confey, linking the subject lands to the R149 to the East, and Kellystown Lane to the West. A new link road through Collinstown from Kellystown Lane providing access to the M4/Celbridge interchange is also proposed under Alternative Scenario 5.

In considering the baseline scenario of the Draft LAP, which sees the Confey area already zoned for development 'subject to masterplan', a neutral environmental effect is identified, for the purposes of this assessment, with regards the road upgrade works and new roads objective.

Development of any kind has the potential to negatively affect biodiversity, human health, soils and geology, water resources, heritage and the landscape and visual setting of an area, and a detailed environmental assessment would be required at project level, as required.

Road upgrade works and the provision of a new link road in the LAP area will however work towards delivering a more efficient transport network and enhanced accessibility within Leixlip, which is likely to result in a positive effect on the population of the LAP area, and on material assets. However, it should be considered that the provision of new roads may also increase reliance on vehicular modes of transport which has the potential to result in an increase in private car use and associated emissions. A potential negative effect on air quality, noise and climate is therefore identified.

4.5 Assessment Stage 1 - Initial Draft Plan

The first stage of the SEA assessment process comprised the first draft of the appraisal matrix that was completed by the SEA team based on the initial draft of the Leixlip Local Area Plan and provided to Kildare County Council for their consideration.

This objectives-led assessment compared the likely impacts of each policy and objective in the initial Draft Leixlip LAP against the strategic environmental objectives (as described in Section 4.3) with respect to the baseline information. Particular reference was made to the potential for cumulative effects in association with other relevant plan and programmes within Kildare County Council and the Greater Dublin Area.

The assessment process categorised environmental impacts using the ratings outlined in **Table 4.3** which is based on the impact assessment criteria defined by the EPA for environmental impact assessment.

Table 4.3: Impact Ratings

Significance of Impact	
	Positive
	Neutral
	Negative
	Uncertain

The assessment also considered the cumulative effects of policies on each other to determine if certain policies working in combination could have an environmental impact.

Upon completion of the first appraisal matrix, a number of recommendations were made which were then reviewed in detail by Kildare County Council and where appropriate, incorporated into the Draft Leixlip LAP.

4.6 Assessment Stage 2 - Final Draft Plan

The next stage of the assessment comprised the revision of the appraisal matrix to take on board comments received from Kildare County Council on the initial draft plan and the associated first draft appraisal matrix.

This appraisal matrix was incorporated into the SEA Draft Environmental Report that accompanied the Draft Leixlip LAP that went out for public consultation on 30th May 2019. The principle environmental effects, as per the assessment matrix, identified are summarised below.

Biodiversity

The potential effects on biodiversity are mostly neutral in nature. The Draft LAP generally avoids potential effects on natural ecosystems and biodiversity. Uncertainties are identified where the precise nature and extent of development proposals are unknown.

Positive effects on biodiversity are likely to arise from the many measures proposed for the protection and conservation of flora, fauna and habitat in the LAP area, as well as the provision and maintenance of green space and enhancement of green infrastructure across the plan area.

Potential negative effects on biodiversity could arise from the development of road improvement schemes, bridges and footpaths, promotion of tourism and amenity activities along waterways, one-off housing, greenfield development and the proposed undergrounding of cables. It is envisaged that assessments would be undertaken to support such developments in accordance with legislative and planning obligations.

Population and Human Health

The potential impacts on population and human health are generally positive in nature.

The LAP improves accessibility and provides additional housing and employment opportunities to facilitate projected growth within the plan area.

The objectives in the LAP would create employment opportunities, improve accessibility and/or provide additional services, facilities and sources of recreation and amenity for the local population thereby improving the quality of life for residents. Furthermore, the LAP also increases the provision of housing within the plan area and improve the vitality, vibrancy of town centres and other characteristics that can strengthen social cohesion within the plan area.

Land and Soils

The potential effects on land and soil are predominantly neutral.

Uncertainties are identified where the precise nature and extent of development proposals are unknown. Potential for negative effects are identified however, where, for example, greenfield development, cemetery expansion and the undergrounding of cables are proposed.

It is envisaged that assessments would be undertaken to support such developments in accordance with legislative and planning obligations.

Water Resources

The LAP has the potential to result in both positive and negative effects on water resources.

Positive effects are likely to occur where general environmental and water protection measures are proposed, cooperation with Irish Water, implementation of development restrictions near the Royal Canal and the green infrastructure protection zone from the top bank of water courses. Positive effects are also likely where provisions have been made to avoid in-water development and enhance effective flood risk management in vulnerable areas. This would maintain the conveyance capacity of rivers, ensure that development in vulnerable areas is cognisant of flood risk and generally enhance water resources within the plan area. The SFRA, undertaken as part of the SEA, also demonstrates that flood risk in the plan area can be adequately managed and that this LAP will not cause unacceptable adverse impacts.

Extensive development, and in particular greenfield development has the potential to result in negative effects on water due to contamination risks. Furthermore, the promotion of tourism and amenity activities along water courses has the potential to negatively affect the quality of the same. The proposed new footbridge over the River Rye also has the potential for negative effects.

Air and Climate Factors

The potential impacts on air, noise and climate are generally neutral in nature. The LAP generally seeks to avoid impacts on air, noise and climate.

The LAP generally consolidates high density development in the town centre, promotes sustainable transport infrastructure and seeks to enhance the modal share of public transport and active transport by providing additional cycleways and footpaths. This would reduce reliance on private cars and thus reduce associated emissions. The removal of parking and pedestrianised regeneration of Ralph square will also likely result in positive effects on air, noise and climate for this reason. Furthermore, the preservation of green space throughout the LAP area will result in a likely positive effect on air, noise and climate.

Negative effects may arise from the construction of new roads within greenfield sites and the provision or expansion of carparks, which may increase vehicular movements and exacerbate congestion respectively.

Heritage

The potential effects on heritage are generally neutral with some positive effects likely to occur. The LAP seeks to avoid impacts on architectural, archaeological and/or vernacular heritage values.

Significant emphasis is given to the protection and conservation of heritage values in the LAP and positive effects are likely to arise due to the incorporation of measures to, for example, restore the Leixlip Boat House, implement best practise urban design, regenerate derelict buildings, and through the continued protection of the quality, visual character, cultural heritage, ambience and vitality of the town centre.

Negative effects may arise where development is undertaken in the vicinity of designated heritage sites, for example, the proposed development on Main Street, which encroaches on the Architectural Conservation Area. Further, the development or promotion of ‘heritage trails’ and other similar tourism and amenity ventures has the potential to negatively affect the heritage of the area, through increased human interaction and potential for exasperated deterioration.

Landscape

The potential impacts on landscape and visual are predominantly neutral with some positive impacts likely to occur. Development would generally be consolidated within Leixlip town centre and generally avoid impacts on landscape and visual.

Further, the promotion of regeneration and redevelopment throughout the plan area and commitment to the protection of the quality, ambience, vitality, and vibrancy of the town centre is likely to result in a positive effect on the landscape and visual setting of the LAP area.

Negative effects may arise where intrusive development is undertaken, particularly, greenfield sites or low-density zones. It is envisaged that assessment would be undertaken to support such developments in accordance with legislative and planning obligations.

Material Assets

Generally, there is a mixture of effects on material assets likely to arise from the LAP.

The LAP generally aims to consolidate development in the town centre, encourages the provision of efficient infrastructure networks, promotes accessibility and seeks to enhance existing material assets within the plan area. This would positively affect material assets.

Extensive development (such as the creation of large-scale employment clusters and densification at opportunity sites) may strain the existing energy, telecommunications, transport and waste infrastructure. It is envisaged that the scale of development would be appropriate to the site and that the relevant assessments would be undertaken to support such developments in accordance with legislative and planning obligations.

4.6.1 SEA Environmental Report- Consultation

As outlined in Section 2.9, the SEA Environmental Report was subject to a period of statutory consultation to gather feedback in accordance with legislative requirements. The documents were sent to statutory stakeholders and made available for public viewing at Áras Chill Dara in Naas, Leixlip Library and on the Kildare County Council website

Upon completion of the consultation period, a Chief Executive's Report on the 495 No. submissions received was prepared to take into consideration the comments and observations made.

Submissions were also reviewed to consider any comments received in relation to the SEA. The Submissions from the EPA and the OPW among others were particularly relevant to the SEA. As previously stated, Appendix B contains a summary of the submissions received (as they relate to the SEA only), and how they were responded to.

4.7 Assessment Stage 3 - Material Alterations

In accordance with Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, it was resolved by the Members at a Special Meeting of Kildare County Council on the 23rd September 2019 to amend the Draft Leixlip LAP, and that these modifications constituted a material alteration to the Draft LAP.

