

**MINUTES OF MAY MEETING OF DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON 29<sup>TH</sup>  
MAY, 2023 IN THE COUNTY HOUSE, LIFFORD**

C/134/23

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cllrs L. Blaney, Cathaoirleach, K. Bradley, C. Brogan, P. Canning, T. Conaghan, D. Coyle, G. Crawford, N. Crossan, T. Crossan, A. Doherty, G Doherty, L Doherty, R Donaghey, M Farren, MT Gallagher, M. Harley, N Jordan, D.M. Kelly, N. Kennedy, M Mc Clafferty, M. Mc Dermott, N. Mc Garvey, P McGarvey, P. McGowan, M. Mc Mahon, G. Mc Monagle, A. Molloy, J Murray, and J. S Ó Fearraigh.  
*Online:* Cllrs J Kavanagh, M Mac Giolla Easbuig, M McBride, J McGuinness, M Naughton, and B Sweeny.

C/135/23

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE**

John G McLaughlin, Chief Executive, Patsy Lafferty, Director of Housing, Corporate and Cultural Services, Meetings Administrator, Bryan Cannon, A/Director of Roads & Transportation, Garry Martin, Director of Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services, Michael Mc Garvey, Director of Water & Environment, Richard Gibson, Head of Finance, Liam Ward, Director of Community Development & Planning Services, Eunan Quinn, Senior Executive Planner, Tanya Kee, Senior Executive Officer, Paul Christy, Senior Executive Planner, Frank Sweeney, A Senior Executive Planner, John Gallagher, Senior Engineer, Graham Diamond, Executive Planner, John Mc Feely, Executive Planner, Roisin Kelly, Executive Planner, Seán O' Daimhin, Rannóg na Gaeilge, Róise Ní Laifeartaigh, Rannóg na Gaeilge, Frances Friel, Communications Officer, William Colvin, Assistant Communications Officer, Anne Marie Crawford, Staff Officer.

C/136/23

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH MEETING OF  
DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 27<sup>TH</sup> OF MARCH,  
2023**

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle, seconded by Cllr Canning the Minutes of the March Meeting of Donegal County Council held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March, 2023 were adopted.

C/137/23

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF  
DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 24<sup>TH</sup> OF APRIL, 2023.**

On the proposal of Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr Harley the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Donegal County Council held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April, 2023 were adopted.

C/138/23

**DISPOSAL BY WAY OF LEASE THE FORMER COURTHOUSE AT  
MILL ROAD, GLENTIES TOGETHER WITH THE ENCLOSED YARD  
TO THE BRIAN FRIEL TRUST**

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.

On the proposal of Cllr Molloy, seconded by Cllr N McGarvey, it was resolved to dispose by way of lease the former courthouse at Mill Road, Glenties together with the enclosed yard to the Brian Friel Trust in

accordance with the provisions of Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and under Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, (as amended).

Cllr Molloy welcomed the development and said that this would be a major attraction which would draw visitors to the area whilst also delivering significant social and economic benefits. It was noted that up to 30 people would be employed in the long-term. He thanked all involved for their input. Cllr Mc Garvey also welcomed the development.

C/139/23 **DISPOSAL OF LAND BY WAY OF LEASE AT ST JOHNSTON TO NBI INFRASTRUCTURE DAC**

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.

On the proposal of Cllr Crawford, seconded by Cllr McGowan, it was resolved to dispose of land by way of lease at St. Johnston to NBI Infrastructure DAC in accordance with the provisions of Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and under Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, (as amended).

C/140/23 **TO APPROVE THE CARRYING OUT OF WORKS IN RESPECT OF THE L-2051-1 MAIN STREET, NEWTOWNCUNNINGHAM ACTIVE TRAVEL PROJECT**

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.

On the proposal of Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr Crawford, the carrying out of works in respect of the L-2021-1 Main Street, Newtowncunningham Active Travel Project was approved, in accordance with Part XI of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001(as amended). This was agreed subject to the inclusion of the following which was read into the record by Cllr Canning:

*"In relation to this Part 8 and the few submissions that were received, and on behalf of the school and the wider community of Newtowncunningham, I would ask that this Council liaise with all of the relevant stakeholders and keep them informed on all of their procedures and their timelines. I would also request an assurance that Donegal Co. Council will meet with the school in particular, prior to any work being done as the safety of the school users is paramount during construction and that any work planned is in keeping with the school's own plans for development".*

C/141/23 **TO APPROVE THE CARRYING OUT OF WORKS IN RESPECT OF THE R246 KILMACRENNAN ROAD, MILFORD ACTIVE TRAVEL PROJECT**

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to

the above.

On the proposal of Cllr Blaney, seconded by Cllr P Mc Garvey, the carrying out of works in respect of the R246 Kilmacrennan Road, Milford Active Travel Project was approved, in accordance with Part XI of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001(as amended).

C/142/23 **TO APPROVE THE CARRYING OUT OF WORKS IN RESPECT OF THE L-1242, THE GAP TO GREY ROCKS ESTATE ROAD, MILFORD ACTIVE TRAVEL PROJECT**

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.

On the proposal of Cllr Mc Clafferty, seconded by Cllr N Mc Garvey, the carrying out of works in respect of the L-1242 The Gap to Grey Rocks Estate Road, Milford Active Travel Project was approved, in accordance with Part XI of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001(as amended).

C/143/23 **TO APPROVE THE CARRYING OUT OF WORKS WITH REGARD TO THE DEMOLITION OF 1NO. EXISTING SINGLE STOREY FORMER FIRE STATION AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF 3NO. 2 STOREY 2-BEDROOM DWELLINGS WITH NEW PUBLIC FOOTPATH, OFF STREET PARKING AND ALL ASSOCIATED SITE WORKS AT THE ROCK ROAD, GLENTIES**

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.

On the proposal of Cllr McClafferty, seconded by Cllr N Mc Garvey, the carrying out of works with regard to the demolition of 1no. existing single storey former fire station and the construction of 3no. 2 storey 2-bedroom dwellings with new public footpath, off street parking and all associated site works at The Rock Road, Glenties was approved, in accordance with Part XI of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001(as amended).

C/144/23 **TO APPROVE THE CARRYING OUT OF PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENT WORKS AND INSTALLATION OF WAYFINDING SIGNAGE IN BUNDORAN IN THE TOWNLANDS OF DRUMACRIN, MAGHERCAR AND FINNER**

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.

On the proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Sweeny, the carrying out of works with regard to the development of public realm improvement works and wayfinding signage in Bundoran in the

townlands of Drumacrin, Maghercar and Finner was approved, in accordance with Part XI of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001(as amended).

