6<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

# TO ALL MEMBERS OF DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

The Adjourned November Meeting of Donegal County Council, will be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 at 10.00am, in the County House, Lifford to consider the unfinished business listed below:-

#### Item 7

Draft County Donegal Development Plan 2018 – 2024 – Consideration of: 1. The Draft Plan; 2. The Chief Executive's Report on Submissions Received in respect of the Draft Plan; 3. Additional Non-Material Amendments to the Draft Plan arising pursuant to a Stage 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment; and 4. Authorisation to Proceed to Issue Material Alterations.

Please ensure that you bring the agenda previously distributed to the meeting.

Meetings Administrator

#### MINUTES OF ADJOURNED NOVEMBER MEETING OF DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL, HELD IN THE COUNTY HOUSE, LIFFORD ON 13th DECEMBER, 2017

#### C/488/17 <u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u> Cllrs Gerry Mc Monagle, Cathaoirleach, L Blaney, E Bonner, C Brogan, J Campbell, P Canning, T Conaghan, G Crawford, N Crossan, A Doherty, G Doherty, L Doherty, M Farren, M Harley, N Jordan, J Kavanagh, N Kennedy, M C Mac Giolla Easbuig, J P Mc Daid, I Mc Garvey, P Mc Gowan, B McGuinness, J Murray, M Naughton, S O'Domhnaill, B O' Neill, and T Slowey.

### C/489/17 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Seamus Neely, Chief Executive, Joe Peoples, Director of Housing Corporate & Cultural Services / Meetings Administrator, Liam Ward, Director of Community, Enterprise & Planning Services, Michael Mc Garvey, Director Water & Environment, Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner, Paul Christie , Senior Executive Planner, Sinead Harkin, Executive Planner. Alana Greene, Executive Planner, Anne Marie Conlon, Communications Officer, Sean O' Daimhin, Oifigeach na Gaeilge, Anne Marie Crawford, Staff Officer.

#### C/490/17 <u>APOLOGIES</u> Apologies were received from Cllrs Donaghey, Gallagher and Mc Brearty who were unable to attend the meeting.

#### C/491/17 <u>MINUTES SILENCE</u> Sympathy was extended to Cllr Rena Donaghey on the death of her mother-in –law Annie Donaghey. A minutes silence was observed by all present.

C/492/17 DRAFT COUNTY DONEGAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018 – 2024 – CONSIDERATION OF: 1. THE DRAFT PLAN; 2. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT ON SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED IN RESPECT OF THE DRAFT PLAN; 3.REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF SERVICE TO THE NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING INCLUDING ADDITIONAL NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT PLAN ARISING PURSUANT TO A STAGE 1 STRATEGIC FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT; 4. AUTHORISATION TO PROCEED TO ISSUE MATERIAL ALTERATIONS. AND:5. ADDENDUM TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT AS PRESENTED TO THE ADJOURNED MEETING ON THE 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2017. The Cathaoirleach welcomed members to the reconvened meeting. Mr Liam Ward, Director Community, Enterprise & Planning Services provided a brief introduction and informed members that they were now being asked to consider the Chief Executive's Report (October 2017), the Director of Service's Report dated the 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 and the addendum to the Chief Executive s report sent by email on the 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 which provided a detailed response in relation to the issues raised by the members. It was intended, he added, to deal individually with a number of member's submissions in relation to settlement frameworks. These, he confirmed, would be taken in alphabetical Municipal District Order and within Municipal District area by member in alphabetical order as follows:-

- (i.) Donegal MD Members
- (ii.) Glenties MD Members
- (iii.) Inishowen MD Members
- (iv.) Letterkenny MD Members; and
- (v.) Stranorlar MD Members

Mr Paul Christie, Senior Executive Planner, he advised, would take member's through the relevant material alterations including those contained in the Chief Executive's Report, those set out in the addendum, and those raised in workshop format or during the course of the meeting.

- C/493/17 <u>CONSIDERATION OF MATERIAL ALTERATIONS CHIEF</u> <u>EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT</u>. Vide Appendix 1
- C/494/17 CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES RAISED BY ELECTED MEMBERS AT PLENARY AND MD WORKSHOPS NOVEMBER, 2017 AND RESPONSE OF EXECUTIVE Vide Appendix 2.
- C/495/17 CONSIDERATION OF MEMBER'S SUBMISSIONS IN RELATION TO FRAMEWORK S AND A NUMBER OF OTHER MATTERS Vide Appendix 3
- C/496/17 <u>ISSUES RAISED IN RELATION TO ALLEGED PUBLIC</u> <u>RIGHTS OF WAY AND PARKING AT MOVILLE.</u> The Cathaoirleach responding to Cllr Farren's request to discuss

public right of way at Moville said that it would be prudent at this stage to continue with the meeting in committee so that the legal advice provided by the Council's Solicitor could be considered. This was proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Kavanagh. Members of the public and the media present left the Chamber.

- C/497/17 <u>ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING</u> The members considered the legal advice and it was unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting until 2.15pm.
- C/498/17 <u>DRAFT COUNTY DONEGAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018 –</u> 2024

On resumption of the meeting in public session Cllr Farren thanked the Executive and Members for their contribution. He was he said anxious to have reference to the Right of Way and parking in Moville incorporated into the County Development Plan, but having considered the advice provided by the Council Solicitor, it was clear that due process needed to be followed.

He thus proposed, seconded by Cllr Murray that Donegal County Council, having regard to its legal advices including on process and timing, take steps to invoke the provisions of Section 14 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 with respect to the inclusion in the Development Plan (subject to proper process), specific reference to public right of way on the shorefront in Moville.

C/499/17 <u>DRAFT COUNTY DONEGAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018 –</u> 2024 – RENEWABLE ENERGY

Cllr Campbell alluding to the themed response on renewable energy considered the recommendations contained in the Chief Executive's Report of October 2017 and associated addendum issued on the 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 and proposed a resolution which was circulated to members.

C/500/17 <u>DRAFT COUNTY DONEGAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018 –</u> 2024

> On the proposal of Cllr O' Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr Canning it was resolved to amend the Draft County Development Plan 2018-2024 so that "grandchildren" are included in the definition of immediate family members.

#### C/501/17 <u>ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING</u> Cllr Brogan proposed, seconded by Cllr Crawford an adjournment until 3.15pm to allow members consider the proposed resolution circulated by Cllr Campbell.

#### C/502/17 <u>DRAFT COUNTY DONEGAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018 –</u> 2024 –RENEWABLE ENERGY

Mr Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner outlined the background to the Wind Energy Policy Framework. The recommendation remained to revert back to the substantative content of the Working Draft on the basis that it was consistent with the 2006 Planning Guidelines. Cllr Campbell's proposal, he said, was at variance with the national guidelines as set out in the Chief Executive's report. He reiterated the recommendation in the Chief Executive's report to revert back to the policy framework in the Working Draft of the Plan.

Cllr Campbell at this juncture outlined in detail the rationale for his proposal which was then seconded by Cllr G Doherty.

He said that his proposal clearly addressed the issue of ten times the tip height and that the remaining amendments contained in his proposal were non-material in nature.

Cllr O' Domhnaill proposed, seconded by Cllr Canning to accept recommendations 1-4 as contained in Ref 3.7.8 of the Chief Executive's report (Themed Response on Renewable Energy).

Cllr Campbell asked the Executive to provide clarification as there was, he contended, little variation in the two proposals.

Cllr O' Domhnaill queried whether or not the Interim Guidelines received from the Minister were an advisory note or had issued with specific statutory powers.

Mr Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner, said that the Working Draft Plan proposed a scenario for wind energy consistent with the 2006 guidelines. He advised that the Draft Plan published for consideration and the changes being proposed by Cllr Campbell were, at variance with these guidelines. He clarified that the recommendation in the Chief Executive's report is largely to revert to the content of the Working Draft Plan of March 2017. He stated also that there was a conflict between member's submissions for site specific wind energy zoning changes and that submitted by Cllr Campbell.

Cllr Campbell contended that his proposal contained minor alterations which were not material. They were not in his opinion, he said, counter proposals.

Cllr Brogan said that there was much to consider within Cllr Campbell's proposal and that at this juncture it would be more prudent to send the Chief Executive's report as presented out to public consultation.

Cllr Mc Daid queried whether or not the acceptance of Cllr Campbell's proposal would result in a blanket ban on wind farm development throughout the county.

The Chief Executive urged members to accept the recommendations in his report so as to ensure that Ministerial guidelines were complied with. He highlighted the fact that a number of the individual location specific recommendations made by members may not be accommodated under the resolution proposed by Cllr Campbell.

C/503/17 <u>ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING</u> Cllr Brogan proposed, seconded by Cllr Crawford an adjournment from 4.00pm until 4.15pm.

# C/504/17 DRAFT COUNTY DONEGAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018 – 2024 – RENEWABLE ENERGY

On resumption Cllr Brogan said that he himself had a number of concerns and that individual members also had reservations regarding ten times the tip height. He alluded also to the fact that new planning guidelines were imminent and were expected to be available prior to the adoption of the plan.

A recorded vote was then taken by the Meetings Administrator in relation to the proposal as submitted by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr G Doherty.

This resulted in 12 voting for with 12 voting against.

Those voting for were;-

Cllrs Campbell, A Doherty, G Doherty, L Doherty, Farren, Jordan, Kennedy, Mac Giolla Easbuig, Mc Guinness, Mc Monagle, Murray, and O' Neill. (12)

Those voting against were:-

Cllrs Bonner, Brogan, Canning, Conaghan, Crawford, Crossan, Kavanagh, Mc Daid, Mc Garvey, Mc Gowan, Naughton, O' Domhnaill (12)

As there was an equality of votes the Cathaoirleach in accordance with Section 12, Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act, 2001 exercised his casting vote and declared in favour of the resolution.

Thus the following resolution was adopted:-

"Whereas, the members of Donegal County Council have considered the recommendations contained in the Chief Executive's Report of October 2017 (and addendum thereto) relating to amendments to the Draft Donegal County Development Plan; and

Whereas, having satisfied themselves on the evidence and argument outlined in appendix 2 below entitled 'Reasons' that the resolution herein formulates, objectives and policies consistent with legislative requirements to deliver an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area of the development plan, taking full account of the statutory obligations of the local authority, and all relevant policies and objectives and guidelines for the time being of the Government or of any Minister of the Government; Therefore it is

Resolved pursuant to Section 12(6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to:

i. Reject recommendations 1 to 4 contained at 3.7.8 of the Chief Executive's Report on Submissions Received to Draft CDP 2018-2024, and not therefore make the associated amendments.

- ii. Accept recommendation 1 contained at 3.7.9 of the Chief Executive's Report on Submissions Received to Draft CDP 2018-2024, and therefore make the associated amendments.
- iii. Notwithstanding 1 above, accept recommendation 7 contained at 2.0 of the document entitled 'Addendum to the Chief Executive's Report of October 2017' and therefore make the associated amendments.
- iv. Reject recommendation 8 contained at 2.0 of the document entitled 'Addendum to the Chief Executive's Report of October 2017' and not therefore make the associated amendments.
- v. Amend Part A: Appendix 2 Section 28 Statement, Page 41 as outlined in appendix 1 below. And consequentially:
- vi. Pursuant to Section(5)(aa) of the PDA (as amended) to inform the Minister of the reasons as set out at appendix 2 below".

#### **Appendix 1**

Black text = text contained in Draft. Underline = Text to be removed Red text = Additional text.

Wind Energy Development	Chapter 8 with specific reference to section 8.2 (Energy) and Map 8.2.1 (Wind Energy) has been prepared having
Guidelines, 2006 &	regard to the Wind Energy Development Guidelines
Interim Guidelines for Planning Authorities on	and interim guidelines.
Statutory Plans,	
Renewable Energy and	
Climate Change	The Draft Plan provides for the identification
	of (i) areas 'Open to Consideration', (ii) areas identified as 'Not Acceptable' and (iii) areas identified as 'Acceptable for Augmentation to Existing Windfarms.' The identification of the said areas followed an evidential- led methodology guided by the approach set out in the Wind Energy Guidelines. Chapter 8 together with objectives and policies of Chapter 7 (Natural and Built Heritage) provides an appropriate framework to guide the

detailed consideration of wind energy proposals and this has been prepared having regard to the Guidelines.