The 64 No. amendments related to a change in the plan area as well as modifications to some objectives and the provision of additional objectives. A screening exercise was undertaken, and 19 No. of the Proposed Material Alterations were deemed to have the potential for environmental effects and were brought forward for full Strategic Environmental Assessment. An appraisal matrix was developed to facilitate the assessment of these Proposed Material Alterations. The screening exercise identified that one of the Proposed Material Alterations (No.57) has the potential to give rise to negative environmental effects.

The findings of this assessment were set out in the addendum which was prepared to support the Draft SEA Environmental Report.

4.7.1 Proposed Material Alterations -Consultation

This addendum as well as an Addendum to the Natura Impact Report NIR, the updated SFRA report on the amendments and the amended Leixlip LAP were subject to a four-week period of consultation from 4th October to 1st November 2019.

Some 49 No. submissions were received in relation to the material amendments and/or the SEA addendum, including 8 from government bodies and statutory agencies. Upon completion of the consultation period, the Chief Executive's Report on submissions were prepared to take into account comments received.

Appendix C contains a summary of the 49 No. submissions received on the Proposed Material Alterations, and how they were responded to.

4.8 Assessment Stage 4 - Further Modifications to the Proposed Material Alterations

A Chief Executive's Report on the submissions received during the public consultation period on the Proposed Material Alterations was prepared and issued to the Elected Members for their consideration. The report was considered at the full County Council meeting on 16th December 2019 where a number of alterations were agreed. None of the further alterations required further SEA.

Following this, the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020 – 2023 was adopted by the Elected Members of Kildare County Council on 16th December 2019 and comes into effect on 5th February 2020. The SEA Statement was also prepared at this stage.

5 Mitigation

Mitigation measures are measures envisaged and designed to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible, offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the Leixlip LAP. All mitigation measures have been developed and agreed with KCC as part of the SEA iterative process.

The primary mitigation measure is to ensure the sustainable and appropriate development of Leixlip and its environs without compromising the integrity of the natural and built environment. All new development that requires an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in accordance with EIA legislation will address the range of environmental objectives, indicators and targets and associated environmental mitigation measures and incorporate them into the project specific mitigation measures. **Table 5.1** summarises the proposed mitigation measures

Table 5.1: Proposed Mitigation Measures

Environmental Receptor	Mitigation Measures
Biodiversity	Ensure that appropriate measures for conservation and enhancement of the natural and built environment are incorporated into all relevant plans and programmes.
	Ensure that all new development plans are cognisant of the Biodiversity Action Plan for the County.
	Ensure the protection of ecological resources that have economic benefits e.g. ecological zones that draw tourism.
	Compliance with the zoning of the SACs, NHAs, SPAs which prohibits non-compatible developments.
	Ensure that an AA is carried out for all development proposals with potential to significantly impact on Natura 2000 sites.
	Ensure that greenfield development, such as that targeted at Black Avenue and Celbridge Road East is subject to environmental assessment, where required.
	The development of new road linkages should be subject to route option assessment and environmental assessment, where required.
	Ensure that appropriate invasive species management and control measures are implemented
Population and Human Health	Ensure that access to adequate health and education facilities to meet the demand of the current and projected populace are included in development plans.
	Encourage the further development of regional sustainable and public transport infrastructure including rail and bus corridors.
Land and Soils	Perform a survey of obsolete urban renewal areas and facilitate and promote the reuse and regeneration of brownfield sites, derelict land and buildings in and around urban centres.

Environmental Receptor	Mitigation Measures
Waste	Promote the recycling of construction and demolition waste and the reuse of aggregate and other materials in order to reduce the quantities of virgin material being extracted. This is particularly relevant with regards the proposed greenfield development at Black Avenue and at Celbridge Road East
	Ensure that the 'polluter pays principle' is adhered to in full cooperation with the EPA.
Water	Ensure that the objectives and the programme of measures outlined the River Basin Management Plans are fully implemented.
	Provide adequate capacity of water and wastewater treatment and storage facilities for current and projected populace.
	Prevent the alteration of natural drainage systems and in the case of development works require the provision of acceptable mitigation measures in order to minimise the risk of flooding and negative effects on water quality.
	Comply with the objectives and policies of the Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessment Management Study.
	Promote SUDS principles for all drainage including the integration of storm water attenuation facilities for new developments and existing catchment areas.
	Ensure that any new development does not present an inappropriate risk of flooding or does not cause or exacerbate such a risk at other locations.
	Preserve and protect the water quality of Kildare's river systems where this helps to regulate stream flow, recharge ground water and screen pollutant.
	Comply with the DoECLG/OPW guidance on development and flood risk through the control of development in any flood plain so that new and existing developments are not exposed to increased risk of flooding and that any loss of flood storage is compensated for elsewhere in the river catchment.
Air, Noise and Climate	Ensure that the objectives and policies of EU Air Quality legislation are incorporated into plans and programmes upon implementation into Irish law.
	Promote the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases to ensure Ireland's compliance with our emission targets.
	Facilitate sustainable transport modes and the use of walking, cycling and public transport.
	Consideration of existing noise policy in County Kildare for example noise mapping and noise action plans produced by the Local Authority.
	<p>Consideration of likely noise impacts/effects associated with new developments.</p> <p>This includes being cognisant of proximity to sensitive receptors when siting new developments and consideration of existing noise sources when zoning lands for residential development.</p>

Environmental Receptor	Mitigation Measures
Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage	Ensure the protection of all features of architectural and archaeological merit. This is particularly relevant where development is proposed on greenfield lands at Black Avenue and Celbridge Road East
	Promote the integration of suitably designed developments into existing urban and rural landscapes.
	Prevent inappropriately designed developments in designated areas of architectural merit.
Landscape & Visual	Ensure that all new plans and programmes incorporate the findings of the Landscape Character Assessment for County Kildare
	Protect and Enhance the streetscape of Leixlip town centre through the appropriate control of alterations to existing buildings and the development of new structures; in particular building and roof lines and heights which diverge from the established form will require to be justified.
Material Assets	Protect the hydrological environment from adverse effects of the wastewater discharges by ensuring that there is suitable wastewater treatment to meet demands before discharge to the environment.
	Promote the development of sustainable transportation infrastructure where considered feasible.
	Promote the implementation of the Waste Management Plan together with any future National or Regional Waste Management Plans.
	Encourage waste prevention, minimisation, reuse, recycling and recovery as methods of managing waste.
	Ensuring specific national policies and regulations regarding waste Management are adhered to.
	Promote and facilitate community awareness and involvement in community-based recycling initiatives or environmental management initiatives that will lead to local sustainable waste management practices.
	Promote the development of sufficient energy resources to meet the needs of the GDA and promote the use of renewable energies to meet those needs.

6 Monitoring

Article 10 of the SEA Directive requires that monitoring should be carried out in order to identify at an early stage any unforeseen adverse impacts associated with the implementation of the Leixlip LAP 2020-2023.

A monitoring programme has been developed based on the indicators (noted in Section 4.2) in order to track progress towards achieving strategic environmental objectives and reaching targets, enabling positive and negative impacts on the environment to be measured.

The indicators have been developed to illustrate changes that would be attributable to the implementation of the Leixlip LAP 2020-2023. The monitoring programme is presented in Table 6.1.

Kildare County Council is responsible for collating existing relevant monitored data, the preparation of preliminary and final monitoring evaluation reports, the evaluation reports, the publication of these reports and, if necessary, the carrying out of corrective action.

Table 6.1: Proposed Monitoring Measures

Environmental Category	Target	Indicators	Data Sources, Responsibility, and Frequency
<p>Biodiversity including Flora and Fauna</p>	<p>Consider siting of new development on non-sensitive sites.</p> <p>Improve/conserves and protect all designated sites and species within and adjacent to the Plan area.</p> <p>Deliver the requirement of the Habitats Directive (Article 4, Paragraph 4) for the maintenance or restoration of annexed habitats and species within SACs at a “favourable conservation status”.</p> <p>Promote the maintenance and, as appropriate, achievement of favourable conservation status of habitats and species, in association with the NPWS and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Protect SPAs, Annex I bird species, and regularly occurring migratory bird species and their habitats, and avoid pollution or deterioration of important bird habitats outside SPAs.</p> <p>Improve the ecological coherence of Natura 2000 by encouraging the management of, maintaining, and where appropriate developing, features of the landscape which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora. Such features are those which, by virtue of their linear and continuous structure (such as rivers with their banks or the traditional systems for marking field boundaries) or their function as stepping stones (such as ponds or small woods), are essential for the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species.</p> <p>Protect NHAs, national parks, Nature reserves, wildfowl sanctuaries, Refuges for fauna or flora and sites proposed for designation.</p> <p>Improve/maintain protection for important wildlife sites, particularly urban wildlife corridors and linear and stepping stone features for migration, dispersal and exchange of wildlife.</p> <p>Improve access for the appreciation and promotion of wildlife.</p>	<p>Census population data.</p> <p>Number and extent of Protected Sites.</p> <p>Areas actively managed for conservation.</p> <p>Population and range of Protected Species.</p> <p>Achievement of the Objectives of Biodiversity Plans</p>	<p>Sources: Kildare County Council, National Parks and Wildlife Services, Fisheries Board and EPA.</p> <p>Responsibility: Kildare County Council</p> <p>Frequency: Align with monitoring evaluation report on the effects of implementing Kildare County Development Plan.</p>