- C/145/23 **TO AGREE DATE FOR THE 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
It was unanimously agreed to hold the 2023 Annual General Meeting at 4pm on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2023.
- C/146/23 **TO NOTE CHANGE IN THE SECTORAL MEMBERSHIP OF THE CLIMATE ACTION & ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**  
Members considered the report circulated with the agenda and noted that Mr Michael Chance had replaced Mr Francis Burns as the IFA representative on the Climate Action & Environment Strategic Policy Committee.
- C/147/23 **TO FILL CASUAL VACANCIES ON COISTE NA GAELIGE**  
On the proposal of Cllr Brogan, seconded by Cllr Harley it was resolved to defer the matter to later in the meeting.
- C/148/23 **TO FILL CASUAL VACANCY ON FINN VALLEY SWIMMING POOL CLG**  
On the proposal of Cllr Harley, seconded by Cllr McGowan it was resolved that Cllr Gary Doherty fill the casual vacancy on Finn Valley Swimming Pool CLG occasioned by the resignation of Cllr Frank Mc Brearty.
- C/149/23 **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE ADOPTION OF THE DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2022**  
Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above. On the proposal of Cllr Brogan, seconded by Cllr Harley the Donegal County Council Annual Report 2022 was approved in accordance with Section 221 of the Local Government Act, 2001.
- C/150/23 **TO APPROVE THE ACTUAL GROSS EXPENDITURE FIGURE OF €181,317,087 AS SET OUT ON TABLE 3, PAGE 3 WHEN COMPARED TO THE REVISED BUDGET OF €178,255,781.**  
On the proposal of Cllr Brogan, seconded by Cllr Kennedy it was resolved to approve the actual gross expenditure figure of €181,317,087 as set out on Table 3, Page 3 when compared to the Revised Budget of €178,255,781 (Adopted Budget as amended by net increases in funding received for 2022) for all divisions in accordance with Subsection 7 of Section 104 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and as amended by the Local Government Reform Act, 2014.
- C/151/23 **TO APPROVE THE RAISING OF A LOAN IN THE SUM OF €7M TO FACILITATE THE COMPLETION OF THE ALPHA AND BETA ENTERPRISE BUILDINGS BY DONEGAL 2040 STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT DESIGNATED ACTIVITY COMPANY**



On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Farren it was resolved to approve the raising of a loan in the sum of €7m for the purpose of co-financing the various capital projects listed on Schedule 1 of the report, namely the Alpha Enterprise Centre and the Beta Building so as to facilitate the completion of the buildings by Donegal 2040 Strategic Development Designated Company.

Cllr A Doherty asked for additional clarity in relation to the future borrowing and or changes in the co-financing requirements.

Mr Richard Gibson, Head of Finance, noted that there was an ambitious capital programme in place and that over the years considerable loan financing had been drawn down at favourable interest rates, with every effort made to secure additional capacity. For the Capital Programme. This, it was acknowledged, did present significant challenges. He advised that there was ongoing consultation with the Oireachtas members, the Head of Finance Grouping, the CCMA etc in terms of pursuing more favourable interest rates. It was important, he added, that the Council created its own capabilities for funding. Discussions, it was acknowledged, were ongoing with the Department and applications for funding would continue to be pursued.

In response to a further query from Cllr Doherty, he said that nothing was stalled to date and that all the Donegal County Council projects were continuing as intended.

C/152/23

**TO FILL CASUAL VACANCIES ON COISTE NA GAELIGE**

On the proposal of Cllr Brogan, seconded by Cllr Harley it was resolved to defer the matter to a future meeting of Council.

C/153/23

**TO NOTE THE DRAFT WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR A CIRCULAR ECONOMY – LAUNCH OF STATUTORY CONSULTATION**

Members noted the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.

Cllr Mc Gowan said it was important that no opportunity existed to monopolise waste management in this county and region and the pay by Go option is maintained along with Pay by Weight. He said that every effort should be made to lower the cost of waste disposal for the consumer and in the Waste Recycling Centres. It was important going forward, he said, that responsible behaviour was supported and that those who made the effort to comply were not penalised.

Cllr Brogan concurred with this and said that further discussion was warranted given the challenges that lay ahead.

Mr Michael Mc Garvey, Director Water & Environment noted that a number of issues had already been raised with the Regional Waste Management Planning Office and at SPC level.

He said that it was intended to extend an invitation to all members to attend a briefing on the National Waste Management Plan update after the next Climate Action & Environment SPC scheduled for the 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 and to have further workshops if required.

At this juncture the Cathaoirleach informed members that the Draft Waste Management Plan would be out for public consultation until the 5<sup>th</sup> July and that members of the public could make submissions via the online submission box at [www.mywaste.ie/national-waste-plan](http://www.mywaste.ie/national-waste-plan) or email submissions to [submissions@nationalwasteplan.ie](mailto:submissions@nationalwasteplan.ie). It would also be possible, he confirmed to post submissions to the Regional Waste Coordinator in Mayo County Council, to be received on or before 4pm on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

C/154/23

**PLANNING REPORT ON THE STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE APPLICATION MADE TO AN BORD PLEANÁLA BY CLOGHERACOR WIND FARM LTD FOR A WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT CONSISTING OF 19 TURBINES AND ALL ASSOCIATED WORKS IN THE TOWNLANDS OF CLOUGHERACHULLIN, CLOGHERCOR, DERRYLOAGHAN, AGHAYEEVOGE, CASHELREAGH GLEBE, DARNEY, DRUMARD, AND DRUMNACROSS, CO. DONEGAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 37E OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED).**

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.

Mr Liam Ward, Director Community Development & Planning Services Advised that the decision on this application lay with An Bord Pleanála and that the Local Authority was in this instance a statutory consultee and thus obliged to prepare and submit a report to A.B.P. He said that there was provision for the members by way of resolution to make additional commentary and that this could be added to the report if the members so decided.

Members proceeded to advise of the following:

- Consideration needs to be taken of the high scenic amenity of the area and the fact that it is adjacent to a number of areas of conservation where habitat directives are in place.
- This area is home to 3 pairs of Golden Eagles.
- Landslide susceptibility must be considered in light of the problems at Meenbog.
- Outline of what happened there to be relayed to An Bord Pleanála so that an expert analysis of the issues in Meenbog can be taken on board when considering the matter.
- Major concern in relation to the transportation of the turbines and the capability of the transport network to facilitate same.

- Cognisance needs to be taken of any potential impact on the water source.

The Director of Community Development & Planning noted that members had recommended adding additional commentary and said that this could be facilitated by way of an addendum to the report subject to the resolve of the members.

On the proposal of Cllr Gallagher, seconded by Cllr Mc Clafferty it was resolved that the issues as highlighted by the members above be included in the report setting out the views of the authority in relation to the Strategic Infrastructure Development application on lands located between Doochary and Lettermacaward as submitted to An Bord Pleanála by Clogheracor Wind Farm Ltd in accordance with Section 37E of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended).

C/155/23

**COUNTY DONEGAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN, 2024-2030:  
CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
REPORT. WHETHER TO PROCEED TO PUBLISH THE DRAFT  
COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2024-2030 OR TO MAKE  
AMENDMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF  
SECTION 11(5)(C) OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000  
(AS AMENDED).**

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.

Mr Liam Ward, Director Community Development & Planning said that members were now considering the Draft County Development Plan which was initially forwarded on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April, 2023. He noted that at the Special Council Meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April, 2023 there had been detailed consideration of the plan and a number of amendments made which were now included in Appendix A to the report as circulated with the agenda. It had also been agreed at that meeting, he added, that further consideration was warranted in relation to the Settlement Frameworks on an MD basis.

Having considered same on an MD basis, it was intended now, he said, to affirm members agreement for the changes proposed at the last meeting, together with settlement boundaries and any other matters that members wanted to raise. This, it was noted, would allow the environmental reporting to proceed with a view to bringing the matter to the July Council meeting and subject to approval at that stage to go out to public consultation. Today, he stated, was the final day for making amendments to the Draft County Development Plan.