In relation to the interim guidelines the specific policy planning policy requirements have been complied with in full.

However, the Planning Authority is of the opinion that Section 5.0 of the Wind Energy Development Guidelines has not been implemented in relation to 'distance from the nearest turbines to any noise sensitive property' for the following reason. Whereas the Guidelines provide that: 'In general, noise is unlikely to be a significant problem where the distance from the nearest turbine to any noise sensitive property is more than 500 metres', the Draft Plan stipulates a minimum setback distance of ten times tip height (for noise-related reasons) which requirement will, having regard to standard heights of modern turbines, inevitably result in setback distances being significantly in excess of the 500m guide distance.

The Council agreed this policy on foot of its consideration of a non- Executive report submitted to the Council in which a rationale was provided for the adoption of such a policy, which rationale included references to scientific noise studies and case law in relation to noise disturbance from wind turbines. The report concluded that:

'In order to protect residential amenity in the face of emerging evidence shown above it is prudent to apply the precautionary principle until adverse effects can be scientifically discounted according to case law averred to in the recent CJEU judgement case ref# C-142/16. Also since the adoption of the current CDP we have had incidents of blade throw (Corkermore), turbine collapse (Loughderryduff and Screggagh), fire (Cappagh Beg), which the set back would provide an adequate safety buffer. has carried over the proportional setback and other provisions of variation no. 2 from the previous plan and while the policy provisions contained at chapter 1.2 of the 2006 guidelines are met as evidenced in the report endorsed by council on May 2nd 2017 entitled 'Submission in relation to amendment document 'OPTION 3 Revised' to the Working Draft County Development Plan 2018-2024' This report recognises the particular environmental and spatial realities pertaining in the functional area of the plan and while not slavishly copying the guidance in section 5.0 the plan is consistent with and is aligned to the objectives of this guideline, by mitigating for the environmental implications under the

headings it identified, as appropriate to Donegal the research in the document analyses the development management tools incorporated in policy and objectives to show that the plan can contribute significantly to national energy policy and decarbonisation even when compared to the most ambitious renewable energy policy targets.

#### Appendix 2 – Reasons

The submissions and recommendations made by the Minister to the draft were considered as part of the Chief Executive's Report. Notwithstanding the submission of the Minister, the council decided not to comply in full as set out above for the following reasons:

In general these can be gleaned from the evidence base previously outlined in document entitled 'submission in relation to amendment document 'OPTION 3 Revised' to the Working Draft County Development Plan 2018 - 2024' as referenced at pg 41 of Part A: Appendix 2 - Section 28 Statement

#### And

The submission made by Cllr. John Campbell in document entitled 'Submission to Public Consultation on the Draft Donegal CDP 2018-2024'

Finally the specific recommendations of the Minister are dealt with here:

Under the heading '**Climate Change Adaptation measures**' of the Minister's submission (pages 4-6):

In the first paragraph and first recommendation under this heading there is reference to Section 10(2)(n) of the PDA as follows:

'Under Section 10(2)(n) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the Act requires planning authorities to include measures in statutory development plans that would mitigate against climate change and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.'

#### And

In view of significant developments in government policy regarding Climate Change Mitigation and the aforementioned guidelines, your authority is requested to significantly revisit relevant policies with regard to the statutory obligations under Section 10(2)(n) of the Act and the associated obligations to maximise each local authority's contribution to developing renewable energy sources without the inclusion of random or poorly evidence based setback restrictions.'

It would appear, when the entire content under this heading is considered, that the reference to Section 10(2)(n) has been given an extremely narrow focus. The department chooses to concentrate solely on wind energy policy to the exclusion of any other consideration regarding settlement and transportation strategies as cited on the face of the legislative provision itself. I include the wording of the section here for reference:

'Section 10(2)(n) the promotion of sustainable settlement and transportation strategies in urban and rural areas including the promotion of measures to—

(i) reduce energy demand in response to the likelihood of increases in energy and other costs due to long-term decline in nonrenewable resources,

(*ii*) reduce anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, and (*iii*) address the necessity of adaptation to climate change;'

While the decarbonisation of our electricity production is of the utmost importance, it is extensively covered in national policy such as those referred to elsewhere in the draft plan, also in the interim guidelines and in various Eirgrid publications including the recently published 'Tomorrow's Energy Scenarios 2017 - Planning our Energy Future'.

The material amendments comply with this recomendation by inclusion of a new objective CS-0-17.

The fear of 'random or poorly evidence-based set backs' can be dispelled as the evidence base is included in the referenced submissions. Which we understand was not viewed by the Minister when making his submission.

Paragraph 3-6 on pages 4 & 5 references the three Specific Planning Policy Requirements (SPPRs) contained in the interim guidelines, although noted the narrative does not highlight or identify any particular deficiency in the draft plan. In reference to the relationship between the SPPRs and the wind energy strategy contained in the draft plan, the following observations are made:

#### **SPPR 4(1)**

Of the four national policy documents named at 4(1) of the Interim Guidelines, three have been acknowledged and documented at page 50 of 'Part D: Environmental Report' of the draft plan as required by the interim guidelines.

As stated in the Department's submission (at paragraph 2 under the above referenced heading) 'The National Mitigation Plan' was published after the draft plan issued and will be considered by the planning authority as part of the forthcoming deliberations on chief executive's report.

The Minister's recommendations have been complied with in this instance and amendments have been made to acknowledge and document the latter and therefore satisfy SPPR 4(1).

#### **SPPR 4(2)**

The proportional setback distance (referenced at paragraph 7 under this heading of the Department's submission) is established in the present County Donegal Development Plan 2012 - 2018 following the adoption of Variation No. 2 (2014).

It was confirmed by orders of the High Court following conclusion of Judicial Review proceedings on June  $21^{st}$  2016 (2014 No. 712 J.R.) and March  $14^{th}$  2017 (2016 No. 976 J.R.)

It flows from that therefore that these elements are not being introduced or varied in the draft presently out to public consultation (Draft County Donegal Development Plan 2018 – 2024).

They are merely a continuation of an established measure.

The policy elements of the draft plan that <u>have</u> been introduced or varied include E-P-12, E-P-20, E-P-21 and the definition of Autogeneration.

E-P-20 & E-P-21 are general in nature, founded in measures to reflect court judgements of the High Court and CJEU (referenced in submissions) that have emerged since adoption of the current plan. They have also been screened in relation to SEA, and considered as part of NIS at page 69 of Part D: Environmental Report. They do not interact directly with the interim guidelines. The elements contained in E-P-12 and the definition of Autogeneration will expand the capacity of the functional area of the plan for potential delivery of renewable energy over that contained in the current plan. It achieves this in a managed and sustainable way as can be ascertained by their interaction with the SEA and NIS processes which are documented in Part D: Environmental Report.

With reference to the report considered by the elected members on May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017 entitled, *'Submission in relation to amendment document 'OPTION 3 Revised' to the Working Draft County Development Plan 2018-2014'( see attached)* we can ascertain a reasoned potential energy quantum deliverable, <u>under these elements alone</u>, of circa 84MW.

Based on the methodology used by SEAI these elements alone equate to a potential additional green house gas emissions saving of 102,000 tonnes of  $CO_2$  and an estimated saving of  $\in$ 12.69m due to fossil fuel and  $CO_2$  displacement.

It is therefore irrational in this instance to follow the advice contained in PL 05/2017 as it would have the effect of diminishing the potential wind resource in the functional area of the draft plan.

Overall as outlined in the report referenced above, it is evident the implementation of the plan over the effective period will contribute a potential additional renewable energy resource amounting to in the region of 421.5MW – 525MW. This equates to carbon mitigation in the order of between 511,821 and 637,500 tonnes  $CO_{2}$ .

This is additional to the 391MW already connected.

Even if we are to compare this to the most ambitious 'low carbon living scenario' targets set in Eirgrid's latest projections the draft plan is shown to comply.

Therefore it has been shown and considered by the elected members of the planning authority that the draft development plan can and will contribute significantly to realising overall national targets on renewable energy and climate change mitigation with reference to wind energy in particular.

#### **SPPR 4(3)**

As shown under SPPR 4(2) above there is no proposal <u>to introduce</u> <u>or vary</u> a mandatory setback distance in the draft plan. Therefore the proportional setback element does not fall under the terms of the specific planning policy requirement 4(3) of the interim guidelines (as further informed by paragraphs 8 & 9 of circular PL 05/2017)

All measures contained within the plan including those carried over from the previous plan have subject to required environmental assessments under the SEA and Habitats Directives.

This was expressly mandated of the chief executive by the elected council and specifically recorded in the resolution passed by the elected members in relation to the measures under 'OPTION 3 Revised' at a special meeting Donegal County Council held on April 12<sup>th</sup> 2017, which in the interests of clarity is copied here:

Whereas, the members of Donegal County Council have considered the report relating to the "OPTION 3 Revised" amendment to the Donegal County Development Plan working draft; and

Whereas, having satisfied themselves that the amendment is strategic in nature for the purposes of developing the objectives and policies to deliver an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area of the development plan, and takes account of the statutory obligations the local authority, and any relevant policies or objectives or guidelines for the time being of the Government or of any Minister of the Government;

Therefore, it is resolved pursuant to Section 11 (5) (c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to amend the working draft to incorporate the alterations outlined in the "OPTION 3 Revised" amendment and any consequent amendments necessary to the working drafts of the Environmental Reports and Natura Impact Report"

As referenced under SPPR 4(2) above this has been carried out. Therefore I believe it is shown that the draft wind energy strategy fulfils the specific planning policy requirement set out at 4(3) of the interim guidelines. Further, it is worth noting here that the report considered by the elected members on May  $2^{nd}$  2017 entitled, *'Submission in relation to amendment document 'OPTION 3 Revised' to the Working Draft County Development Plan 2018-2014'* is referenced in Part A: Appendix 2 – Section 28 Statement on pg 41 of the draft plan. It also forms part of the minutes of the meeting of Donegal County Council held on April 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 and was therefore easily accessible to the Department, although it seems not to have formed part of your considerations and observations.

Paragraph 7 references a specific development control standard included at S.6.5(f) of appendix 3, and commenting at paragraph 8 under this heading the submission states:

'The practical effect of such requirement significantly and adversely restricts the potential for wind energy development within County Donegal, conflicts with the policies and objectives of the draft Plan as set out under Section 8.2 with national and regional objectives in relation to the development of wind energy infrastructure to the extent that if replicated by other local authorities, would prevent Ireland from meeting its binding EU and international obligations in diversifying its energy mix and moving away from a reliance on fossil fuels.'

As has been shown already in the report considered by the elected members on May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017 entitled, *'Submission in relation to amendment document 'OPTION 3 Revised' to the Working Draft County Development Plan 2018-2014'* and the additional clarifications now provided above; the proportionate setback distance can be carried over in the draft plan without significant adverse restriction to renewable energy development and; serves to properly manage and direct appropriate levels development, fully cognisant of and consistent with national policy.

The assertion that *'if replicated by other local authorities...'* is without a sound foundation for two reasons:

1) It fails to recognise the legislative four walls within which Donegal County Council as the planning authority for the functional area must operate – we are bound by the PDA to deliver an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area of the development plan only. 2) It assumes incorrectly that this distinctive measure could be replicated in other functional areas arbitrarily, thus failing to recognise that the measure reflects the particular circumstance of the County of Donegal in relation especially to spatial extent for example.

At paragraph 9 under this heading the submission states:

'Moreover, in compliance with Directive 2001/42/EC (the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive) Part D of the Draft contains the SEA Environmental Report which assesses all policies and objectives against environmental objectives. However, it is noted that Appendix 3: S.6.5 (f) is included as a technical standard and not a policy or objective and as such it has not been assessed under the scope of the SEA.'