Environmental Category	Target	Indicators	Data Sources, Responsibility, and Frequency
Population and Human Health	<p>Minimise population exposure to high levels of noise, vibration and air pollution.</p> <p>Increase modal shift to public transport.</p> <p>Co-ordinate land use and transportation policies.</p> <p>Improve access to recreation opportunities.</p>	<p>Census population data.</p> <p>Rates of unemployment per area.</p> <p>Dependency ratio.</p> <p>Deprivation Index.</p> <p>Commuting times and modes of transport.</p> <p>% increase in housing (number and type).</p>	<p>Sources: Kildare County Council and Central Statistics Office.</p> <p>Responsibility: Kildare County Council</p> <p>Frequency: Align with monitoring evaluation report on the effects of implementing Kildare County Development Plan.</p>
Land and Soils	<p>Prevent pollution of soil through adoption of appropriate environmental protection procedures during construction and maintenance works on site.</p> <p>Ensure polluting substances are appropriately stored and banded.</p> <p>Ensure appropriate management of existing contaminated soil in accordance with the requirements of current waste legislation.</p> <p>Re-use of brownfield lands, rather than developing greenfield lands, where possible.</p> <p>Minimise the consumption of non-renewable sand, gravel and rock deposits.</p>	<p>Rates of re-use/recycling of construction waste.</p> <p>Rates of quarrying.</p> <p>Rates of brownfield site and contaminated land reuse and development.</p> <p>Rates of greenfield development.</p>	<p>Sources: Kildare County Council and Environmental Protection Agency.</p> <p>Responsibility: Kildare County Council</p> <p>Frequency: Align with monitoring evaluation report on the effects of implementing Kildare County Development Plan.</p>
Water Resources	<p>Support the achievement of “good” ecological and chemical status/potential of waterbodies in accordance with the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>Minimise flood risk through appropriate management of flood vulnerable zones.</p> <p>Promote sustainable drainage practices to improve water quality and flow</p>	<p>Compliance of potable water sources to water quality regulations.</p> <p>Compliance of surface waters with national and international standards.</p> <p>Potable and wastewater treatment capacities versus population.</p> <p>Increase in % of wastewater requiring treatment.</p> <p>Achievement of the Objectives of the River Basin Management Plans.</p> <p>Amount of new developments within flood plains.</p>	<p>Sources: Kildare County Council, Environmental Protection Agency and Fisheries Board.</p> <p>Responsibility: Kildare County Council</p> <p>Frequency: Align with monitoring evaluation report on the effects of implementing Kildare County Development Plan.</p>

Environmental Category	Target	Indicators	Data Sources, Responsibility, and Frequency
		Annual costs of damage related to flood events.	
Air, Noise and Climate	<p>Minimise air and noise emissions during construction and operation of new developments.</p> <p>Promote reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere.</p> <p>Limiting climate change and adapting to climate change.</p>	<p>Traffic, Transport and Vehicular survey data.</p> <p>National and region-specific emission data.</p> <p>Compliance with national standards.</p> <p>Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Number and extent of emission licensed facilities.</p> <p>Number of energy/renewable energy production facilities.</p> <p>Rates of energy/renewable energy consumption.</p>	<p>Sources: Kildare County Council, Environmental Protection Agency and Central Statistics Office.</p> <p>Responsibility: Kildare County Council</p> <p>Frequency: Align with monitoring evaluation report on the effects of implementing Kildare County Development.</p>
Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage	<p>Regeneration of derelict and underutilised heritage sites.</p> <p>Improve appearance of areas with particular townscape character.</p> <p>Improve protection for protected archaeological sites and monuments and their settings, protected structures and conservation areas and areas of archaeological potential.</p> <p>Enhance access to sites of heritage interest.</p>	<p>Updating of inventories to include new sites/features.</p> <p>Achieving the objectives of development plans regarding heritage protection.</p> <p>Range and extent of areas of heritage potential.</p> <p>Range and extent of areas of special planning controls.</p>	<p>Sources: Kildare County Council and Department of Environment Community and Local Government.</p> <p>Responsibility: Kildare County Council</p> <p>Frequency: Align with monitoring evaluation report on the effects of implementing Kildare County Development.</p>
Landscape and Visual	<p>Improve protection for landscapes of recognised quality.</p> <p>Maintain clear urban/rural distinctions.</p> <p>Enhance provision of, and access to, green space in urban areas.</p> <p>Ensure development is sensitive to its surroundings.</p>	<p>Range and extent of Amenity Landscapes.</p> <p>Rates of development within designated landscapes.</p> <p>Rates of urban expansion.</p>	<p>Sources: Kildare County Council and Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.</p> <p>Responsibility: Kildare County Council</p>

Environmental Category	Target	Indicators	Data Sources, Responsibility, and Frequency
		Rates of deforestation. Rates of agricultural land re-development. % change of land use from rural to urban.	Frequency: Align with monitoring evaluation report on the effects of implementing Kildare County Development Plan.
Material Assets	Improve availability and accessibility of commercially provided facilities and public services. Increase local employment opportunities. Improve efficiencies of transport, energy and communication infrastructure. Promotion of sustainable transport infrastructure i.e. increased public transport. Reduce the generation of waste and adopt a sustainable approach to waste management.	Location/level of Infrastructure. Achievement of development plan objectives. Rates of deprivation. Rate of waste disposal to landfill statistics. Range and extent of recycling facilities and services. Rates of recycling.	Sources: Kildare County Council, Central Statistics Office, National Roads Authority and Environmental Protection Agency. Responsibility: Kildare County Council Frequency: Align with monitoring evaluation report on the effects of implementing Kildare County Development Plan.

7 Final Appraisal: How Environmental Considerations were integrated into the Adopted LAP

This Section summarises how environmental considerations were integrated into the adopted Leixlip LAP, throughout the SEA process.

Identification of environmental constraints

As described in Section 4.1, the SEA team undertook an assessment of baseline environmental conditions of the LAP area, with reference to biodiversity, population and human health, land and soil, water, air and climate, heritage, landscape and material assets. This information was used to focus the SEA objectives, develop alternatives and assess positive and negative impacts associated with the implementation of the proposed LAP. An Environmental Sensitivity Map was prepared to enable this assessment and to influence alternatives discussions and assessment of policies.

SEA Scoping

As described in Section 3, the SEA Scoping was a key part of the assessment process as it provided information to allow consultation with defined statutory bodies and environmental authorities on the scope and level of detail to be considered and incorporated at an early stage in the assessment.

Assessment of alternatives

The environmental baseline and objectives were used to identify key sensitivities and inform development of the alternatives and ultimately the assessment of the preferred alternative.

Proposed mitigation measures

Mitigation measures were proposed to address negative environmental impacts identified during the assessment process. These included amendments to the wording of policies and objectives in the Leixlip LAP.

Required environmental monitoring programme

A monitoring programme has been developed based on the indicators (noted in Section 6) in order to track progress towards achieving strategic environmental objectives and reaching targets, enabling positive and negative impacts on the environment to be measured.

The indicators have been developed to illustrate changes that would be attributable to the implementation of the Leixlip LAP 2020-2023.

Consultation

Further to the SEA Scoping consultation, the SEA Environmental Report, the Natura Impact Report (from the Appropriate Assessment Process) the Draft Leixlip LAP, and the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft LAP were put on wider public display. All changes to policies and actions have been screened by the SEA and AA teams to determine if they would result in significant effects, and all submissions and objections received were reviewed