**Appendix A**  
**Policy ED-P-6**

On the proposal of Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr Mc Dermott it was resolved to amend Policy ED-P-6 as outlined below:

*“To consider commercial developments on the periphery of settlements where such uses would be incompatible with and detrimental to the centres of such settlements by virtue of:*

*a. the extent of land required for the effective functioning of such an enterprise; and/or*

*b. the nature of the enterprise, particularly in the context of potentially incompatible or ‘bad neighbour’ uses. All such proposals shall also be considered against other relevant policies of the Plan including, inter alia, traffic and pedestrian safety and public health.*

*Convenience and comparison retailing generally will not be supported in such cases, and proposals shall be considered against the Retail Planning Guidelines and Policy RS-P-3 (sequential test) and RS-P-4 (retail impact assessment) where retailing is proposed. **Exceptions to the general presumption against retail development may be made in the case of developments where the sale of vehicles is the predominant use”.***

#### Policy T-P-12 (formerly Policy T-P-4)

On the proposal of Cllr Gallagher, seconded by Cllr Mc Clafferty it was resolved that:

*2) ~~Within those restricted sections of the~~ **section of the N56 National Secondary Road identified on Map 5.1.3 only between the Five Points Junction (Killybegs) and the Log Cabin, Creeslough (identified on Map 5.1.3),** development of one-off rural houses impacting on the National Secondary Road may be considered subject to the following:*

- (a) (i) As a first preference, the applicant shall use an alternative access onto the public (County or Regional) road network where such an alternative is available and, in such circumstances, a new access or intensification of an existing private access onto the National **Secondary** Road shall not be permitted.
- (ii) As a second preference, the applicant shall use an existing private access **(either family-owned, or in third party ownership)** onto the National Secondary Road where such an **a practical and realistic** alternative is available and, in such circumstances, a new access onto the National **Secondary** Road shall not be permitted.
- (iii) A new access onto the National **Secondary** Road shall only be considered where the applicant has clearly demonstrated that the options identified in the immediately preceding paras. i.) and ii.) are not available.

*3) Proposals shall only be considered where:*

- (i) *the applicant can provide evidence that they, or their parents, have owned the subject lands for a period of at least 5 years;*
- (ii) *the applicant shall enter into a legal agreement under Section 47 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (As Amended), which agreement shall provide that the subject dwelling shall be*

*occupied by the applicant as his/her principal place of residence for a minimum period of seven years commencing on the date of the first such use.*

- (a) *Proposals shall be required to demonstrate compliance with the requisite national roads design standards including the provision of vision lines of (x by y z) and stopping sight distances of (x by y z).*

She informed the meeting of the following:

“The rural section of the N56 (Five-Points Killybegs to Log Cabin Creeslough–OwenCarrow River) has significantly low-traffic volumes and is situated in the most remote parts of the County servicing the largest Gaeltacht region in the Country. Rural and Gaeltacht communities in this region have suffered from generational chronic depopulation. Through the current Socio-Economic Statement being developed for Donegal this region is classified as the most deprived and disadvantaged region in the State. The Socio-Economic Statement for Donegal is the fact based document that forms the basis for policy development in Donegal.

Donegal County Council seeks to enable the continued survival of our rural and Gaeltacht communities by allowing, where necessary the appropriate, very limited but essential family access to the N56. This proposed policy has been development with a clear focus to not in any way disrupt or undermine the current multifaceted and vital operation of the N56. This targeted and controlled policy is a minimal response to a clear social, economic, cultural and linguistic challenge facing this rural and Gaeltacht region of Donegal. This low-volume section of the N56 has been identified by Donegal County Council to comply with ‘Low Volume’ envelope for ‘exceptional circumstances’ as defined under the National Planning Guidance. The associated planning criteria have been constituted to be very clear, limited in extent, strictly controlled and administered.”

The members of the Glenties Municipal District outlined in detail the necessity of amending the policy as outlined above so as to ensure the survival of rural and Gaeltacht communities and the preservation of their way of life, whilst encouraging young families to remain in the locality. Members from a number of the other MDs congratulated the Glenties members on raising the matter and highlighted the fact that national policy had dictated for far too long. There was acknowledgement also that the N56 had to be considered in its entirety.

The Chief Executive said that the issue was one that had come up time and time again and that T.I.I. continually provided the same answer that they were incorporating national policy as directed by the Department of the Environment with no access outside of the speed

limits. There was, he noted, a chink of light in terms of low traffic volumes along a few sections of the N56 which could possibly be looked at. The T.I.I, it was acknowledged, had some concern regarding those areas where considerable monies had been spent on upgrade works. The Council, he advised, did not have the authority to change national policy and were tied to the national directive. He said that members were entitled to propose amendments, but it did not mean that that the planning system would automatically convert. It was not easy, he advised to change national policy, and this was a topic that had been discussed in meetings with the Oireachtas members on a number of occasions.

Alluding to comments from Cllrs N Crossan and Farren, regarding the conversion of regional roads to national roads, he cautioned that this would generate the same access issues as those being encountered on the N56.

Mr Liam Ward, Director Community Development & Planning Services said that for the purpose of the process today the Glenties MD members had presented a policy amendment relating to the section from Five Points, Killybegs to the Log Cabin, Creeslough – Owencarrow River and two subsequent proposals from Cllr Brogan and Jordan that sections of the N56 in the Letterkenny/Milford MD and the Donegal MD should also be included. These, he said, need to be proposed and seconded. As advised previously, he said, the support of the executive was not in question here but rather the difficulties involved in amending national policy.

Cllr Gallagher said that the Glenties members had put a lot of work into their proposal as local communities had to be put first and people allowed to live in their own communities. It was about retaining and invigorating rural life, communities and the social and economic fabric of rural Donegal. She said that there was no issue with other proposals but that the Glenties area had to put the issue on the table so that other MDs could follow suit.

At this juncture Cllr Jordan withdrew his proposal on the basis that it would help the Glenties proposal to get over the line and open doors for other MDs in the future.

Cllr Brogan proposed, seconded by Cllr Mc Dermott that the Letterkenny section be included also in the proposal. He noted that there were challenges in terms of intensification particularly from Letterkenny to Kilmacrennan and Termon.

C/156/23

#### **ADJOURNMENT FOR LUNCH**

On the proposal of Cllr Mc Clafferty, seconded by Cllr Harley it was resolved to adjourn the meeting until 2.00pm.

C/157/23

**RESUMPTION OF THE MEETING**

Members proposed a vote of sympathy to the family of the late Stephen Montgomery who died as a result of a tragic accident in Gweedore. A minutes' silence was observed.

C/158/23

**COUNTY DONEGAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN, 2024-2030:  
CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
REPORT. WHETHER TO PROCEED TO PUBLISH THE DRAFT  
COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2024-2030 OR TO MAKE  
AMENDMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF  
SECTION 11(5)(C) OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000  
(AS AMENDED).**

Cllr Mc Clafferty said that the Glenties members wanted to keep their proposal as presented on the N56.

The Cathaoirleach drew attention to the fact that there were now two proposals in relation to the N56, one in respect of the area from Killybegs to the Log Cabin in Cresslough as presented by the Glenties MD members and a proposal in respect of the Letterkenny/Milford MD to include the area of the N56 from the Log Cabin in Cresslough to Letterkenny.