This assertion is incorrect. An environmental assessment and determination was made along with others elements in 2014. The reports (referenced in submissions) clearly show that all the measures including S.6.5(f) were subject to this process.

The Minister was a statutory consultee to this process yet did not raise the assertion which he now appears to be putting forward.

It was not raised in the Minister's submission of May 2014 to the consultation to variation No.2.

Also this assertion did not form part of the reasons offered by the Minister in the Ministerial Directions of October 2014, (ultimately quashed by orders of the high court).

It was not raised by the inspector (appointed by the Minister) in his report as part of the section 31 process in relation to Variation No 2.

Again it was not raised by the Minister in his statement of reasons in the Section 31 direction of October 2016 which again was quashed by orders of the High Court. Also it is noted that the Minister has raised no objection to the methodology employed by this planning authority in relation to the assessment, carried out in the draft under SEA, of the settlement frameworks as outlined at page 58 of Part D as quoted here:

'The County Development Plan 2012-2018 identified 59 settlement frameworks for individual settlements throughout the County and these were significantly informed by the SEA and AA processes carried out at that time; the Draft County Development Plan 2018-2024 contains these same 59 settlements that have no material changes from the previous Plan and therefore it is considered that no further environmental assessment is required as part of this process.'

Paragraphs 10 & 11 on pages 5 & 6 of the Minister's submission outline the recommendations expanded on earlier in his submission. The forgoing points address these.

The recommendation under the heading '**General**' (page 9) of the Minister's submission at Paragraph 1 has been complied with at point 5 of the resolution above.

On the proposal of Cllr L Doherty, seconded by Cllr Mc Gowan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 – 2024 thus identifying the area of public submissions P108, P179 and P186 at Altnapaste as 'Open to Consideration' for wind energy as set out in the submission of Cllr L. Doherty to the adjourned meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr Naughton, seconded by Cllr O' Neill it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to identify an area around Derrykillew as 'open to Consideration' for wind energy as set out in the submission of Cllr Naughton to the adjourned meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr Mc Daid, seconded by Cllr Brogan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to identify an area outlined in public submission P267 at Killymastin, Newmills as 'Open to Consideration' for wind energy. On the proposal of Cllr Mc Gowan, seconded by Cllr L Doherty it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to identify the area shown in public submission P170 around Meenbog as " Open to Consideration" for wind energy.

The Chief Executive thanked members for their engagement and commitment to the process. He acknowledged also the efforts and dedication of the Forward Planning team.

Members paid tribute to all involved in the production of the Draft Plan and acknowledged the commitment and dedication shown by Forward Planning staff.

On the proposal of Cllr O' Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr L Doherty it was resolved to amend the Draft County Development Plan, 2018-2024 in accordance with the 40 material alterations and other non-material alterations agreed during the meeting together with all minor edits and non-material amendments recommended in the Chief Executive's report of the 20<sup>th</sup> October in accordance with Section 12(5), and 12(6) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

It was further resolved that in accordance with Section 12(7) of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended):

That the Chief Executive determine which of the Material Alterations would require a SEA and/or AA, and accordingly specify the time required to complete such assessments, all by way of Chief Executive's Order, and

that following the completion of the SEA and AA procedures that notices be published in early February 2017 advising of the publication of the Material Alterations and SEA and/or AA as appropriate and inviting submissions in relation to same.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

# Appendix 1 Material Alterations- C.E.Os Report

Material Alteration Ref No	Material Alteration	Relevant Themed Response from which the Material Alteration Arises
1	On the proposal of Cllr G Doherty, seconded by Cllr Kavanagh, it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018-2024 and to insert an additional objective into chapter 2, section 2.10, as CS-O-17 page 24 so that it reads as follows (new text shown in blue: CS-O-17: To review the location and extent of lands zoned 'Strategic Residential Reserve' to ensure the appropriate supply of long term housing landbank.	Themed Response on Core Strategy
2	<ul> <li>On the proposal of Cllr O' Domhnaill, seconded By Cllr Naughton it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 – 2024 and to amend table 2.3, section 2.3.3, chapter , page 16 so as to insert Portnablagh as a named town within 'Layer 3 Rural Towns and open Countryside' and therefore in addition to: <ul> <li>(i) Amend Table 15.2 of Part C, page 93 so as to insert Portnablagh as Map 15.60 and;</li> <li>(ii) Insert an additional Settlement Framework map for Portnablagh as shown on the map contained in Appendix B of the Chief Executive's report on submissions to the Draft County Development Plan 2018 – 2024 into the Layer 3 Settlement Framework maps contained in Part C.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Themed Response on Core Strategy
3	On the proposal of Cllr O' Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr Kennedy it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 – 2024 so as to insert a new policy as UB-P-29 at section 6.2.3, chapter 6, page 100 so as to read as follows (NB: New text shown in blue: It is a policy of the Council that holiday home development will be considered within the settlement framework areas without the application of a restriction in terms of the balance between holiday homes and permanent homes (policy UB-P-24), subject to environmental and heritage designations and amenity considerations and where the applicant can demonstrate that the site is a brownfield site within the urban fabric of a settlement framework and its development for holiday home purposes is of a size and scale that would not be detrimental to the character of the settlement. A brownfield site is one that has been previously built upon. It excludes parks, recreation grounds, private or public open space, allotments, forestry lands/buildings agricultural lands and land where the remains of the previous use have	Themed Response on Core Strategy

Material Alteration Ref No	Material Alteration	Relevant Themed Response from which the Material Alteration Arises
	blended into the landscape, or have been superseded by land use zonings or lands of conservation value or amenity use.	
4	It was agreed to defer consideration of this item to later in the meeting. In view of the themed response on Renewable Energy, it is considered that the Wind Energy section of the Draft Plan does not accord with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area and accordingly Members should not adopt the said Chapter but should instead adopt the Wind Energy Objectives and Policies including the associated mapping contained in the Working Draft Plan submitted to Members in March, 2017.	Themed Response on Renewable Energy
5	<ul> <li>It was agreed to defer consideration of this item to later in the meeting.</li> <li>a) Move the contents of Section 10.6.5 currently placed in 'Development Guidelines and Technical Standards', Appendix 3, Part B from that Section 8.2, Renewable Energy contained in Chapter 8: Natural Resource Development</li> <li>b) Review the Environmental Report and Appropriate Assessment in light of both the change as recommended at 'a.' above and also the insertion of the additional Objective and text as recommended on Recommendations 3 and 4 below.</li> </ul>	Themed Response on Renewable Energy
6	It was agreed to defer consideration of this item to later in the meeting. Insert a new Objective at Section 8.2.2 to reflect the requirement set out in the Interim Guidelines: Objective E-O-7: It is an Objective of the Council to promote sustainable development and transportation strategies in urban and rural areas including the promotion of measures to: (i) reduce energy demand in response to the likelihood of increases in energy and other costs due to long-term decline in non-renewable resources; (ii) reduce anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions; and (iii) address the necessity of adaptation to climate change.'	Themed Response on Renewable Energy
7	It was agreed to defer consideration of this item to later in the meeting. Amend Map 8.2.1 to identify the site of planning permission ref. no. 14/51400 from 'Not Acceptable' to 'Acceptable for Augmentation'.	Themed Response on Renewable Energy

Material Alteration Ref No	Material Alteration	Relevant Themed Response from which the Material Alteration Arises
8	On the proposal of Cllr O' Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr Slowey it was resolved to make a non-material amendment to the Draft County Development Plan 2018-2024 in accordance with 3.0 (b) of the	Themed Response on Tourism
	addendum to the Chief Executive's Report of October 2017 as circulated on 11 <sup>th</sup> December, 2017 and amend the text in Section 4.1.3 Economic Development Strategy to refer to cycling: "but emerging diversification opportunities with horse riding, angling, sailing, surfing ,walking, cycling and eco-tourism all have the potential to attract visitors from both home and overseas and create supporting jobs."	Themed Response on Tourism
	To amend Economic Development Policy ED-P-13 to include reference to cycling: "(e.g. farmhouse accommodation, pet farms, farm holidays, health farms, equestrian activities, bird-watching holidays, painting and photography tuition, angling tourism, field studies, <b>cycling</b> and hill-walking)."	
	Together with the insertion of the following text into Section 5.1.1: "Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future, 2009-2020 comprising ambitious targets for modal shift (moving to modes of travel alternative to road based transit particularly the private motorcar), a reduction in transport emissions, and easing of congestion. It is <b>recognised that there are opportunities through</b> <b>the development of rural cycleways and greenways</b> <b>to provide sustainable linkages</b> , however, the reality for Donegal is that it is largely dependent on its strategic roads network, and that this will continue to be the case for the foreseeable future,	
	To amend Objective T-O-13 to specifically refer to greenways: "To support the development of new walkways, walking routes, trails, <b>greenways</b> and cycleways."	
	To amend Policy T-P-3 to include references to walking and cycling: "It is a policy of the Council to work in partnership with the Northern Ireland authorities to strengthen and improve existing cross border transportation links (including walking and cycling routes) and support the development of new links (including walking and cycling routes) to enable the targeted spatial and economic development of the North West City Region."	
	To amend Policy T-P-24 to refer to greenways as strategic infrastructure: "It is a policy of the Council to protect established/historic railway corridors throughout the County primarily for strategic infrastructure provision (such as rail/road/greenway projects) and secondly for	

Material Alteration Ref No	Material Alteration	Relevant Themed Response from which the Material Alteration Arises
	recreational development. Along these corridors other uses shall not be considered. Where these corridors have already been compromised by development, adjacent lands which could provide opportunities to bypass such an impediment and reconnect these routes for amenity purposes (walking/cycling) shall be protected for this purpose. However, in all instances, the over-riding objective shall be the provision of strategic infrastructure." To amend Policy T-P-28 to refer to park and cycle schemes: "It is a policy of the Council to support and	
	facilitate the development of public, semipublic and community projects and proposals which provide innovative transport solutions in rural, disadvantaged and border areas such as rural park and ride schemes, rural carpooling and car sharing schemes, <b>park and cycle</b> <b>schemes</b> and bus and taxi schemes in consultation with public, private and community organisations north and south subject to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area."	
	To amend Policy T-P-30 to refer to greenways: "It is a policy of the Council to ensure that development proposals protect the route of potential linkages (such as linear parks, roads, footpaths, trails, <b>greenways and</b> cycleways) through the subject site where the planning authority considers that a strategic opportunity exists to provide a linkage to or between adjoining areas."	
	To amend Policy T-P-34 to specifically refer to greenways: "It is a policy of the Council to encourage and facilitate joined up long distance walking and cycling routes <b>and</b> <b>greenways</b> for recreation and as alternatives to the car, particularly in rural areas, between settlements. Adequate car parking facilities shall be provided, where required, in association with any such developments."	
	To amend the text on pg. 138 (para. 2) to make reference to a new table <b>(Table 9.1)</b> , which identifies Potential Greenway Developments as follows and insert a statement that the table does not consist of any order of priority or ranking:	
	1Falcarragh - Bunbeg2Buncrana-Derry3Derry - Muff4Ballybofey - Donegal Town	
	5Ballybofey - Glenties6Polestar - Dry Arch7Illistrin - Kilmacrennan8Carrigart - Downings9Buncrana - Carndonagh	