Appendix A

SEA Scoping Report- Submission Responses

Table A1: SEA Scoping Report- Response to Submissions

Organisation	Scoping Response	Action
ESB	A new HV/MV distribution sub-station would likely be required in the medium term to provide for the electricity needs of the area and to support the sustainable economic and social development of Leixlip.	Proposed upgrades to the transmission network are discussed in Chapter 9 of the Draft LAP
Health and Safety Authority	<p>The Authority would expect the LAP to contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An indication of planning policy in relation to major accident hazard sites notified under the regulations, which reflects the intentions of Article 13 of Directive 2012/18/EU The consultation distances and generic advice, where applicable, previously supplied by the Authority to Fingal County Council in relation to such sites. These distances to be indicated on the various maps included in the plan, as well as any more specific distances and advice supplied by the authority. A policy on the siting of new major hazard establishments, taking account of Article 13 and the published policy of the Authority in relation to new developments, including developments in the vicinity of such establishments Mention the following notified establishments: Intel Ireland Limited 	<p>Objective EDTO1.4 of the Draft LAP outlines KCCs intention to comply with the SEVESO III Directive to reduce the risk of accidents at SEVESO sites in Leixlip and the surrounding areas</p> <p>Objective EDTO1.5 of the Draft LAP outlines KCCs intention to have regard to the following in assessing applications for developments (including extensions) in the vicinity of the Intel SEVESO site:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Major Accidents Directive (Seveso III– Directive 2012/18/EU) The potential effects on public health and safety. The need to ensure adequate distances between such developments and residential areas, areas of public use and any areas of sensitivity. The advice of the Health and Safety Authority. <p>The Intel Ireland Limited establishment has been considered in the LAP.</p>
Health Service Executive	<p>This LAP proposes a significant increase in population of approximately 25% within a 6-year period from 15,576 (2016 census) to 19,794 by 2023 (estimated). In our view a Health Impact Assessment should be carried out to maximise the positive and minimise the negative health impacts of the proposed Local Area Plan in the context of the County Development Plan.</p> <p>The National Physical Activity Plan is a further national plan which should be referred to in the context of developing a local area plan.</p> <p>In relation to Transport Infrastructure (4.9.4) we also suggest improvement on the cycle/pedestrian linkages with consideration of the</p>	<p>The SEA process has assessed the potential for the provisions of the Draft LAP to result in significant negative effects on human health.</p> <p>The following mitigation measure has been incorporated into the SEA ‘All development will be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment or Appropriate Assessment at project level, where required.’ It should be noted that EIA will include an assessment of population and human health.</p> <p>The National Physical Activity Plan has been considered in the preparation of the SEA Environmental Report.</p>

Organisation	Scoping Response	Action
	<p>need for pedestrian bridges and links to the schools and stations. Local or feeder buses to the train stations will be important to support the use of public transport by local commuters.</p> <p>The Department of Public Health welcomes the inclusion of the list (page 5) of “Human Health” issues that are “relevant to the plan”. However, it is not clear as to whether some or all of these issues will be addressed in detail in the Plan. We recommend that these issues need to be considered in depth in developing the LAP. We also suggest the explicit inclusion of the following issues: childcare needs; social care/sheltered housing needs for the elderly; recreational amenities and resources for young people.</p> <p>A suite of indicators has been agreed under the Healthy Ireland Outcomes Framework. Consideration should be given to including such indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elderly dependant’s ratio ● Commuting times and mode of transport ● Rates of deprivation <p>1. The following points relate to aspects that should be identified during the process develop the Environmental Report and SEA Statement and presented in the forwarded documentation/report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assessment of Principle & Description of the Project: The Environmental Report must fully describe the characteristics of the project and the reasons for proposing same. ● Assessment of Later Consents Required. ● Assessment of Public Consultation & Non-Technical Summary: Stakeholders and sensitive receptors affected by the development shall be identified. ● The Environmental Report should clearly demonstrate the link between public consultation and how it influenced decision making within the Environmental Report and SEA Statement. ● Assessment of Description of Physical Environment. 	<p>Improvements to the cycle/pedestrian linkages in the LAP area are provided for in Draft LAP and discussed in Chapter 8 of the same.</p> <p>All relevant Health Issues included in the SEA Scoping Report were considered in the preparation of the Draft LAP. As outlined in the Draft LAP, it is the Policy of Kildare County Council (HC4) to facilitate and support a broad range of community, cultural and recreational facilities to serve the needs of the residents of the LAP area</p> <p>The proposed environmental indicators have been included in the SEA Environmental Report</p> <p>It is considered that all of the suggested aspects to be incorporated and assessed in the SEA process have been given due consideration.</p>

Organisation	Scoping Response	Action
	<p>2. In the Strategic Environmental Assessment process, the following topics should be assessed and documented in the Environmental Report with regards to the proposed are plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Population & Human Health - The potential impacts of any future development must be assessed and factors/actions to minimise population exposure to high levels of noise, vibration and air pollution must be outlined. ● Air Quality/traffic - The potential impacts of air emissions should be clearly assessed in the Environmental Report. Data from more recent monitoring undertaken by the Environmental Protection Agency should be reviewed and assessed. ● Noise/traffic - All potential noise sensitive locations in the vicinity of the area should be identified and assessed. Baseline monitoring and an assessment of background noise in the existing environment should be carried out. Appropriate noise assessment modelling (as per the relevant BS and ISO standards) should be carried out to predict the change in the noise environment during any future development. <p>3. Clear conclusions should be provided in the Environmental Report and SEA Statement.</p>	
Irish Water	<p>a) Impacts of the proposals on the capacity of water services (i.e. do existing water services have the capacity to cater for the new development if required).</p> <p>b) Any up-grading of water services infrastructure that would be required to accommodate any substantial zoning changes to the LAP.</p> <p>c) In relation to rezoning of areas that may contain developments discharging trade effluent – any upstream treatment or attenuation of discharges required prior to discharging to an IW collection network</p> <p>d) In relation to the management of surface water; the potential impact of surface water discharges to combined sewer networks & potential measures to minimise/stop surface waters from combined sewers.</p>	<p>As outlined in Chapter 9 of the Draft LAP, it is the policy of the Council to work in conjunction with Irish Water to protect existing water and wastewater infrastructure in Leixlip, to maximise the potential of existing capacity and to facilitate the timely delivery of water services infrastructure to facilitate future growth.</p> <p>An assessment of the potential for significant environmental effects on material assets has been undertaken as part of the SEA process and detailed in the SEA Environmental Report. In addition, the following mitigation measure has been incorporated into the SEA ‘All development will be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment or Appropriate Assessment at project level, where required.’ It should be noted that EIA will include an assessment of material assets,</p>

Organisation	Scoping Response	Action
	<p>e) Any physical impact on IW assets – reservoir, treatment works, pipes, pumping stations, discharges outfalls etc. including any relocation of assets.</p> <p>f) Any potential impacts on the assimilative capacity of receiving waters in relation to IW discharge outfalls including changes in dispersion/circulation characterises.</p> <p>g) Any potential impact on the contributing catchment of water sources either in terms of water abstraction for the development (and resultant potential impact on the capacity of the source) or the potential of the development to influence/ present a risk to the quality of the water abstracted by IW for public supply.</p> <p>h) Where a development proposes to connect to an IW network and that network either abstracts water from or discharges waste water to a “protected”/sensitive area, consideration as to whether the integrity of the site/conservation objectives of the site would be compromised.</p> <p>i) Mitigation measures in relation to any of the above.</p> <p>Irish Water suggest inclusion of the following relevant international, national or regional plans and programmes that should be considered: EU Sustainability Policy, EC Environmental Liability Directive, IW National Sludge Management Policy.</p>	
Meath County Council	Cross-county dimension is recognised with regards to many environmental issues. It is therefore important that cognisance is taken of the policies and objectives of the Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019.	The provisions of the Meath County Development Plan, as revised in Dec 2019, have been taken into consideration in the Draft LAP plan making process, as well as the SEA process.
Transport Infrastructure Ireland	<p>1. The Strategic Transportation Assessment (STA) should establish the relationship between the LAP land uses and the national road(s) in the area, vis a vis: existing national roads, proposals to provide new national roads or improve existing national roads, interaction with any national road structures, and means of access to/from the development to/from the national road(s).</p> <p>2. The Planning Authority should have regard to any Environmental Impact Statements or Environmental Impact Assessment Reports and all conditions and/or modifications imposed by An Bord Pleanála</p>	<p>The STA has successfully examined the relationship between the LAP land uses and the national road(s) in the area.</p> <p>Kildare County Council (KCC) will have had regard to existing conditions regarding road schemes in the area potential cumulative impacts on the traffic network outside the LAP area.</p> <p>KCC will ensure that all relevant standards and guidance are met in the delivery of any road projects within the lifetime of the Draft LAP.</p> <p>The SEA has had regard to the likely significant effects of any proposed road upgrade works, or new road objectives proposed under the Draft LAP.</p>

Organisation	Scoping Response	Action
	<p>regarding road schemes in the area. The Planning Authority should in particular have regard to any potential cumulative impacts of the development area on traffic grounds especially interchanges in close proximity.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Assessments and design and construction and maintenance standards and guidance are available at TII Publications that replaced the NRA Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) and the NRA Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works (MCDRW). 4. The Environmental Report should have regard to the likely significant impacts development may have on human beings due to proximity to national routes i.e. safety, noise, air, accessibility. 5. The Strategic Environmental Assessment should have regard to TII Environment Guidelines that deal with assessment and mitigation measures for varied environmental factors and occurrences. In particular evidenced assessment of the protection of the strategic function of the national road in relation to the following matters is required: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) TII's Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines, including the Guidelines for the Treatment of Air Quality During the Planning and Construction of National Road Schemes (National Roads Authority, 2006), b) The EIAR should consider the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006 (SI 140 of 2006) and, in particular, how the development will affect future action plans by the relevant competent authority. The developer may need to consider the incorporation of noise barriers to reduce noise impacts (see Guidelines for the Treatment of Noise and Vibration in National Road Schemes (TII's Rev., National Roads Authority, 2004)). 6. It would be important that, where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria, a transport assessment be carried out for key development areas in accordance with relevant guidelines and best practice. TII's Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines 	<p>In the undertaking of the SEA, due regard was had to TII's Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines, the Guidelines for the Treatment of Air Quality During the Planning and Construction of National Road Schemes (National Roads Authority, 2006), and the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006.</p> <p>A STA has been undertaken as part of the plan making process, which informed the development of the Key Development Areas.</p> <p>An assessment of the potential for significant negative effects on protected views and prospects in the LAP area was carried out as part of the SEA process.</p>