Cllr Brogan said that his proposal was not infringing on the Glenties proposition and said that if a proposal was going forward then it would remiss not to include the Donegal MD also.

Mr Liam Ward, Director Community Development & Planning Services alluding to the decision said that the revised policy narrative as agreed would now be incorporated. He said that the members could if they wished proceed to deal with the remaining issues in Appendix A as set out on pages 3,4, 5,6 and 7 of the report en-bloc unless there were specific issues that warranted individual consideration.

**T-O-5**

Cllr G Doherty proposed, seconded by Cllr Gallagher that Objective T-O-5 be amended to read as follows by the insertion of the word "Suitable":

"To retrospectively, provide safe walking and cycling infrastructure, segregated from other traffic, in settlements, *and into settlements from suitable adjacent rural areas, accessing cultural, recreational, commercial, educational, and employment destinations and attractions*"

Cllr Mc Monagle asked for clarity in relation to Active Travel and the extension of same beyond town boundaries. He proposed, seconded by Cllr L Doherty that the Active Travel Programme be extended beyond the town boundaries to service facilities such as schools which are not in settlements as such but located outside of the 50km limit.

*"I am asking this Council to write to the Minister asking him to extend the Active Travel Programme beyond the town boundaries. To retrospectively provide safe walking and cycling infrastructure, segregated from other traffic, into settlements and in settlement areas, from suitable adjacent rural areas. To allow access to cultural, recreational, commercial, educational and employment destinations and attractions".*

#### TOU-P-6 - Tourism Accommodation Policy

On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Jordan it was resolved that that existing premises in EHSA areas be allowed to continue.

Cllr Mc Dermott proposed, seconded by Cllr Kennedy that the policy be widened to accommodate Glamping Sites in areas which have struggled to introduce this type of activity previously as a result of conservation issues and the fact that they are not in central areas.

Mr Paul Christy, Senior Executive Planner, said that there was policy support for this type of activity in rural areas and for up to a maximum of 10 units.

#### Greenways Strategy

Cllr Sweeny said that what was needed was a Greenway strategy that was completely aligned to the Outdoor Recreation Strategy given the limitation of the funding resources. It was, he advised, too limited in what was being targeted for many areas and towns. He queried the inclusion of the Erne-Atlantic route which would not be covered by T.I.I. funding yet the Ballyshannon to Rossnowlough section could possibly access Greenway funding if a shared resource was in place.

He advised of the need to look at a strategy which was not specifically "Greenway" centred and which reflected collaboration in terms of Active Travel, community development, and the Strategic Funding Unit with the overall aim of providing a dedicated shared resource. He asked if the Greenway Strategy could be revised to reflect same or would it be more beneficial to amalgamate with the Outdoor Recreation Strategy.

The Director of Community Development & Planning Services said that the suggestion was more relevant to the Outdoor Recreation Strategy. He agreed that there was a lack of clarity in relation to the definition of a Greenway, Walking Trail etc. What was being looked for here, he said, was the availability of funding to develop Greenways. There was nothing, he added in the policy context that would prevent the routes outlined from getting funding. He said that what was being sought by Cllr Sweeny would not be prohibited by the wording in the Development Plan.



Cllr Brogan said that he was not convinced that there was enough opportunity in the plan under "Tourism Opportunity & Accommodation". Various aspects of the tourism product needed to be explored and developed county-wide, he said, and as a result the accommodation aspect was becoming a bigger issue. A lot of the policy, he added, connected to the Greenways projects was bureaucratic in nature. He cited the need to look at redundant Council roads where there were little or no legal implications or entitlement and outlined the benefits of going forward with shovel ready projects.

He advised of the need to revisit the issues in relation to the Settlement Frameworks in the Letterkenny/Milford MD

Cllr Brogan said that further discussion was needed, in relation to a number of issues so that all concerned had adequate input into the new plan. He suggested that the decision on the Development Plan be deferred to a Special Meeting of Council.

The Director of Community Development & Planning Services said that the Senior Planner had already confirmed that there was sufficient provision in the plan for tourism accommodation in rural areas and to support the attractions referenced by members. He said that third part of the meeting today would focus on the Settlement Frameworks, and these would be dealt with on an MD basis. A meeting, he said, had taken place with the Letterkenny/Milford members in relation to their input and had run out of time. The relevant mapping had been forwarded however to the MD members concerned and feedback invited on same. There was no issue, he said, with the holding of a Special Meeting which was a matter for the members themselves. It was noted that a Special Meeting had already taken place and the issues before members today had arisen out of same. Concluding, he said that specific standards were in place to avail of Greenways funding and that the process was lengthy but had to be followed.

Objective T-O-7

Cllr G Doherty proposed, seconded by Cllr L Doherty that the Letterkenny to Portadown Rail link be added in as this was a key objective of the Into the West Railway Campaign. It was noted that whilst this was not detailed in the appendix it would be possible to accommodate same.

On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Harley it was resolved to authorise the Executive to prepare the necessary amendments to the Draft Plan narrative arising from the issues identified in Appendix A and subject to the amendments proposed and seconded above.

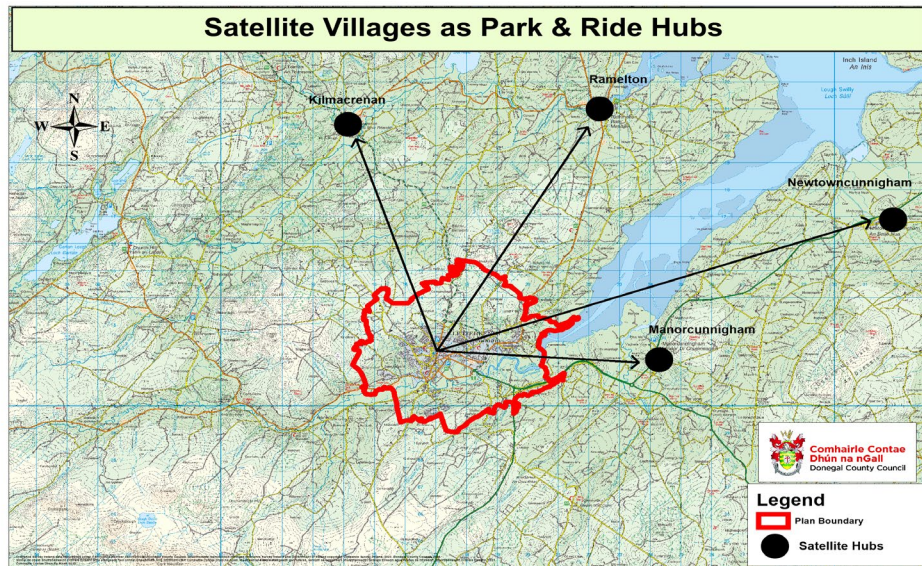
## Appendix B

Mr Paul Christy, Senior Executive planner noted that these were the issues raised at MD meetings and acknowledged the fact that there had not been engagement with the Letterkenny MD.

### Policy T-P-17

On the proposal of Cllr Mc Gowan, seconded by Cllr Coyle it was resolved to amend Policy T-P-17 (new text in blue) and insert fig. below:

“To support the principle of additional park and ride/share hubs in the commuter villages around Letterkenny including Kilmacrennan, Ramelton, Newtowncunningham, **Manorcunningham**, **Ballinalacky (Raphoe Environs)**, **Ballindrait**, **Lifford**, **Ballybofey/Stranorlar** and **Convoy**”.