Material Alteration Ref No	Material Alteration	Relevant Themed Response from which the Material Alteration Arises
	10 Carndonagh - Malin Head	
	11 Carndonagh - Moville	
	12 Moville - Greencastle	
	13 Moville - Muff	
	14 Derry -Carrigans - Lifford	
	15 Dungloe - Glenties	
	16 Letterkenny - Burtonport	
	17 Ballyshannon - Belleek	
	18 Donegal Town - Killybegs	
	19 Donegal Town - Bundoran	
	20 Lifford - Letterkenny	
	21 Lifford - Ballybofey	
	Insert Reference to the National Cycle Manual (National Transport Authority, June 2011) in the list of planning guidance documentation contained under Section 1.1 of Par B: Appendix 3, Development Guidelines and Technica Standards.	1
9	On the proposal of Clir Crawford, seconded by Clir Harley it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 – 2024 and insert a additional bullet at Objective MRCM-O-1 at Section 10.2: Objectives, Chapter 10-The Marine Resource and Coastal Management.	Marine Resource and Coastal Management
	To maximise the social and economic potential of Donegal's marine sector by:	
	<ul> <li>'Supporting the offshore primary production sector of the aquaculture industry, subject to adequate environmental assessments and safeguards being provided to the satisfaction of the Council and to the avoidance of the development giving rise to an overbearing visual impact in the locality in which it is proposed.'</li> </ul>	3
10	On the proposal of Clir L Doherty, seconded by Clin Crawford it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 – 2024 and make a minor adjustment to the settlement framework boundary of Convoy so as to include a parcel of land as shown on the Map contained in Appendix B of this report	Site Specific Zoning Requests

#### Appendix 2 Summary of New Recommendations Arising from Members' Deliberations at Plenary and Municipal District Workshops

It is recommended that the amendments as summarised below and set out in detail in the attached Appendices are added to those amendments considered at Section 1.7 of the Chief Executive's Report of October, 2017

	Issue	Recommendation
1	The Border Area	On the proposal of Clir Mc
	Members requested that the Plan be amended to	Gowan, seconded by Cllr
	provide greater recognition of the Border area.	Crawford it was resolved to
		replace section 1.4 of Chapter 1,
	A draft new Chapter on the border has been drafted	entitled 'The Border Dimension'
	and is attached as Appendix B to the Addendum.	with the following text:
	Inserting the new Chapter requires minor edits at	2
	existing Section 1.4 and this is also addressed in the	
	Recommendation. Vide Appendix 2 (a)	<b>`1.4 The Border Dimension</b>
		Chapter 4 describes the border
		dimension within which this Plan
		has been prepared. The County
		shares 181km of border with
		Northern Ireland (adjoining the
		Councils of Derry City and
		Strabane and; Fermanagh and
		Omagh) and a further 11km of
		border with County Leitrim. It
		has 58 road crossing points to
		Northern Ireland and 7 with
		County Leitrim. The border
		dimension has impacted upon
		and shaped day-to-day social
		and economic activities in
		County Donegal as well as
		higher level strategic policy
		formulation, implementation and
		investment. The impacts of
		Brexit, while yet unknown have
		the potential to result in a
		combination of challenges and
		opportunities and this Plan aims
		to be robust and ready to
		respond to the potential
		outcomes'.
		On the proposal of Clir Mc
		Gowan, seconded by Clir
		Crawford it was resolved to
		insert a new chapter as Chapter
		4, The Border Dimension, as set
		out in Appendix B to this
		Addendum, and subsequently renumber the remainder of
		chapters and referencing
		· · · ·
		system through the plan documents,
		uocuments.
		Responding to Cllr Mc Gowan's
		assertion that the agricultural sector
		had not been properly highlighted
		the Chief Executive reminded

		members that agricultural
		development was generally exempted and that any plans to
		introduce an objective in relation to
		same could create the need for
		more formal regulation.
2	Policy CS-P-5 (Development of Towns In a	On the proposal of Clir Harley,
	Sequential Manner)	seconded by Cllr Murray it was
	A number of Members had raised concerns that a	resolved to materially alter the
	requirement to guide the development of towns in a sequential manner (as expressed under Policy CS-P-5)	Draft Development Plan 2018- 2024 and amend Policy CS-P-5
	may restrict development at the edge of settlements,	so that it reads as follows (new
	particularly smaller settlements, and might otherwise	text in blue):
	lead to confusion in terms of the application of this	-
	policy.	It is a policy of the Council to guide
		development of towns in a
	These comments have been noted and whilst it is	sequential manner, outwards from
	recommended that Policy CS-P-5 be retained, Members will note the recommendation under Section	the core area in order to maximise the utility of existing and future
	1(a.)(iii.)(c) of Appendix A, which clearly provides that	infrastructure provision, promote the
	the sequential approach will not be applicable in the	achievement of sustainability, avoid
	case of small scale business enterprises (excluding	'leap-frogging' to more remote areas
	retail development) of circa 1 to 2 employees.	and to make better use of under-
		utilised land. This policy shall not
		apply to small scale business
		enterprises (excluding retail development) of circa 1 to 5
		employees.
		On the proposal of Cllr Canning,
		seconded by Cllr O' Domhnaill it was resolved to amend policy
		CS-P-5 and include the
		following additional text
		outlined in blue:-
		It is a policy of the Council to guide
		development of towns in a
		sequential manner, outwards from
		the core area in order to maximise the utility of existing and future
		infrastructure provision, promote the
		achievement of sustainability, avoid
		'leap-frogging' to more remote areas
		and to make better use of under-
		utilised land. This policy shall not
		apply to small scale business
		enterprises (excluding retail development) of circa 1 to 5
		employees. Retail development on
		an out-of-centre site will be
		considered only in exceptional
		circumstances where the applicant
		can demonstrate and the planning
		authority is satisfied that there are
		no sites or potential sites either within the centre or on the edge of
		the centre that are (a) suitable, (b)
		available and (c) viable.
		1

3	Policy ED-P-3 (Economic Development Within Designated Settlement Framework Areas and small-scale industrial buildings/processes) A number of Elected Members referred to Policy ED-P- 3 and queried whether small-scale industrial buildings or processes would be permissible in rural areas. In this regard, it is recommended to amend Policy ED- P-3 to clarify that development involving Industrial buildings or processes would be permitted where it meets the terms of Policy ED-P-13 (proposals for businesses in the rural area).	On the proposal of Clir Mc Gowan, seconded by Clir Crawford it was resolved to insert clarification text into Policy ED-P-3 as shown in blue lettering so that it reads as follows: ` Within designated Settlement Framework areas, it is a policy of the Council to consider economic development proposals involving an industrial building or process (as defined in Article 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended) in the following circumstances and subject to the provisions of Policy ED-P- 2 and ED-P-14: On land zoned for such use in this Plan or future Local Area Plans; or in an existing industrial/employment area. Elsewhere within settlement framework areas, proposals for an industrial use or process will be considered only in Layer 1 and Layer 2 settlements, and where it can be demonstrated that: there is no available zoned land or land on an existing industrial area; that the proposal is for a firm rather than speculative proposal; the development would be compatible with the locality; and that the development would make a substantial contribution to the economy of the area.
4	Regional Road R265 (Status Of)	Development involving Industrial buildings or processes, except where the proposed development meets the terms of Policy ED-P-13, will not be permitted outside the boundary of settlements in the open countryside unless related directly to a site specific product resource and the development proposed could not be located in a settlement in line with this policy'. On the proposal of Cllr
	Members had requested that greater recognition be	Crawford, seconded by Cllr G

	given to Regional Road R265 in the CDP. It is recommended to include reference to the R265 in the text of the Plan that relates to the important Regional Road network.	Doherty it was resolved to insert an additional (5 <sup>th</sup> ) bullet point at the end of page 62 (below the text relating to the undernoted Regional Road network) to state as follows: • The R265 from Carrigans to Rossgier. This to reflect the level of use along this particular stretch of road.
5.	<ul> <li>Urban/Rural Public Transport</li> <li>An Elected Member stated that an objective should be included in the Development Plan in relation to urban/rural public transport. This was further referenced by an Elected Member at the Plenary workshop on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017 by means of a request that objective T-O-10 be amended to allow for new rural transport initiative using words such as 'facilitate' or 'maximise' because it reads as though the initiative has to be already in place. Furthermore, an Elected Member outlined that the Plan requires an objective around linking the County's main towns together by public transport as transport hubs and links and indicated intention to propose this at the Council meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017.</li> <li>The comments of Members are acknowledged and the suggested revisions will add value to the Plan. Therefore there are two recommendation set out in the response.</li> </ul>	On the proposal of Clir Kennedy, seconded by Clir O' Domhnaill it was resolved to amend objective T-O-10 so that it reads as follows (new text in blue): 'To support and facilitate the development, maximising of and expansion of existing and new public transport services including the Rural Transport Initiative.' On the proposal of Clir Kennedy, seconded by Clir O' Domhnaill it was resolved to insert a new policy as T-P-30 (and renumber the remaining policies in the section), so that it reads as follows (new text in blue): 'It is the policy of the Council to support public transport hubs and connections between Letterkenny and the Layer 2A Strategic Towns together with appropriate links serving the rest of the County including the rural area.'
6	Greencastle Harbour (Policy Context) An Elected Member sought clarification that Greencastle is included in T-P-20 and T-P-22 and its further development should be included in the National Investment Plan. This was reiterated at the Plenary Workshop on 22nd November 2017 including a request that T-P-20 would ensure a focus on Greencastle in addition to Killybegs. In the light of the comments of Members it is not considered to be material or detrimental to either Killybegs or Greencastle ports to reference both location in T-P-20 and T-P-22 and this is reflected in two recommendations below:	On the proposal of Cllr Farren, seconded by Cllr Canning it was resolved to amend Policy T-P- 20 so that it reads as follows (new text in blue, text for deletion in strikethrough): It is a policy of the Council to promote and facilitate the further development and expansion of Killybegs and Greencastle Harbour Centres as a strategically important commercial and leisure ports, subject to environmental considerations.' On the proposal of Cllr Farren, seconded by Cllr Canning it was resolved to amend Policy T-P- 20 so that it reads as follows (new text in blue): It is a policy of the Council to

		promote and facilitate services at Magheroarty and Burtonport and to strengthen and further develop the strategically important ports of Greencastle and Killybegs.'
7	New Objective re Sustainable Settlement and Transportation Strategies - revised recommendation The Chief Executive's Report, October, 2017 included a recommendation that a new Objective is included in the Plan to reflect a requirement set out in the 'Interim Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Statutory Plans, Renewable Energy and Climate Change' in relation to an obligation on planning authorities under Section 10(2)(n) of the Act. The recommendation was to insert the new Objective at Section 8.2.2 (Renewable Energy Objectives). In the context of a much broader suite of questions raised by a Councillor, it was suggested that this Objective would be more appropriately located elsewhere in the Plan as it has a much broader application that just renewable energy. This suggestion is agreed. The Recommendation in response to Bullet 6, Ref. 4b) in Appendix A proposes that the Objective is relocated to Section 2.10, Core Strategy Objectives. The recommendation is also to move some of the associated narrative to the same location. Finally, the recommendation also proposes the insertion of additional narrative by way of background for the new Objective at Sections Sections 2.1 (Core Strategy, Introduction) and 2.7 (Transportation Strategy).	Revised Recommendation: It was agreed to defer consideration of same to later in the meeting. a. The recommendation at Recommendation 3 in the Chief Executive's Report (October, 2017) to insert a new Objective into the Plan remains. However, rather than insert it into Section 8.2.2 (Renewable Energy Objectives), it is now recommended that the Objective is inserted as Objective CS-0-17 at Section 2.10: 'Core Strategy Objectives'. <b>b(i.)</b> . The recommendation at Recommendation 4 in the Chief Executive's Report (October, 2017) to insert the narrative re: (i.) . the Government's National Renewable Energy Action Plan, 2010; and (ii.) the Government's 'Strategy for Renewable Energy, 2012-2020' at Section 8.2.1 remains; <b>b(ii.)</b> The recommendation remains to insert the narrative re (i.) the Government's White Paper on Energy Policy; and (ii.) the National Mitigation Plan into the Plan. However, rather than insert it into Section 8.2.1, it is now recommended that the narrative is inserted at Section 2.1: Introduction, Core Strategy, together with additional narrative as follows; <b>(1.)</b> Insert additional narrative at Section 2.1, para. 3 after fourth sentence: 'This approach is consistent with the national climate change and decarbonisation agenda underpinning Section 10(2)(n) of the Act and articulated in both: (i.) the Government's White Paper on Energy Policy; and (ii.) the National Mitigation Plan. The Government's White Paper on Energy Policy - Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 (DCENR) sets out a framework to guide policy

		and the actions that it intends to take in the energy sector up to 2030 taking into account European and International climate change objectives and agreements, as well as Irish social, economic and employment priorities. The National Mitigation Plan contains a series of mitigation measures and actions to address the immediate challenge to 2020 and to prepare for the EU targets that Ireland will take on for 2030. The National Mitigation Plan covers greenhouse gas emissions in the Electricity Generation, Built Environment, Transport, and Agriculture, Forest and Land Use sectors. For each sector, the Plan sets out the sectoral policy context, the greenhouse gas emissions trends for each sector, the Plan sets out the sectoral policy context, the greenhouse gas emissions trends for each sector, the opportunities and challenges, mitigation measures currently in place and under development, and specific actions to take forward work within each sector. Notwithstanding, (County Donegal is predominantly a rural) <b>(2.)</b> Insert additional narrative at Section 2.7 (Transportation Strategy) after third sentence: 'Notwithstanding the largely rural character of the County, the current inadequate public transport provision and the associated car- dependencies, the Plan nevertheless incorporates a focus on improving public transport provision (refer Section 5.1.2: Transportation Objectives; and Section 5.1.3: Transportation Policies). Together with the promotion in the Core Strategy of settlements as key drivers of the development of the County, these measures are intended to address the national climate change and decarbonisation agenda as referred to at Section 2.1 above.
8	<b>Ten Times Tip Height - Possible Scenario</b> The final issue arises from consideration of another detailed point made in the Councillor's submission referenced at Pt. 6 above. This relates to the issue of the ten times tip height set-back provision as	Revised Recommendation: It was agreed to defer consideration of same to later in the meeting.