Organisation	Scoping Response	Action
	<p>(2014) should be referred to in relation to proposed development with potential impacts on the national road network.</p> <p>7. The Planning Authority should assess visual impacts from and to the existing and proposed national road network.</p>	
EPA	<p><i>Planning Policy Context-</i> You should ensure that the Plan is consistent with the National Planning Framework – Ireland 2040 (NPF), as well as the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Eastern and Midlands Region, upon adoption.</p> <p><i>Critical Infrastructure Provision-</i> Particular consideration should be given to critical infrastructure provision in the context of the recently announced expansion to the Intel Plant in Leixlip, which when completed, will significantly increase both energy and water needs within the Plan area.</p> <p><i>Noise-</i> The scoping report refers to second Noise Action Plans. Note that the Round 3 Strategic Noise Mapping is now completed. Preparation of the Round 3 Noise Action Plans is currently underway by local authorities.</p> <p><i>Other Plans & Programmes -</i> Regarding the list of other relevant plans and programmes in Table 3.1, you should note that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● the 3rd National Biodiversity Plan was adopted in 2017 ● the National Spatial Strategy has been replaced by NPF. <p>Other key recent plans to consider include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Mitigation Plan ● National Adaptation Framework ● Paris Agreement ● Guidelines on Urban Development and Building Heights for Local Authorities 	<p>Due regard was had to the provisions of the NPF and RSES during the plan making process</p> <p>As described in Chapter 9 of the Draft LAP, upgrades to the transmission network to serve these major industrial connections are provided for in the Draft LAP. Objective IO1.1 of the Draft LAP sets out KCCs intent to work in conjunction with Irish Water to promote the ongoing upgrade and expansion of water supply and wastewater services to meet the future needs of Leixlip.</p> <p>In September 2019, Kildare County Council published the Round 3 Noise Action Plan for Kildare. It is an objective of KCC (MT3.10) to implement the findings of this Action Plan. Consideration of noise policy including the Noise Action Plan and mapping is also a proposed mitigation measure of the SEA process.</p> <p>The plans and programmes referenced and considered as part of the SEA process have been updated to include those suggested by the EPA in their submission. The <i>State of the Environment Report Ireland's Environment – An Assessment 2016 (EPA, 2016)</i> report was also considered.</p> <p>As described in Chapter 9 of the Draft LAP, it is the policy of KCC to protect environmental quality in Leixlip through the implementation of European, national and regional policy and legislation relating to air quality, greenhouse gases, climate change, light pollution, noise pollution and waste management.</p>

Organisation	Scoping Response	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Landscape Strategy ● National Greenways Strategy ● Draft Clean Air Strategy ● Draft National Energy and Climate Plan ● Draft Integrated Implementation Plan 2019-2024 (NTA) ● National Water Resources Plan (Irish Water, in prep) ● Planning, Land Use and Transport – Outlook 2040 (DTTAS, in prep). <p><i>State of the Environment Report – Ireland’s Environment 2016</i> - In preparing the Plan and SEA, the recommendations, key issues and challenges described within our most recent State of the Environment Report Ireland’s Environment – An Assessment 2016 (<i>EPA, 2016</i>) should be considered, as relevant and appropriate to the Plan.</p> <p><i>Transition to a low carbon climate resilient economy and society-</i> You should ensure that the Plan aligns with national commitments on climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as relevant sectoral, regional and local adaptation plans.</p> <p><i>EPA SEA Search and Reporting Tool</i> -This tool allows public authorities to explore, interrogate and produce high level environmental summary reports. It is intended to assist in screening and scoping exercises. The tool is available through</p> <p><i>EPA WFD Application</i> -Our WFD Application provides a single point of access to water quality and catchment data from the national WFD monitoring programme. The Application is accessed through EDEN and is available to public agencies. Publicly available data can be accessed via the Catchments.ie website.</p>	

Appendix B

SEA Environmental Report- Response to Submissions

Note - Appendix B contains a summary of those submissions received which relate to the SEA only. Some 495 No. submissions were received in total, as listed in Table B1.

Table B1: Submissions Received on Draft LAP, and SEA Environmental Report

No.	Name/Organisation	No.	Name/Organisation
1	Office of the Planning Regulator	32	Ken Gough
2	National Transport Authority	33	Liam Molamphy
3	Transport Infrastructure Ireland	34	Gerry Halton
4	Department of Education & Skills	35	Sean Kilbane
5	Office of Public Works	36	Lorraine Rice
6	Health Service Executive	37	Barry Healy-Cunningham
7	Irish Water	38	Platform
8	Cllr. Íde Cussen	39	Robert Barnes
9	Cllr. Bernard Caldwell	40	Declan Donnelly
10	Catherine Murphy TD	41	Andrew Tomkins
11	Frank O'Rourke TD and Cllr. Michael Coleman	42	Mary Lambe
12	James Lawless TD	43	Bracey Daniels
13	Cllr. Joseph Neville	44	Mairead Daniels
14	Cllr. Nuala Killeen	45	David Daniels
15	Environmental Protection Agency	46	Ciaran Daniels
16	Health and Safety Authority	47	Samantha Corcoran
17	Fingal County Council	48	Karen O'Donnell
18	Marie Farrelly	49	Pamela Moorehead
19	Geraldine Mc Kiernan	50	Paul Moorehead
20	Michael and Margaret Beirne	51	Paul Brooks
21	Emmet Stagg	52	Julia Healy Cunningham
22	Ronan Barry	53	Allan Healy Cunningham
23	Alex Meakin	54	Catherine Fallon
24	Emer Devoy	55	Laura Lynch
25	Aidan O'Reilly	56	Caroline Kiernan
26	Mary Barry	57	Michael Reilly
27	Ronan Barry	58	Desmond Kiernan
28	Kevin Murphy	59	Marie Kiernan
29	Teresa Ho	60	Irene Archbold
30	Gary Sullivan	61	Noreen Barrett
31	Alan O'Brien	62	Valerie Colton
63	Margaret Dolan	109	Damien Murray
64	Claire Grogan	110	John Grimes
65	Noel Archbold	111	Andrea Pramuka
66	Jennifer Wulliamoz	112	Martin Pramuka
67	Deirdre Moran Lenehan	113	Marie O'Donohoe
68	Naomi Mulvaney	114	Marie Grimes
69	Patrick Wulliamoz	115	Éaibhin Grimes

70	Jelena Vilminska	116	Fáinche Grimes
71	Rosaleen Tolanda	117	Brian Grimes
72	Eoin Toland	118	Patrick Noonan
73	Liam Toland	119	J. Stanley & V. Cunniffe
74	Paul Bernard	120	Helen Malone
75	Barbara O’Leary	121	Larry Keenahan
76	Lesley Daniels	122	Francis Deffew
77	Donal Toland	123	Mairead Beades
78	Jessica Wilson	124	Peter Coffey
79	Sean Gleeson	125	Jim & Barbara Donnan
80	Mary Brennan	126	David Morrissey
81	Ciara Graham	127	Declan Kenny
82	Jackie Flanagan	128	Tom Dredge
83	Dessie Sheehan	129	Patricia Farrell
84	Dessie Sheehan	130	Nicola Jackson
85	Laurence Downes	131	Patrick McDonnell
86	Deirdre Durran	132	Margaret Jackson
87	Marguerita Gibbons	133	Jenny Keenahan
88	Joe O’Connor	134	Raymond McGrath
89	Mary Devaney	135	Nicola Jackson
90	Sean Devaney	136	Grainne Carew
91	Brian Archibold	137	Debbie Kenny
92	Martin O’Sullivan	138	Norah Blount
93	Geraldine O’Sullivan	139	Mary Faughnan
94	Mary Jordan	140	Annette Fisher
95	Fiona Heary	141	Stephenie Moore
96	Mary Hearty	142	Fiona Whitney
97	Mark Maguire	143	Kay Whitney
98	Aoife Devaney	144	Jean McCarthy
99	Sean Devaney	145	Ailish Claffey
100	Ann Field	146	Paula Coffey
101	Angela Killalea	147	Mary Baker
102	Thomas Killalea	148	Eoin Donnelly
103	Shay Flanagan	149	John Slattery
104	Clíodhna Jordan	150	Elaine Noonan
105	Aidan Jordan	151	Dermot Hobbs
106	Kathleen Stenson	152	Andrew Colton
107	Brid Kenny	153	Damian Scott
108	Kathleen Molloy	154	Yvonne Flannery
155	Helen Edmonds	198	Hilary Dunne
156	Robert Rochford	199	Neville Dunne
157	Anne Lysaght	200	Valarie Wilkes
158	Stephen McGovern	201	Wendy Halpin
159	Lydia Keogan	202	Jennifer Kelly
160	Gary Byrne	203	Damien Halpin