### Policy WW-P-4

A lengthy debate ensued with members expressing a number of concerns in relation to the overall interpretation of the adjustment to Policy WW-P-4 and the implications in the long-term.

There was concern in relation to the impact for one-off development, and the fact that all new development would have to connect to the public wastewater infrastructure, where available. A number of scenarios were presented on the matter with members unsure as to whether there was sufficient protection for those who wanted to proceed with one-off development in rural areas. A major area of contention was the fact that the infrastructure to connect to the public wastewater system could possibly be in place but without the necessary capacity for development. There were concerns also that the developer would be frozen out in instances where they were prepared to invest in the necessary infrastructure prior to the grant of permission.

Clarity was sought on the distinction between a house and a development and how these would be dealt with going forward.

It was confirmed that the current policy whereby the Council has the facility to develop six to ten houses in small rural areas would be retained in the new County Development Plan.

On the proposal of Cllr Mc Monagle, seconded by Cllr Mc Gowan it was resolved to insert “Multiple” in front of “All new developments”.

The Senior Executive Planner confirmed in response to a query from Cllr Mc Dermott that if a developer was proposing a temporary onsite plant, then that development could proceed on the basis that the Irish Water plant would be in situ in the very near future. The policy was, he confirmed, that if the Irish Water project is in their Capital Plan the green light would be given to proceed. He said that there was nothing in the policy that would preclude the developer from investing in a project prior to getting planning permission.

Mr Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner said that the text reflected existing practice, based on orderly development where there is currently a network, the capacity or the capacity/network extension is imminent, then regardless of what class of development, there would be a requirement to connect to the existing network rather than have an unsustainable standalone development. It was a separate policy context, he noted, whereby members were looking to bring Irish Water to the table regarding investment in specific towns and villages. Everybody, he said, was left with same issues if the infrastructure is not in place. The narrative before members he advised was a clarification and set out what was happening currently and reflected the need to ensure that an ad-hoc system was not in place. To do anything else, he said would be unsustainable.

Cllr Jordan alluded to the fact that by extending the Settlement Frameworks the overall result would be to zone land further away from the main infrastructure and ultimately increase the cost of accessing same.

The Senior Planner clarified that those towns and villages that did have an existing sewer network and or capacity or where it is imminent to be provided i.e on the Three Year Uisce Eireann Programme that in those circumstances regardless of the development, orderly/sustainable development would dictate that there should be a connection to the network. This was something, he said which was in the interest of the developer in the long-term. Other scenarios could, he advised be addressed through various other policies.

On the proposal of Cllr Crawford, seconded by Cllr Canning it was resolved to insert the following text in blue into Policy WW-P4:

- All new developments shall connect to the public wastewater infrastructure, where available. Such connections shall be subject to a connection agreement with Irish Water.
- Developments connecting to the public wastewater network shall provide confirmation from Irish Water that the wastewater system in the area has both treatment capacity and network availability to serve the development.
- In circumstances where works to provide treatment capacity and/or network availability have commenced, developments will be considered on the merits of each case.
- In all instances the first principle of the Planning Authority shall be to seek to facilitate development subject to the principles of orderly development and other objectives and policies of this Plan.

#### POLICY WW-P-10

On the proposal of Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr N Mc Garvey it was resolved to amend Policy WW-P-10 as follows:

(i.) In general, development proposals shall only be permitted where it is demonstrated that they:

a) Would not negatively impact on existing or proposed water and wastewater infrastructure including the overbuilding of network infrastructure.

b) The location takes into account, and is compatible with, the operation/use or expansion of existing or proposed new wastewater treatment plants. In this regard a setback/buffer of 100m will normally be required between existing or proposed wastewater treatment facilities with a PE >50 and any sensitive developments which have a continuous or frequent public usage (e.g., residential, retail, community, educational).

(ii.) Save in exceptional circumstances, ~~the use of Water Sensitive Urban Design/Nature Based Solutions in surface water management systems within public and private developments and within the public realm shall be required to minimise the extent of hard surfacing and paving, thereby reducing flood risk and improving water quality.~~

a ) all new development shall provide separate foul and surface water drainage systems and the discharge of additional surface waters to combined (foul and surface water) sewers shall not be permitted;

b) the use of Water Sensitive Urban Design/Nature Based Solutions in surface water management systems within public and private developments and within the public realm shall be required to minimise the extent of hard surfacing and paving, thereby reducing flood risk and improving water quality.

a) Water conservation measures (e.g. rainwater harvesting) shall be required as an integral part of developments, save in exceptional circumstances and where appropriate to do so.

### OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION ZONING – TABLE 17.1

On the proposal of Cllr McGowan, seconded by Cllr Canning it was resolved to amend the “Open Space & Recreation Zoning” to include “Biodiversity” and to read as follows:

“Preserve and provide for open space, [biodiversity](#) and recreational amenities”

### WIND ENERGY POLICY

On the proposal of Cllr Gallagher, seconded by Cllr Kennedy it was resolved to adopt the following amendments to the Wind Energy Policy:

“That the principle of the acceptability or otherwise of proposed wind farm developments shall be generally determined in accordance with the three areas identified in Map 8.2.1 ‘Wind Energy’ and as detailed below:

- (a) Acceptable in Principle  
Wind energy development shall be generally acceptable in these areas.
- (b) Open to Consideration  
Wind energy development shall be generally open to consideration in these areas.
- (c) Not Normally Permissible
  - (i) Windfarm development proposals on previously undeveloped sites, inclusive of sites with a lapsed un-implemented permission (and where substantive works have not been undertaken) will not normally be permissible.
  - (ii) The augmentation, upgrade and improvements of: existing windfarms; windfarm developments under construction; developments where permission has lapsed but substantial works have been completed, or on sites with an extant planning permission will be open to consideration where such proposals shall be generally confined to the planning unit of the existing development, or where a modestly-proportioned projection (relative to the established unit) beyond the established footprint can be demonstrated to be essential and unavoidable for the augmentation project in terms of operational efficiencies, and can demonstrate beyond reasonable doubt that all environmental issues can be adequately mitigated, or where a modestly-proportioned projection (relative to the established unit) beyond the established footprint can be demonstrated to be essential and unavoidable for the augmentation project in terms of operational efficiencies, and can demonstrate beyond reasonable doubt that all environmental issues can be adequately mitigated.