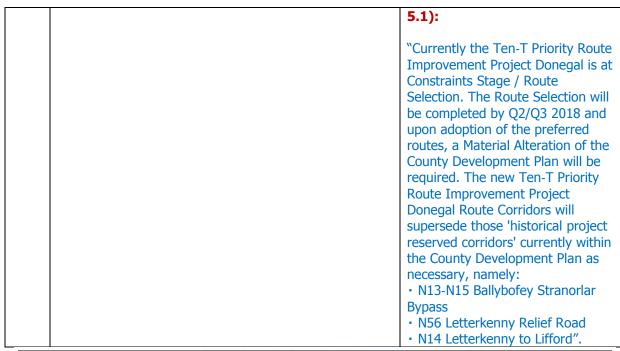
contained in the Technical Standards. The recommendation deals with a scenario that n arise if the Members decide to retain the 10 times height set-back provision but re-locate it from the Technical Standards to a policy in the Renewable	tip (new text in blue and <del>deleted text in</del>
Energy section of the Plan. <b>If this scenario</b> <b>emerges</b> , the recommendation provides suggest wording of the Policy.	ed E-P-12 It is the policy of the Council to: Consider the development of appropriate new wind
	energy developments within the areas identified as 'Open To Consideration' on the Wind Energy Map 8.2.1, subject to compliance with all other relevant objectives and policies contained within this Plan, and where they would not be located within:
	(a) The zone of visual influence (ZVI) of the Glenveagh National Park.
	(b) The zone of influence/flight path at Donegal Airport.
	(c) Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), nor Special Protection
	Areas (SPAs) (d) The 6 Fresh Water Pearl Mussel (S.I. 296 of 2009) catchments contained in the Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub-Basin Management Plans for Clady, Eske, Glaskeelin, Leannan, Owencarrow
	<ul> <li>and Owenea.</li> <li>(e) A set back distance of ten times the tip height of proposed turbines from residential properties and other centres of human habitation ('Centre of human habitation' includes schools, hospitals, churches, residential buildings or buildings used for public assembly).</li> </ul>
	Consider the augmentation, upgrade and improvements of existing wind farm developments of the nature identified at (3) (a.), (b.)

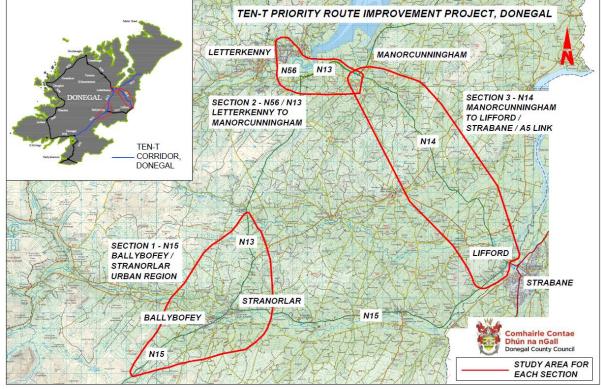
<ul> <li>and (c.) below within areas identified as 'Acceptable for augmentation of/improvements to existing windfarms' on the Wind Energy Map 8.2.1 on a case by case basis subject to:</li> <li>(1.) compliance with other relevant objectives and policies contained within this plan and the following;</li> </ul>
(2.) the proposal not giving rise to any new detrimental impacts on:
(i.) The zone of visual influence (ZVI) of the Glenveagh National Park; and (ii.) The zone of influence/flight path at Donegal Airport
(3.) <b>(a.)Repowering</b> Repowering is the process of replacing older turbines with newer ones that either have a greater capacity or more efficiency which results in a net increase of power generated. Repowering may also seek to extend the overall lifespan of the development. Proposals for repowering, shall not result in a net increase in turbines, and it shall be demonstrated that there is no adverse impact on the receiving environment; or
(b.) <b>Extension</b> In areas located outside of Natura 2000 sites, proposals for an extension to an existing wind farm (of up to 20% in terms of permitted numbers of turbines or in cases where 5 or less turbines are permitted in a wind farm, one

9.	DCC-Owned Housing Sites (Zoning Of) A member expressed concerns around DCC- owned sites being zoned for residential use and equity in relation to other similar requests from the private sector. These concerns are acknowledged and agreed. To avoid any such concerns, it is proposed to amend the zoning of the Council-owned site at Kiltoy, Letterkenny on Map 12.1 B from 'Primarily Residential' to 'Strategic Residential Reserve'.	8.2.1. On the proposal of Clir Blaney, seconded by Clir Kavanagh it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development plan 2018-2024 and amend the zoning of the Council-owned site at Kiltoy, Letterkenny on Map 12.1 B from 'Primarily Residential' to 'Strategic Residential Reserve'.
		additional turbine) will be considered. The proposal will be required to demonstrate that the additional turbines may be served by the infrastructure serving the existing development; or (c.) <b>Reapplication</b> In areas located outside of Natura 2000 sites, where an existing wind farm has been permitted and this permission has expired, a revised proposal will be considered within the planning unit of the previously permitted development, and where it is demonstrated that there is no net increase in turbines. Not favourably consider wind energy proposals in those areas identified as 'Not Acceptable' on the Wind Energy Map

#### 3.0 Additional Items for Consideration

	Issue	Action
a.	TEN-T Network (Review Of)	On the proposal of Cllr
	Pursuant to a submission from the National Roads Office	Crawford, seconded by Cllr
	(NRO), Members are advised that a variation to the	Harley it was resolved to
	County Development Plan is likely to be required in late	include the following text and
	2018, as a result of the formal adoption of the routes	mapping in Section 5.1.1 of
	contained in the TEN-T Priority Route Improvement	the Draft Plan, Strategic
	Project.	Roads Context (new text
		shown in blue, Map numbered





Map 5.1: Ten-T Priority Route Improvement Project, Donegal

C.	<b>Stage 1 Strategic Flood Risk Information (for</b> <b>ease of reference)</b> Recommendation 1 on page 35 of the Chief Executive's Report of October 2017 noted that a Stage 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) would be carried out and presented to Members. This Stage 1 SFRA was provided to Members at the Council meeting of 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2017 and Members will have noted the findings to	<b>Recommendation</b> On the proposal of ClIr A Doherty, seconded by ClIr G Doherty it was noted that this was a background document and did not form part of the Plan though it was subject to minor edits as outlined in
	Liath, Ballybofey-Stranorlar, Ballyshannon, Bridgend, Carndonagh, Donegal Town and Killybegs.	Meeting. Members were advised that tenders had been

	sought for consultants to carry out the Stage 2 SFRA in each of the seven towns addressed in the Draft Seven Strategic Towns Local Area Plan and were due to commence work in early January, 2018.
1	

Appendix B

New Chapter of Draft CDP 2018-2024 – Chapter 4, The Border Dimension

# **Chapter 4** The Border Dimension

#### 4.1 Introduction

As outlined in Chapter 1 (Introduction), the border dimension in relation to County Donegal has impacted on and shaped day-to-day social and economic activities as well as higher level strategic policy formulation, implementation and investment. This plan considers the entire extent of the County as coming within the impacts of the border dimension. The County shares 181km of border with Northern Ireland (adjoining the Councils of Derry City and Strabane and; Fermanagh and Omagh) and a further 11km of border with County Leitrim as well as 65 road crossings which include a number of important strategic transport connections. As the principal statutory land use plan for the County, this plan embraces the border dimension and advocates a regional approach to the development of the North West. It supports a partnership approach with cross border partners in Counties Leitrim and Sligo through the forum of the Northern and Western Regional Assembly and also with the District Councils of Derry City and Strabane and Fermanagh and Omagh through the forum of the North West Strategic Growth Partnership and the North West City Region Initiative.

While there is uncertainty around the potential impacts, challenges and opportunities arising from Brexit, this Plan aims to provide a robust spatial land use planning framework that demonstrates a readiness to appropriately adapt where necessary and to take up opportunities where they present. As outlined in chapter 1, significant consultation and research is being undertaken locally in relation to the potential challenges of Brexit and this is helping to provide an understanding of the macro and micro dynamics of living, working and investing in this border region. This chapter aims to capture some of this information and to restate a number of policy approaches in this Plan that are being provided for within County Donegal.

As a border region that includes County Donegal, the North West is a unique place. It has a significant critical mass of around 410,000 people. It has a young, innovative and skilled population which is supported by quality educational infrastructure and research institutions. It is an entrepreneurial region with vibrancy in SME's and it is attracting the investment of international companies who are tapping into the exceptional quality of life that is on offer.

#### Figure 4.1: Ireland Northwest- The Facts



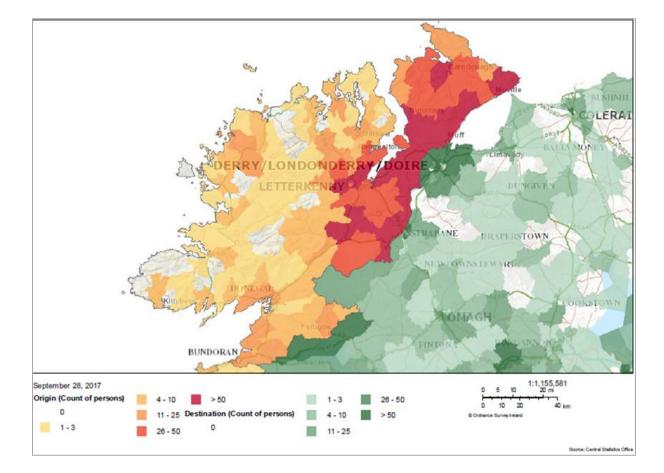
Source: 'Gateway to Growth' brochure, Derry City and Strabane District Council and Donegal County Council, December 2016.

The dynamics of living, working and investing in this border region are cross cutting over a range of themes. The role of the Development Plan is to provide expression and an appropriate planning framework for the land use and planning elements. As the cross cutting areas are diverse as well as impacting the entirety of the geographical area of the County, the responding narrative, objectives and policy are threaded throughout this Plan and therefore integrated into the sectoral chapters of the Plan. For information purposes, section 4.3 restates narrative, objectives and policies that directly relate to the border dimension. It is noted though that this is not an exhaustive list as there may be other more general references that will also have relevance in the border context.