161	Aileen and Jason McCarthy	204	Maeve McGrath
162	Gerry Flannery	205	Liam McGrath
163	Nicola Cushen	206	Orla Gildea
164	Susan Donaghy	207	Christy Fagan
165	Grainne Kelly	208	Brian Millar
166	Joanna Beard	209	Ciaran Fagan
167	Orla Gildea	210	Gerard Costello
168	Jonathan Kelly	211	Catherine Costello
169	Anne Savage	212	James Moran
170	Aoife Gaffney	213	Martin Devaney
171	Naomi Malone	214	Ann Connolly
172	John Heraty	215	Alan Gough
173	Allan Stewart	216	Fiona O'Dwyer
174	Leixlip Park Residents Association	217	Áine Gately
175	Paul Gill	218	Briege Hearty
176	Stephen Dredge	219	Miriam Plunkett
177	Jennifer Ruane	220	Miriam Collins
178	Rodger Quinn	221	Eamon Shields
179	Sean Buckley	222	Niamh Hopkins
180	Robert McCarthy	223	Paula Donohue
181	John Downey	224	Emer Donohue
182	Anne O'Boyle	225	Glendale Meadows Residents Association
183	Louise Mulligan	226	Daniel Donohue
184	Mary McCarthy	227	Aileen Donohue
185	Alan O'Brien	228	Sean Donohue
186	Eddie Ryan	229	Emer Donohue
187	Alison Anderson	230	John Duffin
188	Paul Foy	231	Andy Grehan
189	Joan Foy	232	Lynn Carroll
190	Helen Cullen	233	Niall Carroll
191	Annette Walsh	234	Barry Russell
192	Geraldine O'Brien	235	Brenda Crofton
193	Save St Catherine's Park Group	236	Marie Hearty
194	Anne Lawless	237	Emily Nolan
195	Alison O'Neill	238	River Forest Residents Association
196	Frank Ryder	239	Deirdre McGillen
197	Christy Walsh	240	Carol Duffin
241	Tom Connolly	286	Eimear Carew
242	Irene Duffin	287	Mary Brennan
243	Thomas Duffin	288	Tony Devine
244	Henry McGillen	289	Anne Skelly
245	Javad Langeroudi	290	Eileen & Pascal O'Kelly
246	John Waldron	291	Susan O'Reilly
247	Ann Barry	292	Patrick Hogan

248	Eamonn Barry	293	Cecilia Hogan
249	Joseph Fallon	294	St. Mary's Park Residents Association
250	Suzanne Plunkett	295	Karen Powell
251	Suzanne Buckley	296	John Nicholl
252	Evan Buckley	297	Sean McGlynn
253	Noreen Gibson	298	Declan Fortune
254	Stanley Family	299	Sinead Brooks
255	Melanie Hall	300	Brian McArdle
256	Andrew Thomas	301	Mark Ryan
257	William Maher	302	Gerry Colton
258	Lorraine Fitzgerald	303	Orla Murphy
259	Eoin Cullen	304	Martin Tara
260	MU Barnhall RFC	305	Brian Gillespie
261	Kim Daly	306	Catherine Gately
262	Gavin Colton	307	Frank O'Neill
263	John Cronolly	308	Mary O'Neill
264	Fiachra Lynch	309	Teresa Cassidy
265	Stephen Allis	310	John O'Neill
266	Liam Gately	311	Maitiu O'Neill
267	Sharina Kapostina	312	Seamus O'Neill
268	John Carey	313	Alan Devine
269	Giselle Staunton	314	Shay & Antoinette Kirk
270	Jennifer Minogue	315	Jennifer Minnogue
271	Anita McHugh-Moran	316	Jenna Plant
272	Noel Thompson	317	Ronan O'Beirne
273	Marguerite Devine	318	Mary McGlynn
274	Grace Carew	319	Sinead Ganley
275	William O'Dwyer	320	Mary Noonan
276	JJ Flannery	321	Lynn Sterio
277	Ryan Flannery	322	Danny Ormond
278	John Malone	323	Rose Walsh
279	Suzanne Byrne	324	Lorraine Mullen
280	Christine Fitzpatrick	325	Gavin Devine
281	David Stewart	326	Lauren Devine
282	Paul Smith	327	Joseph Finn
283	Mary Brennan	328	Sean Coyle
284	Nicky Doran	329	Nessa Jane Boland
285	Seamus Carew	330	Carl & Ciara Crehan
331	Bobby Harpur	373	Brian Cunningham
332	Shannon Smith	374	James and Terry Kelly
333	Deirdre Cleary		
334	Luke Ingleton	375	Thomas Ennis
335	David Cleary	376	Catherine Ennis
336	Dorothy Donnelly	377	Intel Ireland Ltd.

337	James Cleary	378	Louise McKiernan
338	Ballymore Group, Brian O'Farrell, the Bruton Family, the Newbridge Leixlip SPV and the Rowan Family	379	Margaret Crinion
339	Kathleen Cleary	380	Amanda Hughes
340	Kevin Noonan	381	Barbara McCourt
341	Ciara Conway	382	Antonia Martin
342	Shane Smith	383	Brian McCourt
343	Ciara, Alan, Cian and Caoimhe Gilgunn	384	Kerry Kelly
344	Amy McBride	385	Oisín McCourt
345	Georgina Sherlock	386	John and Carmel Stafford
346	Anthony Larkin	387	John Weigel
347	Eve O'Meara	388	Roberta McCarthy
348	Huey O'Meara	389	Graziano Conti
349	Ciarán Ganley	390	Hannah O'Dwyer
350	Noelle Dunne	391	Robert Smith
351	James Concannon	392	Jenny Nealon
352	Hugh Hogan	393	Laura Conti
353	Maris Kapostins	394	John Cribben
354	Ciara Foley	395	Ellen O'Dwyer
355	Theo Smith	396	Emer McCormack
356	Eavan Roche	397	Sami Hentunen
357	Catherine Allis	398	Cara O'Sullivan
358	Jake Smith	399	Kevin O'Rourke
359	Ruth Killeen	400	Louise McKiernan
360	Valerie Smith	401	Caitriona McGinley
361	Kev Roche	402	Caitriona McGinley
362	Rachel Allis	403	Kay Brennan
363	Sarah Kelly	404	Ciaran McCleane
364	Ann Kelly	405	Roisin O'Neill
365	Eve-Laura Roche	406	Deirdre Grehan
366	Lynda Moriarity Roche	407	Roisin Sillis
367	ES Leixlip Greenfields Ltd.	408	Annette Olphert
368	Natalie Devine	409	Tom Noonan
369	Paul Kelly	410	Vincent Olphert
370	April Smith	411	Kevin Olphert
371	Kevin Roche	412	Philip Daly
372	M. Linnane	413	Jessica Corrigan
414	Mary Corrigan	455	Philip Deane
415	Danny Duffin	456	Darragh Raymond
416	Sarah Corrigan	457	O'Flynn Group
417	Edel McGuinness	458	Tony Donnelly
418	Nicky Corrigan	459	Debbie Waite
419	Stuart Walton	460	Dale Keenan Waite

420	Michael Duffin	461	Maire O'Toole
421	Linda Duffin	462	Laura McDonald
422	Danny Duffin	463	Millie Keenan
423	Celbridge Community Council Forum	464	Eugene Burke
424	Marina Campbell	465	Dale Keenan
425	Colin Campbell	466	Rinawade Residents Association
426	Terence Smith	467	Luke Keenan
427	Seamus O'Neill	468	Margaret K Maguire
428	Jenifer Hill	469	Dr Charles Goh
429	Sonja Brennan	470	Orna Maguire Goh
430	Kilross Properties Ltd.	471	Thomas Reid
431	Frankie Barry	472	Joseph Close
432	Ciaran McCleane	473	Leona Ryan
433	Frank Barry	474	Angela and Mike Parle
434	Norma Murphy	475	Maria Fallon
435	Lisa Brazil	476	Geraldine and William Poynton
436	Thomas Freeman	477	Vincent McLoughlin
437	Kevin Malone	478	Noel Chambers
438	Bernadine Bracken	479	David Drinkwater
439	Matt Lennon	480	Ciaran and Angela Daly
440	Frankie Barry	481	Wogansfield Residents Association
441	Aoife Kirk	482	Connie Hegarty
442	Denis McCarthy	483	Patricia Kenny
443	Gerry Colton	484	Jim Hegarty
444	Martina Henry	485	Helen Reidy
445	Thomas Leonard	486	Paige Holbrook
446	Ron and Monica Dardis	487	Aaron Holbrook
447	Rob Kavanagh	488	Holly Holbrook
448	Patricia Raymond	489	Thomas Holbrook
449	Siobhan McSharry	490	Marie Holbrook
450	Peter Raymond	491	Emma Mahon
451	Jonathan Raymond	492	Jim Stewart
452	Stephen Raymond	493	Barry Mahady
453	Thomas McCarthy	494	Gary Lawless
454	Kathleen Molloy	495	Noel Feeney and Residents of Wogansfield