#### [Specific Biodiversity Related Requirements:](#)

[a\) Loss of functionally linked habitat: Developers of wind energy proposals on greenfield sites shall undertake a preconstruction](#)

appraisal of habitats. Should habitats suitable for supporting Special Conservation Interest bird species be present, developers will be required to undertake pre-construction bird surveys to confirm whether the site supports a significant proportion of bird populations (typically taken to be 1% of the population of a SPA, at time of designation). Depending on whether qualifying birds represent breeding or overwintering species, surveys will need to be undertaken in the breeding season or overwintering period (October to March). If a site represents functionally linked habitat, avoidance / mitigation measures will be required, and the proposal will need to be supported by a bespoke Appropriate Assessment.

b) Mortality due to collision with operational wind turbines: Wind energy development proposals shall demonstrate that they can be delivered without resulting in adverse effects on the integrity of European sites. Vantage point surveys will be required to establish:

(i). the overall use of the development site by Special Conservation Interest birds and

(ii.) more detailed usage by Special Conservation Interest birds of the turbine swept area taking account of specifications such as turbine height, blade length, nacelle (blade hub) rotation speed and the number of turbines. Mitigation measures may need to be delivered to ensure that any residual risks are appropriately avoided or reduced.

c) Disturbance displacement: To avoid potential permanent disturbance displacement impacts on Special Conservation Interest bird species, Donegal County Council will generally not support wind energy proposals within 1km of Special Protection Areas unless clear evidence from the applicant or scheme promoter can demonstrate no adverse effect on site integrity will arise.

d) Water Quality: Any wind energy developments within 1 km of sensitive SPAs / SACs shall ensure that potential adverse impacts on the European sites due to water quality impacts are assessed and, where required, mitigated. Possible assessments and Variation to the County Donegal Development Plan 2018-2024 (As Varied) in respect of a Wind Energy Policy Framework (Variation No.2). 21 Ref Location in Plan Type of Change Variation mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, water quality and ecological baseline studies, run-off / leachate modelling, delivery of Construction Environmental Management Plans (CEMPs) and Water Management Plans (WMPs) and compliance with industry good practice”.

### SOCIAL HOUSING IN RURAL AREAS

On the proposal of Cllr Gallagher, seconded by Cllr N Mc Garvey it was resolved to adopt the Social Housing in Rural Area policy which had previously been omitted in error:



“It is a policy of the council to consider opportunities to deliver necessary social [and affordable](#) housing at locations around (i) rural schools and: (ii) rural settlements; subject to wastewater services being appropriately delivered and maintained by Donegal County Council as part of a social housing scheme and subject to all other relevant objectives and policies of the plan, including environmental considerations and compliance with the Habitats Directive.

#### GLENCOLMCILLE: PROPOSED POLICY RE SEWER EXTENSION

On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Jordan it was resolved to adopt the following amendment in respect of the Glencomcille Sewer Extension:

“To support the extension of the public sewer network serving Glencolmcille from its current western edge as far west as the area broadly defined by the Glencolmcille Folk Village”.

#### POLICY ED-P-11

On the proposal of Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr Naughton it was resolved to adopt the following amendment to Policy ED-P-11:

“To consider commercial developments on the periphery of settlements where such uses would be incompatible with and detrimental to the centres of such settlements by virtue of:

- a. the extent of land required for the effective functioning of such an enterprise; and/or
- b. the nature of the enterprise, particularly in the context of potentially incompatible or ‘bad neighbour’ uses. All such proposals shall also be considered against other relevant policies of the Plan including, inter alia, traffic and pedestrian safety and public health. Convenience and comparison retailing generally will not be supported in such cases, and proposals shall be considered against the Retail Planning Guidelines and Policy RS-P-3 (sequential test) and RS-P-4 (retail impact assessment) where retailing is proposed. [Exceptions to the general presumption against retail development may be made in the case of developments where the sale of vehicles is the predominant use](#)”.

#### SECTION 8.2.2 “WATER INFRASTRUCTURE/PUBLIC WATER INFRASTRUCTURE”

Cllr Mc Gowan alluded to the low and medium raised bogs adjacent to Lough Mourne and said that Uisce Eireann had been asked on a number of occasions to confirm where the water going into Lough Mourne was coming from. He was, he said, disappointed that a definitive answer had not been provided to date. He said that the area around Lismulladuff, Meenreagh which had been zoned as “Open to Consideration” for windfarm development had a network of underground streams which it was believed fed into Lough Mourne. As a result, he said, there were concerns in relation to the impact that wind

farm development would have on the water supply for the people of east Donegal.

Mr Michael Mc Garvey, Director of Water & Environment committed to getting a response on the matter from Irish Water.

On the proposal of Cllr Mc Gowan, seconded by Cllr G Doherty it was resolved to adopt the new policy outlined below, given the strategic importance of the Lough Mourne supply and the need for the overall protection of same:

“Ensure that new developments do not have an adverse impact on the Lough Mourne drinking water supply. Any developments of scale in the general vicinity shall be required to identify overground and underground water sources supplying the Lough and to demonstrate that there shall be no adverse impact on these supplies”

C/159/23

**CASUAL VACANCIES ON COISTE NA GAEILGE**

The Cathaoirleach referred to the 4 positions that were vacant on Coiste na Gaeilge and asked if there had been any agreement on the filling of same. As there were no proposals, it was agreed, to defer the matter for further consideration.

C/160/23

**COUNTY DONEGAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN, 2024-2030:  
CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
REPORT. WHETHER TO PROCEED TO PUBLISH THE DRAFT  
COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2024-2030 OR TO MAKE  
AMENDMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF  
SECTION 11(5)(C) OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000  
(AS AMENDED).**

Settlement Frameworks – Mapping

It was unanimously agreed to deal with the mapping issues on an MD basis. **Vide Appendix 1**

The following additional amendments were agreed in respect of the **Lifford/Stranorlar Municipal District:**

*Castlefin*

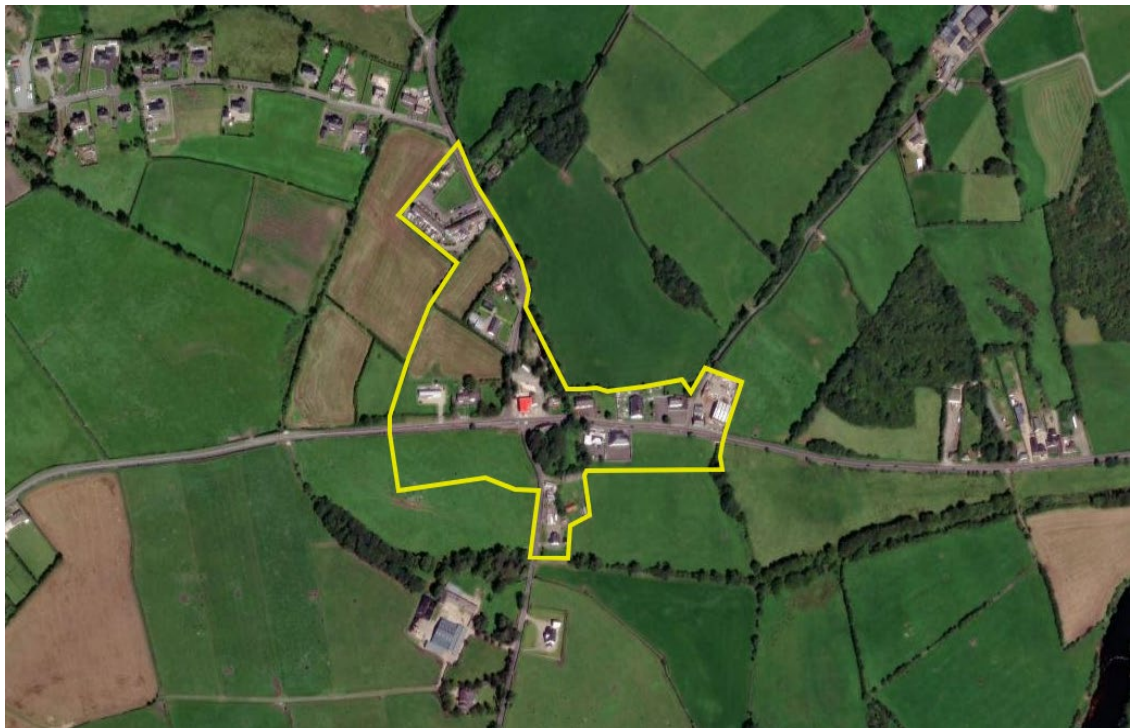
On the proposal of Cllr G Doherty, seconded by Cllr Mc Gowan it was resolved to include the infill site between Sessiagh Park and Hillhead within the Settlement Framework Boundary mapping as outlined below:





*Liscooley*

On the proposal of Cllr G Doherty, seconded by Cllr Mc Gowan it was resolved to add Liscooley as a Clachan.