# 4.2 The characteristics of the border dimension

## 4.2.1 Cross Border Commuting

The movement, interactions and activities of the population across and within both sides of the border are quantifiable and provide a clear indicator of the extent to which the population of the North West function on a cross border basis. There are many reasons for the movement and interaction of people, business and goods across the border including access to health, education, entertainment, leisure, social and community facilities, retail activity, access to economic markets and access to international transport hubs as examples. Figure 4.2 illustrates a cross border commuter map for the purposes of work or study. It shows the areas in County Donegal in dark red where there are higher concentrations of persons originating in Donegal and travelling across the land boundary for work and study. This is particularly evident in the east of the County in the Inishowen, Letterkenny and Stranorlar MD's thus demonstrating the intensity of cross border interactions in the areas closest to the border. Furthermore, the area around Derry denotes the destination of large numbers of persons whose journey originates in the ROI.



### Figure 4.2: Cross Border Commuters for Work and Study, 2016 (Source: CSO)

### 4.2.2 Roads Infrastructure

Figure 4.2 (albeit relating to only two of the myriad of reasons for cross-border travels) demonstrates the significant flows of traffic forward and back on the 58 road crossings points that link County Donegal with Northern Ireland. These roads range in status from County, Regional and National roads and their ongoing maintenance and upgrade as necessary requires a coordinated approach in terms of design, prioritisation and funding mechanisms. The network of cross border roads provides the backbone through which day-to-day journeys are carried out and also provides for the critical strategic access to and from the region and to international transport hubs and onwards to global markets. Critical cross border projects include the TEN-T network, the A5 and the A6.

Specific road crossing points are identifiable where the intensity of cross border activity is even more evidenced. The Northern Ireland Department of Regional Development's telemetric data counts on traffic movements per week and per day shows the intensity of cross border activities at three key routes namely at Derry/Bridgend, Derry/Muff and Strabane/Lifford<sup>1</sup> (Table 4.1 refers). This evidences the high levels of cross border interactions that are occurring across the region in many areas of social and economic life.

# RouteTraffic Movement (per week)Traffic Movement (per work day)Derry- Bridgend134,86319,266Derry- Muff71,14510,164Strabane- Lifford120,56917,224Total no. of journeys326,57746,654

### Table 4.1: Total Traffic Movement per week and day per route- DRD 2015 Telemetric Data

### Total Traffic Movement per week and day per route- DRD 2015 Telemetric Data

(Source: 'Initial Analysis of the Challenges and Opportunities of Brexit for the Derry City & Strabane and Donegal County Council Area- The North West City Region,' DCC & DCSDC, February 2017).

### 4.2.3 Trade

Cross-border trade at a local level is an important element of the local economy and reflects a level of economic integration in the North West particularly at locations closer to the border. The DCC and DCSDC Report, Initial Analysis of the Challenges and Opportunities of Brexit' outlines that the Inter TradeIreland Business Monitor records that 34% of firms in the DC&SDC area and 38% of Donegal's are engaged in cross-border trade compared to 25% on the island as a whole. This affirms the interconnectedness on both sides of the border in the context of trade. In the context of Brexit, the 'Initial Analysis of the Challenges and Opportunities of Brexit' report identifies that the Agri-food sector is a key sector on both sides of the border and is one of the most dominant sectors in cross-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: 'Initial Analysis of the Challenges and Opportunities of Brexit for the Derry City & Strabane and Donegal County Council Area - The North West City Region,' published by Donegal County Council and Derry City & Strabane District Council, February 2017.

border trade, together with chemicals and building materials, all of which were among the sectors which the Irish Government found were at highest risk from Brexit in their analysis.

### 4.2.4 Retail

The retail sector in County Donegal accounts for in the region of 16% employment. In the border context, the sector is vulnerable to fluctuations in Euro-Sterling exchange rate with significant levels of South-to-North cross-border shopping flows at present. This Plan advocates the primacy of town centres in County Donegal as the core areas for retail and other mixed use development and advocates for their strengthening. It also recognises that the physical environment is critical in improving the visitor experience with particular focus on the County's heritage assets as providing opportunities to create positive, attractive and high quality urban spaces.

### 4.2.5 Foreign Direct Investment- Locational considerations

The 'Initial Analysis of the Challenges and Opportunities of Brexit' report notes the importance of access to the Single Market in locational choices for investors and identifies the resultant opportunity for County Donegal as an attractive alternative to the UK. Border locations including strategic towns such as Ballyshannon, Donegal Town, Ballybofey-Stranorlar, Lifford, Bridgend and Buncrana are strategically located to take advantage of such opportunities and to this end the appropriate supply of strategic economic development lands have been identified through this Plan or through the relevant Local Area Plan.

### 4.2.6 Community

Having regard to the evidence in relation to cross border movements, communities are interacting on both an economic level and on a community level and through this, communities are 'identifying' with both sides of the border. This occurs because the needs of individuals, such as employment, sport and recreation, leisure and shopping as examples, are generally being satisfied by a combination of suppliers on both sides of the border. In this context, there is a clear role for a place based strategy, jurisdictional cooperation and joined up planning.

### 4.2.7 Education

Significant collaboration occurs in relation to skills and training on a cross border basis. The University of Ulster at Magee, the Letterkenny Institute of Technology and the North West Regional College provide high quality learning environments. Significant progress has been made through facilities such as the Regional Science Park complexes in Derry (North West Regional Science Park) and in Letterkenny (Co-Lab). Further collaboration is essential in order to remain competitive, adopt a joined up approach to attracting students to each campus and to develop prospective and aligned approaches to service the needs of existing and emerging industries. The collaborative and cross border approach strengthens the skills capacity in the region, offers greater opportunity for learning and, is attractive to inward investment in terms of the supply of a skilled population.

### 4.2.8 Health

Advancement in sustainability and equality of health provision is being achieved in the North West through a shared cross- border population catchment. It is an approach to counter peripherality and is central in terms of improving quality of life and improving services to the citizen. It provides for joint development/ investment in shared services with the potential for the provision of speciality care and supporting better health outcomes for citizens. Health care provision occurs in the North West through Letterkenny University Hospital, Altnagelvin Area Hospital and the South West Acute Hospital in Enniskillen and through the establishment of the Donegal Clinical and Research Academy which aims to progress innovation and collaboration in education, research and service.

### 4.2.9 Tourism

County Donegal evidences a successful and strengthening tourism sector accounting for three times as many visitors as DC&SDC. Substantial work to develop visitor attractions, visitor experience and accommodation is continuing including full engagement in the promotional and marketing strategy of

the WAW. The improvement of connectivity, including cross-border greenways is important in supporting visitor access to the region.

### 4.2.10 EU Funding

The strong collaborative cross-border partnerships in the North West have leveraged essential EU funding between DCC and DC&SDC, and other stakeholders including businesses and the community sector. This approach has provided for the achievement of mutually beneficial projects of economic and community importance through the Peace and INTERREG programmes. In particular, it has provided support for the diverse community and cultural sectors in the region which is an important component in place-making and place-based leadership strategies.

### 4.2.11 Currency

As an external factor, beyond the remit of land use planning, currency fluctuations in the Euro-Sterling exchange rate have always been a factor in determining economic activities along the length of the County's border with Northern Ireland. This is particularly evident in relation to SME's and shopping activity. Dependant on the direction of benefit from the exchange rate, the physical impacts are evident through fluctuations in development pressures including intermittent vacancy and dereliction at border locations and the associated land, infrastructure and environmental requirements.

# 4.3 Restatement of narrative, objectives and policies of direct relevance to the border dimension

As outlined in section 4.1, the dynamics of living, working and investing in this border region are cross cutting over a range of themes and therefore the narrative, objectives and policy with direct relevance to the border dimension are threaded through the sectoral chapters of the Plan. For information purposes, the following pages restate narrative, objectives and policies that directly relate to the border dimension. It is noted though that this is not an exhaustive list as there may be other more general references that will also have relevance in the border context.

Chapter, section	Summary of border related extract
Chapter 1: Introduction & vision; section 1.1	Describing the relationship of the County with its border authorities
Chapter 1: Introduction & vision; section 1.2 (The National Planning Framework)	Cross border theme in the context of the National Planning Framework to undertake a place based approach to accelerate sustainable growth.
Chapter 1: Introduction & vision; section 1.4 (Border Dimension)	Identifies the border dimension as having impacted on day-to-day activities of the border population and on local and strategic level policy approaches.
Chapter 1: Introduction & vision; section 1.5 (Current Economic Climate)	The collaborative local level response to Brexit and associated greater imperative to ensure key, regionally significant growth priorities are realised such as the A5 and A6.

Chapter 2: Core Strategy; section 2.1 (Introduction)	Refers to the unique nature of the border area and its associated population change and underlines the spatial inter-dependencies between north and south which are more relevant in the context of Brexit.	
Chapter 2: Core Strategy; section 2.3.3 (Strategic Towns)	Refers to the identification of Strategic Towns and importance of strengthen these towns.	
Chapter 2: Core Strategy; Figure 2.3 (The Settlement Structure)	Map indentifies the spatial distribution of Strategic towns in the settlement structure and border locations can be identified.	
Chapter 2: Core Strategy; section 2.7 (Transportation Strategy)	Refers to transportation requirements and priorities including key routes in the border context such as A5, A6, TEN-T Network and the N14 Letterkenny to Lifford route.	
Chapter 2: Core Strategy; section 2.10 (Core Strategy Objectives); page 21	<b>CS-O-2</b> : To assert County Donegal as having a key role in the context of the North West City Region and within the area of the Northern & Western Regional Assembly.	
	<b>CS-O-9</b> : To coordinate and promote the delivery of key roads and access infrastructure (including the A5 Western Transport Corridor and A6 road projects, the Ten- T Network, Letterkenny Relief Road and the N14 Letterkenny/ Lifford road) with the other relevant authorities including partners in the North West Strategic Growth Partnership and within the Northern & Western Regional Assembly so as to result in effective strategic connections to and throughout the County.	
	CS-O-10:	
	To prioritise investment in key strategic connections between Letterkenny and the Strategic Towns together with links to transport corridors serving the rest of the County.	

Chapter, section	Summary of border related extract	
	<b>CS-O-11</b> :	
	To support economic growth throughout the county through:	
	(f) The identification and harnessing of opportunities arising from the impact of Brexit for new economic investment particularly within the border region.	
	CS-O-15:	
	To prepare Local Area Plans in respect of Letterkenny and the Strategic Towns identified in Layer 2A, together with Settlement Framework Plans for the towns in Layer 2.	
Chapter 3: Towns and	Outlines the 6 common themes of existing or potential special	
Villages; section 3.2	economic functions that cut across the 'Strategic Towns' including:	
	<ol> <li>Tourism and the Wild Atlantic Way;</li> <li>Built and archaeological heritage;</li> <li>The Irish language;</li> <li>Sport and recreation;</li> <li>Cross border location and;</li> </ol>	
Chapter 3: Towns and Villages; Table 3.2	<ol> <li>The marine.</li> <li>Outlines the initial reasons for identification of 'Strategic Towns', Performing 'Special Economic Functions.' Border location identified as a theme in relation to Ballybofey- Stranorlar, Lifford and Bridgend.</li> </ol>	
Chapter 3: Towns and Villages; section 3.4	TV-O-1:	
(Objectives) TV-O-1	To support initiatives for renewal and regeneration of County Donegal's towns and villages with a particular focus on 'Strategic Towns' identified as Layer 2 in the settlement structure.	
Chapter 3: Towns and Villages; section 3.5	TV-P-1	
(Policies); TV-P-1	It is the policy of the Council to encourage proposals aimed at harnessing particular 'Special Economic Functions' of the County's 'Strategic Towns' subject to other policies of this Plan including Part C and subject to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.	