Table B2: Response to Submissions, as they relate to the SEA

Submission No.	Summary of Submission/Observation	Response	Update of SEA ER required?
15	The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) outlines a number of items that should be contained in a SEA Environmental Report. A guidance document titled SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans – EPA Recommendations and Resources was also submitted as part of the submission.	Reviewed and SEA ER cross-checked. No changes needed.	No
Multiple	No Ecological assessment or insufficient ecological assessments carried out	An NIR has been carried out on the Draft Plan and put on public display. Further, the SEA considered ‘biodiversity’ as a key environmental factor in the assessment matrix. Further ecological assessments will be required at project level- refer to Objectives ED1.3 NH1 NH1.2 NH1.4 and GI1.1.	No
Multiple	It is submitted that there should be a mandatory requirement for development proposals to be accompanied by a Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment (SEA), an Appropriate Assessment (AA) and Environmental Impact Assessment on any development within St Catherine’s Park and the adjoining Lucan Demesne	Further environmental and ecological assessments will be required at project level- refer to Objectives NH1 NH1.2 NH1.4. As outlined in the SEA ER, ‘All development will be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment or Appropriate Assessment at project level, where required.’	No
Multiple	Many submissions state that many of the development proposals for the LAP area is contrary to Objective S8 which commits the Planning Authority to protect, enhance, create and connect natural heritage, high quality amenity areas and other green spaces throughout Leixlip for both biodiversity and recreational use.	For Council consideration. Note Objective GIO1.1 which ensures that Green Infrastructure is integrated as an essential component of new developments and objective GIO1.3 seeks to ensure key trees, woodlands and high value hedgerows identified in the habitat survey are integrated into new developments. As outlined in the SEA ER, ‘All development will be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment or Appropriate Assessment at project level, where required.’	No
471	The lands located north of the Rye Water Valley/Carlton SAC in Kellystown to be removed from the LAP in order to ensure their protection from further development as required by EU Habitats Directives and Seveso Directives which override the Kildare County Development Plan.	For Council consideration. An NIR has been carried out on the Draft Plan and put on public display. Further ecological assessments will be required at project level- refer to Objectives ED1.3 NH1 NH1.2 NH1.4 and GI1.1.	No

Submission No.	Summary of Submission/Observation	Response	Update of SEA ER required?
		As outlined in the SEA ER, 'All development will be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment or Appropriate Assessment at project level, where required.'	
118	The mandatory need for the completion of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) on any development within 500m of St. Catherine's park is also requested.	A SEA and NIR have been carried out on the Draft LAP. As outlined in the SEA ER, 'All development will be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment or Appropriate Assessment at project level, where required.'	No
Multiple	Concerns relating to the environmental impact from a surface water point of view if the proposed development went ahead as all the rainwater that falls in Confey will be directed towards the River Liffey and the communities living downstream.	Objective I2.2 requires the incorporation of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) as part of all plans and development proposals. Further, as outlined in the SEA ER, 'All development will be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment or Appropriate Assessment at project level, where required.'	No
Multiple	A number of submissions consider that the road congestion caused by additional residential development would result in noise and air pollution for neighbouring residents.	The Council is committed to implementing the recommendations of the Kildare Noise Action Plan – refer to Objective MT3.10 'it is an objective of the Council 'to implement the recommendations of the Kildare Noise Action Plan to reduce, where necessary, the harmful effects of traffic noise, through appropriate mitigation measures in accordance with CDP Objective RS03.' Policy I5.2 of the Plan has a specific policy regarding air quality- To avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole through promoting the preservation of best ambient air quality with sustainable development. Further, as outlined in the SEA ER, 'All development will be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment or Appropriate Assessment at project level, where required.' As part of an EIA, a noise and air quality impact assessment will be carried out.	No

Appendix C

Proposed Material Alterations to
LAP- Responses to Submissions

Table C1: Proposed Material Alterations- Reponses to Submissions

Submission No.	Summary of Submission/Observation	Response	Update of SEA ER required?
Office of the Planning Regulator	Generally supportive.	Noted.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report (ER).
EPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Section 4 - Core Strategy, Material Alterations. the relevant aspects of the Climate Action Plan 2019 (DCCAE) should be taken into consideration. In considering the Alterations, Kildare County Council should consider the need to align with national commitments on climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as incorporating any relevant recommendations in sectoral, regional and local climate adaptation plans. General guidance on 'Future Modifications to the Draft Plan', 'SEA Statement - "Information on the Decision"', 'Environmental Authorities'. 	<p>Noted, climate change considered in SEA process. Further, as proposed byu means of mitigation in the SEA Environmental Report 'All development will be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment or Appropriate Assessment at project level, where required.' Climate change will also be taken into account at project level.</p> <p>Noted, re. SEA ER process.</p>	No
Irish Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irish Water (IW) welcomes the inclusion of text relating to the National Water Resources Plan (NWRP), Water and Wastewater requirements are mentioned as part of the masterplan. However, IW would like to indicate that substantial works will be required in this area that do not form part of IW's Capital Investment Programme, works in this area would therefore be developer driven. 	Noted.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
NTA	Proposed new objective re. M50.	For Council consideration- considered more appropriate for consideration in County Development Plan	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.

Submission No.	Summary of Submission/Observation	Response	Update of SEA ER required?
TII	Generally supportive.	Noted.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
OPW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OPW acknowledge the recommended insertion based on the Chief Executive's Recommendation of objective CON 1.5 in Section 12.8 Confey. This recommendation is currently not included in the Proposed Material Alteration Report. Please ensure this statement is included in the final document. OPW notes the inclusion/expansion of Open Space & Amenity and Strategic Open Space zonings included in Map Red: 6 (200/19/1002). OPW are concerned with material alteration No. 57 to rezone agricultural land for residential development. Where previous assessment has demonstrated that there is considerable flooding in the area. The area. is also close enough to the watercourse to warrant further investigation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text adopted as Objective CON 1.1 (b)(ii) Comment re. Open Space & Amenity and Strategic Open Space zonings noted. An SFRA has been carried out for this plan. Refer to Objective I3.2 which outlines the Council's Objective to carry out site specific SFRA, to inform development proposals. 	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
HSE	Generally supportive.	Noted.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Department of Education & Skills	Provision of schools in longer term.	For Council consideration.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Aedin Glennon	Objection to the proposed cycleway/pedestrian route through Wogansfield. Rubbish being left behind by those who don't live on the lane.	For Council consideration- pedestrian and cycle links omitted.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Aidan Jordan, Anna Maria Keaveney, Aoife Devaney, Cliodhna Jordan, Gemma Haynes, Glen Haynes, Katherine Creelman, L Delaney, Lorcan Farrell, Lorraine Groome, Neal Dobbs, Nicola Jackson, Orla Murphy, Simon Coburn	Opportunity to protect the walled area proposed by Kildare Development Plan KDA Celbridge Road East, which is part of Leixlip Castle Demesne. should zone area 1 Celbridge Road East in Leixlip Development Plan as parkland and with a footbridge over the motorway at the Wonderful Barn can link up with Castletown Demesne.	For Council consideration- MA 46 (a) + (b) largely addresses these concerns.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.

Submission No.	Summary of Submission/Observation	Response	Update of SEA ER required?
	Leixlip Castle and its remaining estate should be turned into a parkland similar to Castletown estate in Celbridge, saving this vital historical estate.		
Anthony Larkin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please zone sufficient lands for amenity use that is proportionate to existing and future population calculations. • Can all permeability proposals be dealt with as a whole, not in isolation as in just to link one estate to another. 	For Council consideration. Permeability will be addressed through the Town Renewal Plan for Leixlip,	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Aoife Gaffney	Water treatment plant has been contaminated. The supply is limited. Leixlip Castle and its remaining estate should be turned into a parkland similar to Castletown estate in Celbridge saving this vital historical estate.	<p>Surface Water and Groundwater are addressed within the Draft Leixlip LAP 2020-2026, Section 9.2. The Policy of the council is to 'maintain and enhance the existing surface water drainage systems in Leixlip and to protect surface and ground water quality in accordance with the Water Framework Directive'.</p> <p>Comments with regards to Leixlip Castle, are for council consideration. A substantial area now proposed to be rezoned as 'F2 – Strategic Open Space.' The proposed MA has also amended the layout and design brief of the KDA to incorporate and safeguard the historic demesne wall as a landscaping feature.</p>	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Austin Crowe	To reinstate the bridge linking Confey to neighbouring estates. As our children travel to Confey College they have use private transport rather than walking/ cycling.	For council consideration.-Objective removed	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.