Chapter, section	Summary of border related extract		
Chapter 5: Economic Development; section 5.1.1; Regional Context	Refers to potential challenges and opportunities arising from Brexit.		
Chapter 5: Economic Development; section 5.1.2;	ED-O-1		
(objectives)	To facilitate cross-border collaboration and to enable and sustain regional economic, cultural and social development opportunities.		
	<b>ED-O-2:</b> nsure that sufficient land is provided at appropriate locations for employment generating uses and that such land will be protected from inappropriate development that would prejudice its long-term		
	development.		
	ED-O-3:		
	To facilitate and direct appropriate employment generating developments into the Gateway centre of Letterkenny and the Strategic Support Towns, and to support the economic development of smaller towns and villages throughout the county.		
	ED-O-5:		
	To promote appropriate rural economic development by encouraging diversification that supports the growth of emerging rural enterprises functionally related to the countryside.		
	ED-O-11:		
	To support the border region for economic development and enterprise by maximising on the potential and opportunities arising from Brexit.		
Chapter 5: Economic Development; section 5.1.4;	ED-P-15:		
(policies)	It is a policy of the Council to facilitate appropriate economic development within the border region where the infrastructure is available or has the capacity.		
Chapter 6: Infrastructure; section 6.1.1; (background)	Refers to connectivity in the border region and the importance of the regional road network in providing access to all areas of the county.		
Chapter 6: Infrastructure; section 6.1.1; (background); Strategic Roads Context	Refers to the importance of the TEN-T Network in relation to:		
	<ul> <li>the N15 road from Bundoran and on to Donegal Town and to Ballybofey/Stranorlar;</li> </ul>		

Chapter, section	Summary of border related extract	
	<ul> <li>the N13 Ballybofey/Stranorlar to Letterkenny to Bridgend road (and Derry via the A6); and</li> <li>the N14 Letterkenny to Lifford road (and Strabane via the A5)</li> </ul>	
	In relation to the N15 Ballybofey/ Stranorlar to Lifford Road, states the following:	
	<ul> <li>The N15 Ballybofey/Stranorlar to Lifford road, whilst not on the TEN-T network, provides another vital element of the strategic road network in the east of the county.</li> </ul>	
	Also refers to the importance of these routes as providing critical connectivity both:	
	<ul> <li>to Dublin and the south-east (via the N14 and A5 roads); and to the broader North-West City Region area (with Derry via the N13/A6 route; and with Strabane via the N14/A5 route); and</li> <li>along much of the length of the County and to the south and the broader North-Western Regional Assembly area, and Atlantic Corridor area (via the N15 and N13 roads)</li> </ul>	
Chapter 6: Infrastructure; section 6.1.2; (Objectives)	<b>T-O-1:</b> To deliver the Trans European Transport Network (TEN-T), (as required by EU Regulation (EU) No.315/2013 "Guidelines for the development of the <i>Trans European Transport Network</i> (Ten-T)") as part of the core and comprehensive transport network of Ireland.	
	<b>T-O-2</b> : To achieve quality strategic and important inter-urban transport corridors giving access to regional and international markets with links to sea, air and rail.	
	<b>T-O-3:</b> To provide for high quality connectivity within the County in line with the Core Strategy through the promotion of a quality Strategic Road Network as identified on Map 6.1.2.	
	<b>T-O-4:</b> To deliver optimum accessibility, ease of movement and to facilitate appropriate proposals for modal shift.	
Chapter 6: Infrastructure; section 5.1.3; (Policies)	<b>T-P-19:</b> It is a policy of the Council to support and promote City of Derry airport as an important strategic cross border infrastructure asset for east Donegal.	
Chapter 9: Natural Resource Development; section 9.2.2; (objectives)	<b>E-O-2:</b> To facilitate the strengthening of the electricity grid to enable the harnessing and distribution of energy. The Council will support transboundary and trans-national interconnectors to enable the exporting of energy outside of the County.	

Chapter, section	Summary of border related extract	
Chapter 9: Natural Resource Development; section 9.2.3; (policies)	<b>E-P-1:</b> It is policy of the Council to facilitate the development of grid reinforcements including grid connections and transboundary energy network (Electricity and gas) into and through the County and between all adjacent counties and to support the development of cross border grid connections, subject to other objectives and policies of this Plan.	
Chapter 10: Tourism; section 10.1.2; (objectives)	<ul> <li><b>TOU-O-8:</b></li> <li>To support the development of and protect the functionality of key tourism access infrastructure into and throughout the county such as roads infrastructure (including the A5 Dublin to Derry Road, the Atlantic Corridor and the N56), Air Infrastructure (including Donegal Airport, City of Derry Airport, and Knock/Ireland West Airport) and Sea access (including port infrastructure at Killybegs and ferry infrastructure throughout the County).</li> <li><b>TOU-O-15:</b></li> <li>To collaborate with relevant tourism bodies and local authorities in Northern Ireland to unlock the full tourism potential of the North West cross border region.</li> </ul>	
Chapter 10: Tourism; section 10.1.3; (policies)	<b>TOU-P-8:</b> It is a policy of the Council to; facilitate the development of, to protect and enhance the functionality of, and improve access to, both Donegal Airport and City of Derry Airport.	
Chapter 12: Community, Culture and the Gaeltacht; section 12.2 (policies)	<b>CCG-P-7:</b> It is a policy of the Council to facilitate the appropriate expansion of education and research facilities by third level institutions especially in regard to innovations in biotechnology, renewable energy and cross border linkages with the third level providers in Northern Ireland subject to the availability of necessary infrastructure, any environmental designations and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.	

# Appendix 3 - Member's Submissions

Source	Amendment	Proposed and seconded by
	DONEGAL MD	
Cllr. Niamh Kennedy	To amend the Draft CDP include an objective to pursue a coastal greenway from Killybegs via Donegal town to Bundoran as set out in the submission of Cllr Kennedy to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of ClIr Kennedy seconded by ClIr Jordan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 and include an objective to pursue a coastal greenway from Killybegs via Donegal town to Bundoran as set out in the submission of ClIr Kennedy to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr. Niamh Kennedy	That policy T-P-4 (Access to National and Regional Roads) be amended as it is restrictive for farm / land owners and locals with no other lands available for them to build a family home and as set out in the submission of Cllr Kennedy to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of ClIr Kennedy seconded by ClIr Jordan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 and that policy T-P-4 (Access to National and Regional Roads) be amended as it is restrictive for farm / land owners and locals with no other lands available for them to build a family home as set out in the submission of ClIr Kennedy to the adjourned meeting
Cllr. Niamh Kennedy	That a statement be included in the amended plan to refer to Fintra Bridge in the following text, 'Important infrastructural projects need to be delivered such as Logues Bridge, Fintra Bridge on R263, Ballybofey and the link road between Glenfin Road and Donegal Road, Ballybofey and the Pettigo Road' and as set out in the submission of Cllr Kennedy to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy seconded by Cllr Jordan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 and include a statement in the amended plan to refer to Fintra Bridge as per the following text:- Important infrastructural projects need to be delivered such as Logues Bridge, Fintra Bridge on R263, Ballybofey and the link road between Glenfin Road and Donegal Road, Ballybofey and the Pettigo Road' as set out in the submission of Cllr Kennedy to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr. Noel Jordan	To amend Policy MRCM-P-1 to include Inver Pier as set out in the submission of Cllr Jordan to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Clir Jordan, seconded by Clir Kennedy it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 and amend amend Policy MRCM-P-1 to include Inver Pier as set out in the

Source	Amendment	Proposed and seconded by
		submission of Cllr Jordan to the adjourned meeting
	Glenties MD	
Cllr. Marie T Gallagher	To extend the town boundary of Glenties as set out in the submission of Cllr Gallagher to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of ClIr O' Domhnaill, seconded by ClIr Slowey it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundary of Glenties as set out in the submission of ClIr Gallagher to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr. Marie T Gallagher	To extend the town boundaries of Burtonport as set out in the submission of Cllr Gallagher to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr O' Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr Slowey it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundaries of Burtonport as set out in the submission of Cllr Gallagher to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr. Marie T Gallagher	To extend the town boundaries of Ardara as set out in the submission of Cllr Gallagher to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr O' Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr Slowey it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundaries of Ardara as set out in the submission of Cllr Gallagher to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr. Marie T Gallagher	To extend the town boundaries of Bunbeg-Derrybeg as set out in the submission of Cllr Gallagher to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr O' Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr Mac Giolla Easbuig it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundaries of Bunbeg-Derrybeg as set out in the submission of Cllr Gallagher to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr. Marie T Gallagher	To extend the town boundaries of Anagary as set out in the submission of Cllr MacGiolla Easbuig to the adjourned meeting including that the coastal area be identified for protection as shown in the submission of Cllr Gallagher.	On the proposal of Cllr Mac Giolla Easbuig seconded by, Cllr O' Domhnaill it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so to extend the town boundaries of Annagry and as set out in the

Source	Amendment	Proposed and seconded by
		submission of Cllr MacGiolla Easbuig to the adjourned meeting including that the coastal area be identified for protection as shown in the submission of Cllr Gallagher
Cllr Seamus O ´Domhnaill	To extend the town boundaries of Falcarragh as set out in the submission of Cllr O'Domhnaill to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr O' Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr Mac Giolla Easbuig it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundaries of Falcarragh as set out in the submission of Cllr O'Domhnaill to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr Seamus O´Domhnaill	To extend the town boundaries of Gortahork as set out in the submission of Cllr O'Domhnaill to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr O' Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr Mac Giolla Easbuig it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundaries of Gortahork as set out in the submission of Cllr O'Domhnaill to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr Seamus O´Domhnaill	To extend the town boundaries of Creeslough as set out in the submission of Cllr O'Domhnaill to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr O' Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr Mac Giolla Easbuig it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundaries of Creeslough as set out in the submission of Cllr O'Domhnaill to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr Seamus O´Domhnaill	To extend the town boundaries of Dunfanaghy as set out in the submission of Cllr O'Domhnaill to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr O' Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr Mac Giolla Easbuig it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundaries of Dunfanaghy as set out in the submission of Cllr O'Domhnaill to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr Seamus O´Domhnaill	To extend the town boundaries of Loughanure as set out in the submission of Cllr O'Domhnaill to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr O' Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr Mac Giolla Easbuig it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundaries of Loughanure as set out in the submission of Cllr O'Domhnaill to the adjourned meeting.

Source	Amendment	Proposed and seconded by
	INISHOWEN MD	
Cllr Paul Canning	<ul> <li>Note: The Elected Members acknowledged that this proposal had been superseded by the agreed text in respect of Policy CS-P-5 that arose during their consideration of Amendment number 2 in the Addendum document.</li> <li>Proposed addition to CS-P-5 as follows;</li> <li>"And to cater where Retail development on an out-of-centre site is being proposed, only in exceptional circumstances where the applicant can demonstrate and the planning authority is satisfied that there are no sites or potential sites either within the centre of a city, town or designated district centre or on the edge of the city/town/district centre that are (a) suitable (b) available and (c) viable, can that out-of-centre site be considered"</li> </ul>	
Cllr Paul Canning	To amend policy UB-P-5 to add the following additional text: "And to cater Where Residential development on an out-of- centre site is being proposed, only in exceptional circumstances where the applicant can demonstrate and the planning authority is satisfied that there are no sites or potential sites either within the centre of a city, town or designated district centre or on the edge of city/town/district centre that are ( <b>a</b> ) <b>suitable (b</b> ) <b>available</b> and ( <b>c</b> ) <b>viable</b> , can that out-of-centre site be considered" <b>Material</b>	On the proposal of ClIr Canning, seconded by ClIr Farren it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to amend policy UB- P-5 to add the following additional text: "And to cater Where Residential development on an out- of-centre site is being proposed, only in exceptional circumstances where the applicant can demonstrate and the planning authority is satisfied that there are no sites or potential sites either within the centre of a city, town or designated district centre or on the edge of city/town/district centre that are (a) suitable (b) available and (c) viable, can that out-of-centre site be considered"
Cllr Paul Canning	Members noted the proposed alteration to T-P-4 as set out below but decided in lieu to include a commitment in the Plan to	On the proposal of Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr Farren, members noted the proposal from Cllr Canning to amend

Source	Amendment	Proposed and seconded by
	member's workshops in relation to the implementation of this policy. For information, Cllr Canning's proposed alterations stated to amend T-P-4 so that it reads as follows:	T-P-4 and resolved not to adopt same. They resolved however to include a commitment in the Plan to hold member's workshops in relation to the implementation of this policy.
	"It is a policy of the Council: Not to permit developments requiring new accesses onto National Roads where the speed limit is greater than 60 kph or roads treated to National Roads Standards namely (Map 5.1.3 refers):	
	• R238 Bridgend-Buncrana Road (where the speed limit is greater than 60 kph)	
	Notwithstanding the foregoing, in exceptional circumstances, developments of national and regional strategic importance may be considered where the locations concerned have specific characteristics that make them particularly suitable for the developments proposed, subject to such developments being provided for through the Local Area Plan or Development Plan making process, including in consultation with the TII.	
Cllr Paul Canning	Note: Members decided to defer consideration of the following proposed amendment as it related to wind energy but did subsequently come back to it.	It was agreed to defer this item until later in the meeting.
	For information, Cllr Canning's proposed addition to E-P-12 (a) was as follows; "In such specific cases of repowering, proposals may be permitted upon adjoining lands designated as 'not acceptable' for wind energy (Map 8.2.1) solely on the basis that such proposals are related to the repowering of an existing windfarm designated as 'Acceptable for augmentation of improvement to existing windfarms"	

Source	Amendment	Proposed and seconded by
Cllr Paul Canning	To extend the town boundaries of Carrigans as set out in the submission of Cllr Canning to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr Brogan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundaries of Carrigans as set out in the submission of Cllr Canning to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr Paul Canning	To extend the town boundaries of Muff as set out in the submission of Cllr Canning to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr Brogan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundaries of Muff as set out in the submission of Cllr Canning to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr Paul Canning	To extend the town boundaries of Raphoe as set out in the submission of Cllr Canning to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr Brogan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundaries of Raphoe as set out in the submission of Cllr Canning to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr Paul Canning	To extend the town boundaries of Bunbeg-Derrybeg as set out in the submission of Cllr Canning to the adjourned meeting.	Cllr Canning noted that a previous amendment agreed earlier in the meeting in respect of Bunbeg-Derrybeg covered the area within his own proposal.
Cllr Paul Canning	To extend the town boundaries of Manorcunningham as set out in the submission of Cllr Canning to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr Brogan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundaries of Manorcunningham as set out in the submission of Cllr Canning to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr Paul Canning	To extend the town boundaries of Killea as set out in the submission of Cllr Canning to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr Brogan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town boundaries of Killea as set out in the submission of Cllr Canning to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr Nicholas Crossan	To amend the land use zoning map for Buncrana so as to re- zone an area of 2.287 hectares of land at Clonbeg, Tullyarvan,	On the proposal of Cllr Crossan, seconded by Cllr Canning it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County

Source	Amendment	Proposed and seconded by
	Buncrana, from 'Strategic Residential Reserve' to 'Residential Phase 1' as set out in the submission of Cllr Crossan to the adjourned meeting.	Development Plan 2018 -2024 and amend the land use zoning map for Buncrana so as to re-zone an area of 2.287 hectares of land at Clonbeg, Tullyarvan, Buncrana, from 'Strategic Residential Reserve' to 'Residential Phase 1' as set out in the submission of Cllr Crossan to the adjourned meeting.
		Mr Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner advised the meeting that the proposed rezoning was a matter that could be more appropriately addressed in the preparation of the Local Area Plan for Buncrana rather than at this stage in the review of the CDP.
Cllr Nicholas Crossan	To amend the land use zoning map for Buncrana so as to rezone a parcel of land off the Cockhill Road from "Amenity / Recreation" back to its original zoning of "Established Development" or to "Residential" as set out in the submission of Cllr Crossan to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr Crossan, seconded by Cllr Canning it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 and amend the land use zoning map for Buncrana so as to rezone a parcel of land off the Cockhill Road from "Amenity / Recreation" to "Residential" as set out in the submission of Cllr Crossan to the adjourned meeting.
		Mr Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner informed members that the that the proposed rezoning was a matter that could be more appropriately addressed in a comprehensive manner through the preparation of the Local Area Plan for Buncrana rather than at this stage in the review of the CDP.
Cllr. Martin Farren	The existing historic pathway from Bath Green to Moville Pier to be scheduled as a Right of Way in the CDP and so listed in Table 18 Appendix 3 and also included in the Rights of Way Map in Map 01 Appendix 3 (see attached map denoted 'Proposed ROW' and photos detailing proposed ROW)	Cllr Farren proposed, seconded by Cllr Murray that Donegal County Council, having regard to its legal advices including on process, take steps to invoke the provisions of Section 14 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 with respect to the inclusion in the Development Plan (subject to proper process), specific reference to public rights of way on the shorefront in Moville.

Source	Amendment	Proposed and seconded by
Cllr. Martin Farren	<ul> <li>Note: Anne Marie, this one relates to the same area as per the previous row and was dealt with as a result of Cllr Farren's motion.</li> <li>The car park at Moville Pier (see attached map denoted 'car park', with subject area highlighted green) which was constructed by the OPW on behalf of Donegal County Council 1976 to be given Open Access/Public amenity designation and for Donegal County Council to undertake to secure these lands for public use.</li> </ul>	Cllr Farren proposed, seconded by Cllr Murray that Donegal County Council, having regard to its legal advices including on process, take steps to invoke the provisions of Section 14 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 with respect to the inclusion in the Development Plan (subject to proper process), specific reference to public rights of way on the shorefront in Moville.
Cllr. Martin Farren	To amend the CDP to rezone land at Culineen, Redcastle from 'open countryside' to 'multiple residential development' as requested in public submission 206 and as set out in the submission of Cllr Farren to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr Farren, seconded by Cllr Murray it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 and rezone land at Culineen, Redcastle from 'open countryside' to 'multiple residential development' as requested in public submission 206 and as set out in the submission of Cllr Farren to the adjourned meeting.
Cllr. Bernard McGuinness	To amend the CDP to make provision for social housing adjacent to National Schools as set out in the submission of Cllr McGuinness to the adjourned council meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr Mc Guinness, seconded by Cllr A Doherty it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 and amend the CDP to make provision for social housing adjacent to National Schools as set out in the submission of Cllr McGuinness to the adjourned council meeting.
Cllr. Bernard McGuinness	To amend the Draft CDP to ensure the Inishowen coastal route is included as set out in the submission of Cllr McGuinness to the adjourned council meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr Mc Guinness, seconded by Cllr A Doherty it was resolved to amend the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to ensure that the Inishowen coastal route is included as set out in the submission of Cllr McGuinness to the adjourned council meeting.
Cllr. Bernard McGuinness	Cllr McGuniness proposed that the plan should not prevent the development of mobile homes for permanent use by emigrants	Mr Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner said that this was an implementation matter and could be further considered at

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	as set out in the submission of Cllr McGuiness to the adjourned council meeting.	the Members workshop on the implementation of the plan. Members were in agreement with this approach.
Cllr. Bernard McGuinness	Cllr McGuinness raised issues around the interpretation of ribbon development as set out in the submission of Cllr McGuinness to the adjourned meeting.	Mr Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner said that this was an implementation matter and could be further considered at the Members workshop on the implementation of the plan. Members were in agreement with this approach.
Cllr. Bernard McGuinness	Cllr McGuinness said that roads should be categorised and that a traffic count survey should not be necessary on all roads and even cul-de-sacs as set out in the submission of Cllr McGuinness to the adjourned meeting.	Mr Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner said that this was an implementation matter and could be further considered at the Members workshop on the implementation of the plan. Members were in agreement with this approach.
Cllr. Bernard McGuinness	Cllr McGuinness referred to the need for house design to change to reflect 21 <sup>st</sup> century as set out in the submission of Cllr McGuinness to the adjourned meeting.	Mr Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner said that this was an implementation matter and could be further considered at the Members workshop on the implementation of the plan. Members were in agreement with this approach.
	Cllr Mc Guinness raised issues in relation to the interpretation of piecemeal development and queried what constituted piecemeal development.	Mr Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner said that this was an implementation matter and could be further considered at the Members workshop on the implementation of the plan. Members were in agreement with this approach.
Cllr. Gerry Crawford	To amend the CDP by amending the notation on map 15.17, Lifford to read (new text in blue): 'The opportunity site has potential for mixed use development including proposals of an economic and employment generating nature. Use for a social nature including healthcare and nursing	On the proposal of Cllr Crawford, seconded By Cllr G Doherty it was resolved to amend Draft County Development Plan 2017- 2028 so that the notation on map 15.17, Lifford reads as follows:(new text in blue): 'The opportunity site has potential for mixed use

Source	Amendment	Proposed and seconded by
	home facilities should also be considered. A masterplan for the overall broad layout of land use types within the site shall be required and all other objectives and policies of this plan shall apply.'	development including proposals of an economic and employment generating nature. Use for a social nature including healthcare and nursing home facilities should also be considered. A masterplan for the overall broad layout of land use types within the site shall be required and all other objectives and policies of this plan shall apply.'
Cllr. Liam Doherty	To amend the CDP to identify the area of public submissions P108, P179 and P186 at Altnapaste to 'open to Consideration' for wind energy as set out in the submission of Cllr L. Doherty to the adjourned meeting.	This item was subsequently dealt with under the heading of Renewable Energy.
Cllrs. G. Crawford, G. Doherty, L. Doherty, M. Harley and P. McGowan	To extend the town centre boundary and settlement boundary of Lifford as set out in the submission of Cllrs G. Crawford, G. Doherty, L. Doherty, M. Harley and P. McGowan to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Clir G Doherty, seconded by Clir Mc Gowan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the town centre boundary and settlement boundary of Lifford as set out in the submission of Clirs G. Crawford, G. Doherty, L. Doherty, M. Harley and P. McGowan to the adjourned meeting.
Cllrs. G. Crawford, G. Doherty, L. Doherty, M. Harley and P. McGowan	To extend the settlement boundary of Castlefinn as set out in the submission of ClIrs G. Crawford, G. Doherty, L. Doherty, M. Harley and P. McGowan to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr G Doherty, seconded by Cllr Mc Gowan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the settlement boundary of Castlefinn as set out in the submission of Cllrs G. Crawford, G. Doherty, L. Doherty, M. Harley and P. McGowan to the adjourned meeting.
Cllrs. G. Crawford, G. Doherty, L. Doherty, M. Harley and P. McGowan	To extend the settlement boundary of Killygordon as set out in the submission of ClIrs G. Crawford, G. Doherty, L. Doherty, M. Harley and P. McGowan to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of ClIr G Doherty, seconded by ClIr Mc Gowan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the settlement boundary of Killygordon as set out in the submission of ClIrs G. Crawford, G. Doherty, L. Doherty, M. Harley and P. McGowan to the adjourned meeting.

Source	Amendment	Proposed and seconded by
Cllrs. G. Crawford, G. Doherty, L. Doherty, M. Harley and P. McGowan	To extend the settlement boundary of St Johnston as set out in the submission of Cllrs G. Crawford, G. Doherty, L. Doherty, M. Harley and P. McGowan to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of ClIr G Doherty, seconded by ClIr Mc Gowan it was resolved to materially alter the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to extend the settlement boundary of St Johnston as set out in the submission of ClIrs G. Crawford, G. Doherty, L. Doherty, M. Harley and P. McGowan to the adjourned meeting.
P. McGowan	To include the road from Ballybofey to Crossroads Village to Ringsend, Castlefinn to Clady as a strategically important road in County Donegal as set out in the submission of Cllr Mc Gowan to the adjourned meeting.	On the proposal of Cllr Mc Gowan, seconded by Cllr Doherty it was resolved to amend the Draft County Development Plan 2018 -2024 so as to include the road from Ballybofey to Crossroads Village to Ringsend, Castlefinn to Clady as a strategically important road in County Donegal as set out in the submission of Cllr Mc Gowan to the adjourned meeting.