Submission No.	Summary of Submission/Observation	Response	Update of SEA ER required?
Ballymore Group, Brian O'Farrell, the Bruton family, Newbridge Leixlip SPV, & the Rowan family. Sub 2	<p>Welcome the proposal to zone additional lands at Confey for development. See no logic to the proposed linking of the development of lands at Confey to other KDAs. by requiring units within the KDAs to be brought forward first, there is a serious risk that housing targets will not be met. Therefore, suggest that the planning authority facilitate development of housing on all zoned lands as expeditiously as possible. Propose the UDF is a sufficiently robust document to guide the future development of these lands.</p> <p>Suggest that an additional masterplan is not required. Welcome the Proposed Material Alterations Nos. 61-64 relating to the Confey Urban Design Framework and reiterate our request that the phasing should be less prescriptive.</p>	Noted	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Conor Morgan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic is horrendous with no sight of improvement • Water quality in the town is terrible. Smell from sewer in the village due to capacity issues never resolved. Irish Water have voiced concern about capacity issues in Leixlip. • Less and less green spaces. • Damage to the historic aspect of Guinness Castle which is part of the fabric of Leixlip, especially since the Wonderful Barn has been ruined by the housing development there despite its UNESCO status and many objections. 	With regards to traffic, a Leixlip Strategic Transport Assessment was undertaken in 2019. Surface Water and Groundwater are addressed within the Draft Leixlip LAP 2020-2026, Section 9.2. The Policy of the council is to 'maintain and enhance the existing surface water drainage systems in Leixlip and to protect surface and ground water quality in accordance with the Water Framework Directive'. Section 11.3, including Policy OS1 and Objectives OS1.1 to OS1.8 of the Leixlip Draft LAP 2020-2026 address Open Spaces. Policy OS1 of the council is 'to provide for a hierarchy of high quality multi-functional public open spaces within Leixlip, and to preserve and protect such spaces through the	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.

Submission No.	Summary of Submission/Observation	Response	Update of SEA ER required?
		<p>appropriate zoning of lands'. The majority of Leixlip Castle falls under Protected Structure status. Section 10.1.1 of the Draft Leixlip LAP 2020-2026 addresses the Policies and Objectives surrounding Protected Structures within the LAP.</p> <p>Policy BH1 states that it is the 'policy of the council to preserve and enhance the buildings identified on the Record of Protected Structures and to carefully consider any proposals for development that would affect the special value of such structures, including their historic curtilage, both directly and indirectly'.</p>	
Dave Keane RFC	Greater amenity land in Wonderful Barn KDA 1 to facilitate more pitches.	For Council consideration. Objective OS1.5 of the Draft Plan provides for the provision of a public park at the Wonderful Barn Complex. Training pitches would be considered ancillary uses within such a park. The Draft Plan also contains an objective under EDT3.10 for a detailed conservation plan/management plan for the site. It is understood that the proposed conservation plan will be used to inform a masterplan for the development of a commercial/tourist activity and public park. It is envisaged that such a masterplan will be the subject of a separate public consultation.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Ed Vaughan	Concerns re. MA 25 as supportive of Objective MT1.6.	For Council consideration. Objective MT1.6 removed	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Elizabeth Crossan	KDA1 Celbridge Road East should be zoned as a parkland	For Council consideration. Large area now rezoned as Open Space	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.

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ES Leixlip Greenfields Ltd	Generally supportive, with some suggestions re. building height.	Noted. It is considered that buildings of between 3 and 4 storeys may be appropriate fronting onto the R449- updated	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Intel Ireland Ltd	Generally supportive, with light proposed amendment to wording of Objective COL1.1, and consequential text.	For Council consideration- not considered appropriate	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Jennifer Minogue	Recent failure at Leixlip water treatment plant and subsequent audit indicates that the water processing is insufficient for purpose.	Surface Water and Groundwater are addressed within the Draft Leixlip LAP 2020-2026, Section 9.2. The Policy of the council is to 'maintain and enhance the existing surface water drainage systems in Leixlip and to protect surface and ground water quality in accordance with the Water Framework Directive'.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
John Heraty	Historical site to be destroyed. Water system clearly can't cope. Traffic mayhem.	Built Heritage and Archaeology is addressed in Section 10 of the Draft Leixlip LAP 2020 - 2026. Policies and Objectives surrounding Protected Structures, Architectural Conservation Area and Archaeological Heritage are addressed within this Section. Policy BH3 states that 'It is the policy of the Council to safeguard the archaeological heritage of the LAP area and avoid impacts on sites, monuments feature or objects of significant historical or archaeological interest'. Surface Water and Groundwater are addressed within the Draft Leixlip LAP 2020-2026, Section 9.2. The Policy of the council is to 'maintain and enhance the existing surface water drainage systems in Leixlip and to protect surface	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.

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		and ground water quality in accordance with the Water Framework Directive'. With regards to traffic, a Leixlip Strategic Transport Assessment was undertaken in 2019.	
Killross Properties Ltd	Concerns re. proposed new train station at Collinstown and minor amendments to Objective COL1.1	Noted. No further change	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Laura Doyle	Concern re. number of houses proposed	Noted.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Laura MacLennan	Concern re. capacity of Leixlip for additional houses	Noted.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Niall Geraghty	Reconsideration should be given to the deletion of objective MT1.6, To provide a footbridge over the Rye Water with associated paths to connect Confey Community College to nearby housing estates'... reducing traffic in Leixlip, and associated pollution... encourage more walking and cycling.	For Council consideration. Objective deleted.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Cllr Nuala Killeen	Concerns re. development phasing, provision of infrastructure, traffic and residential provision.	For Council consideration. Development will be implemented in accordance with phasing plan outlined in LAP, to ensure maintenance of infrastructure and capacity of same. Refer to Social Infrastructure Assessment, and Strategic Transport Assessment - concerns have been taken into account. With regards to the KDA, all land zonings have been assessed in the SEA Environmental Report (ER). Masterplan at Confey will be subject to relevant environmental assessments during its preparation. SFRA of Leixlip	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.

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		LAP area undertaken in 2019, including lands at Confey.	
The Stanley Family	Removal of Black Avenue KDA- in favour of keeping- suitable for development.	Concern re. removal of Black Avenue KDA. For council consideration.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Susan Donaghy	In order to protect the heritage of Leixlip, KDA 1 should be zoned parkland and recreation, not for housing.	For Council consideration.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Thomas Reid	Requires more info on nature and extent of Kellystown Lane upgrade works- protected land and river surroundings. Extensions to Intel shouldn't be permitted- compliance with SEVESO consultation distance. General compliance with environmental and ecological protection areas and relevant legislation.	<p>Re. upgrading of Kellystown Lane (L1014) and 'Sandford Bridge' - see MT3.2 which states that road improvement works to the same would only be carried out subject to environmental and conservation requirements. Prior to upgrade, all relevant assessment will be carried out, and mitigation measures proposed in accordance with this SEA and any further environmental assessments. The Leixlip LAP provides for the protection of designated sites, including SACs, SPAs and NHAs. Should it not be deemed appropriate to upgrade, and alternative route may be sought- see Objective MT3.5: which sets out the Councils intention to upgrade this road, or an alternative north-south connection.</p> <p>Refer to following Objectives of the Council re. Intel SEVESO site:</p> <p>EDT1.4 To comply with the SEVESO III Directive to reduce the risk of accidents at SEVESO sites in Leixlip and the surrounding areas.</p> <p>EDT1.5 To have regard to the following</p>	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.

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		<p>in assessing applications for developments (including extensions) in the vicinity of the Intel Seveso site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Major Accidents Directive (Seveso III– Directive 2012/18/EU). b) The potential effects on public health and safety. c) The need to ensure adequate distances between such developments and residential areas, areas of public use and any areas of sensitivity. d) The advice of the Health and Safety Authority. 	
Tina MacCormack	Concern re. zoning of Leixlip Castle Demesne.	For Council consideration.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Trevor Corbould	LAP should be more supportive of religious communities.	Not relevant.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.
Vanessa Liston	Climate proofing measures should be incorporated into the design of the Confey Masterplan.	Climate proofing measures will be incorporated into the design of the Masterplan and will be taken into account during the SEA of the masterplan or in site specific environmental impact assessments. Error in GI1.1 noted.	No
Will MacCormack	Concern re. zoning of Leixlip Castle Demesne	For Council consideration.	No updates to SEA Environmental Report.