*Killygordon*

On the proposal of Cllr Mc Gowan, seconded by Cllr G Doherty it was resolved to include the lands on the Lifford side of Killygordon within the Settlement Framework Boundary as outlined below:



The following amendments were agreed in respect of the **Inishowen Municipal District**.

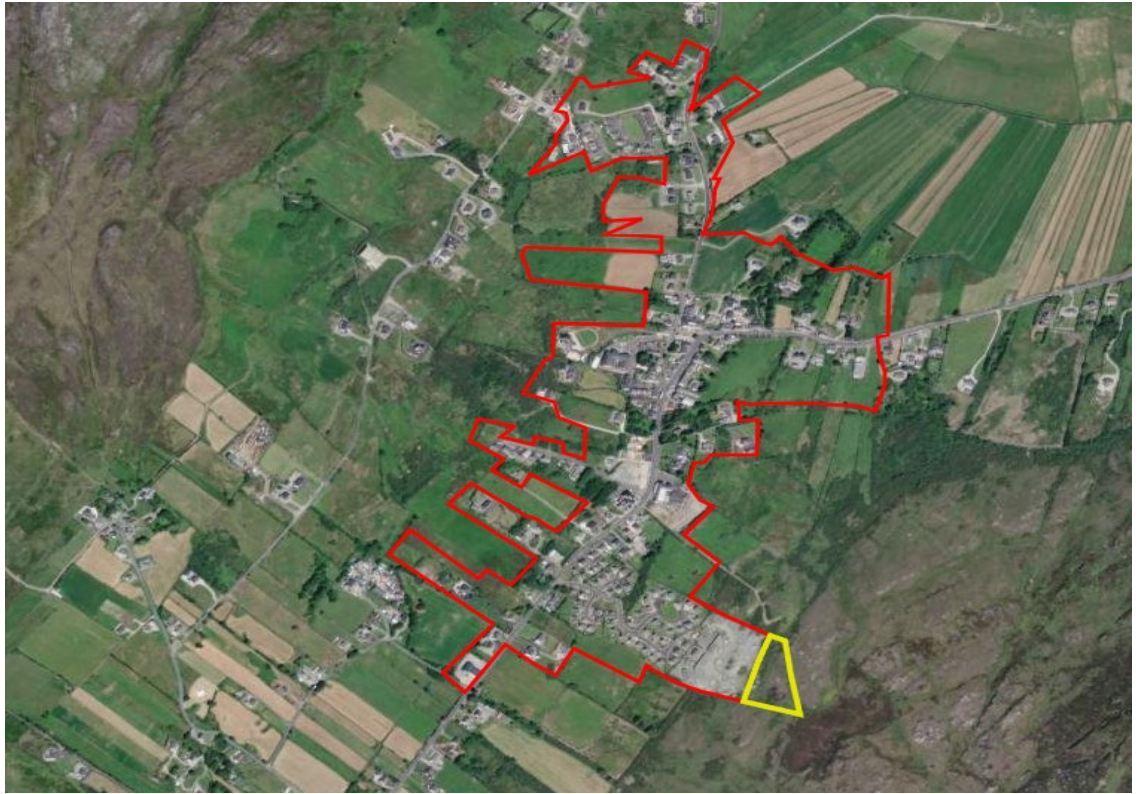
*Buncrana*

On the proposal of Cllr N Crossan, seconded by Cllr Donaghey it was **resolved to** amend the Buncrana Area Plan Land Use Zoning map for Buncrana as per the attached map which was presented at the meeting. **Vide Appendix 2**

*Ballyliffen*

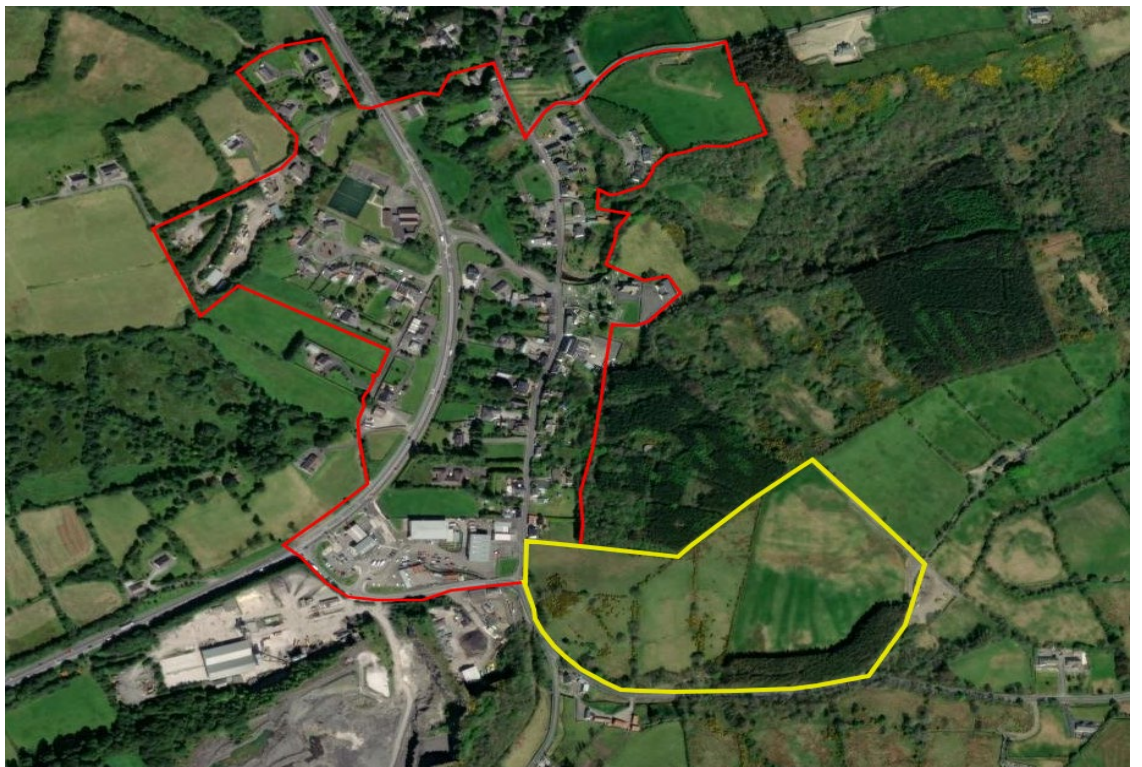
On the proposal of Cllr A Doherty, seconded by Cllr Canning it was resolved to amend the Ballyliffen Settlement Framework Boundary by including the lands outlined in yellow on the map below:





The following amendments were agreed in respect of the **Donegal Municipal District**:

On the proposal of Cllr Naughton, seconded by Cllr Mc Mahon it was resolved to extend the Settlement Framework Boundary in Laghey by including the lands outlined in yellow on the map below:





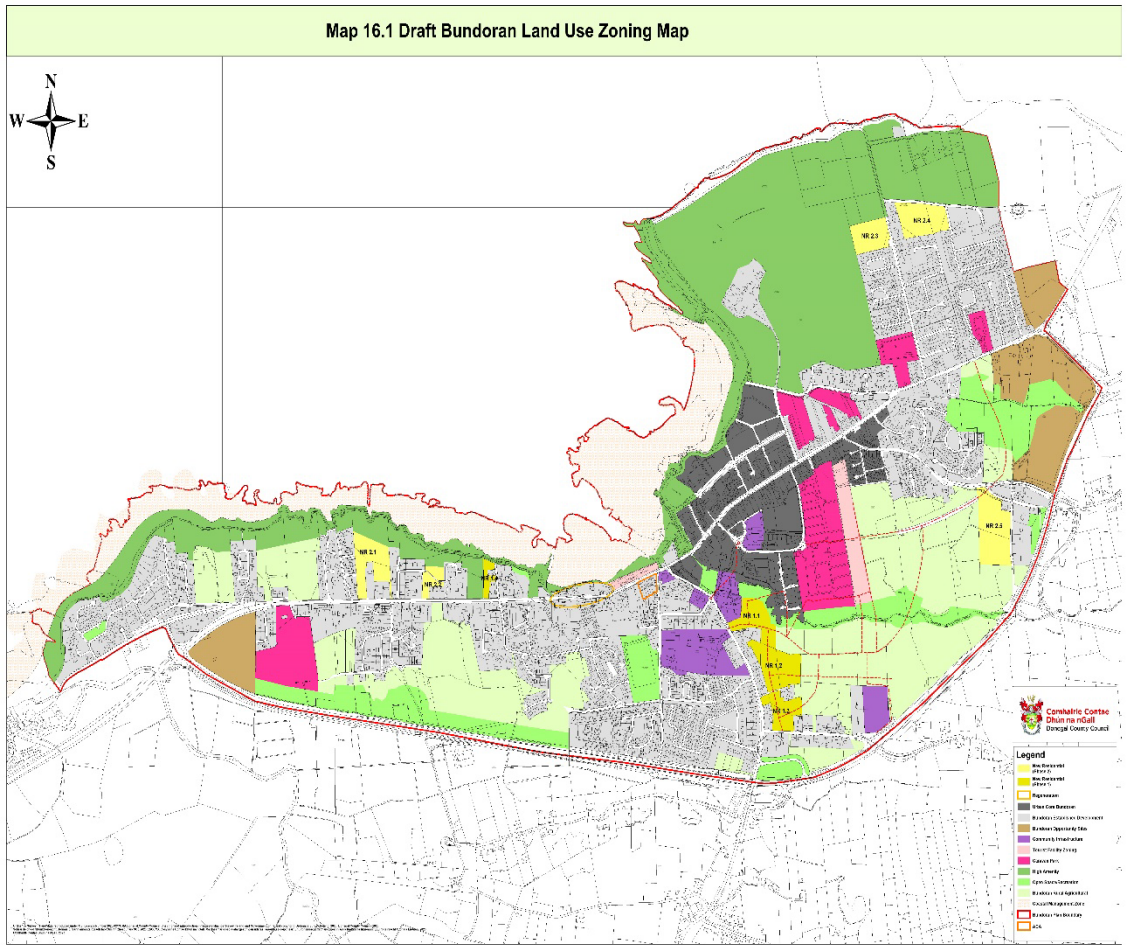
On the proposal of Cllr Naughton, seconded by Cllr Mc Mahon it was resolved to extend the Settlement Framework Boundary in Ballintra by including the lands outlined in yellow on the map below:



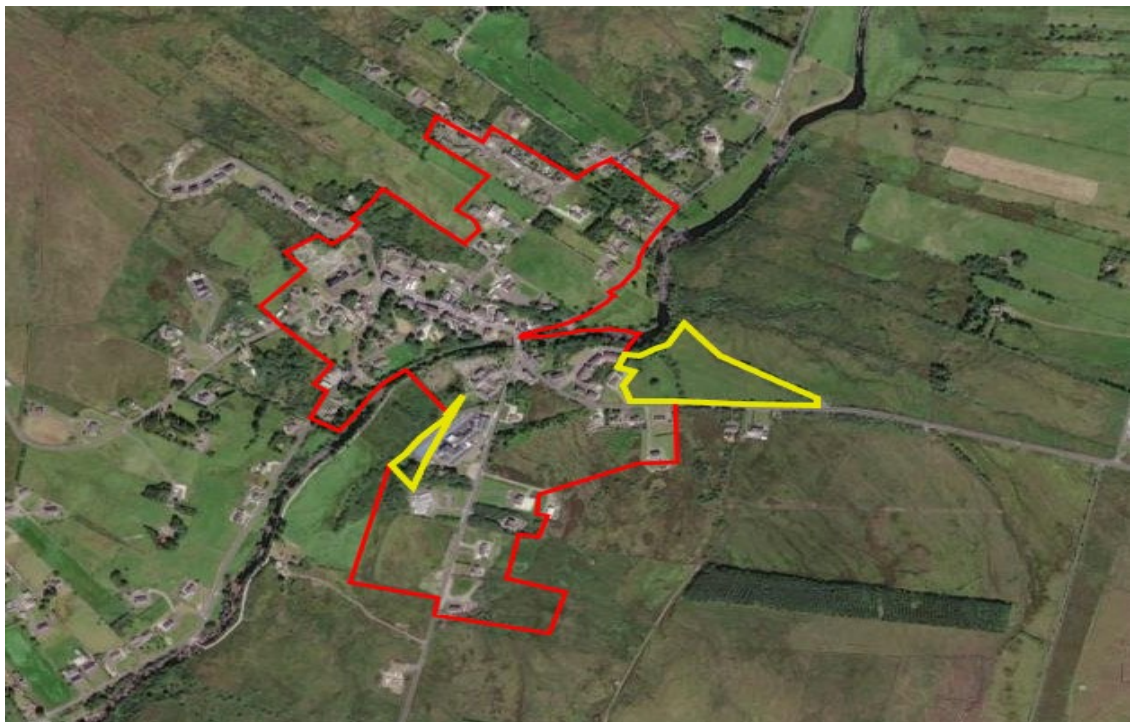
Cllr Sweeny asked if it was possible to add in an Active Travel project from Ballyshannon to Creevy School. He was informed by the Cathaoirleach that decisions were being made at this juncture in relation to the Settlement Frameworks only.

Mr Paul Christy, Senior Planner, said that an Active Travel Project had been listed for Ballybofey/Stranorlar but only on the basis that they were getting a Town Plan. The project referenced by Cllr Sweeny, he said was more a county-wide plan and appeared to be in isolation to the rest of the document.

On the proposal of Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr Mc Mahon it was resolved to rezone area "A" in the Bundoran Local Area Map Plan Land Use Zoning Map from "Open Space and Recreation" to "Established Development" as outlined on the map below:



On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Jordan it was resolved to extend the Settlement Framework Boundary in Carrick by including the lands outlined in yellow on the map below:





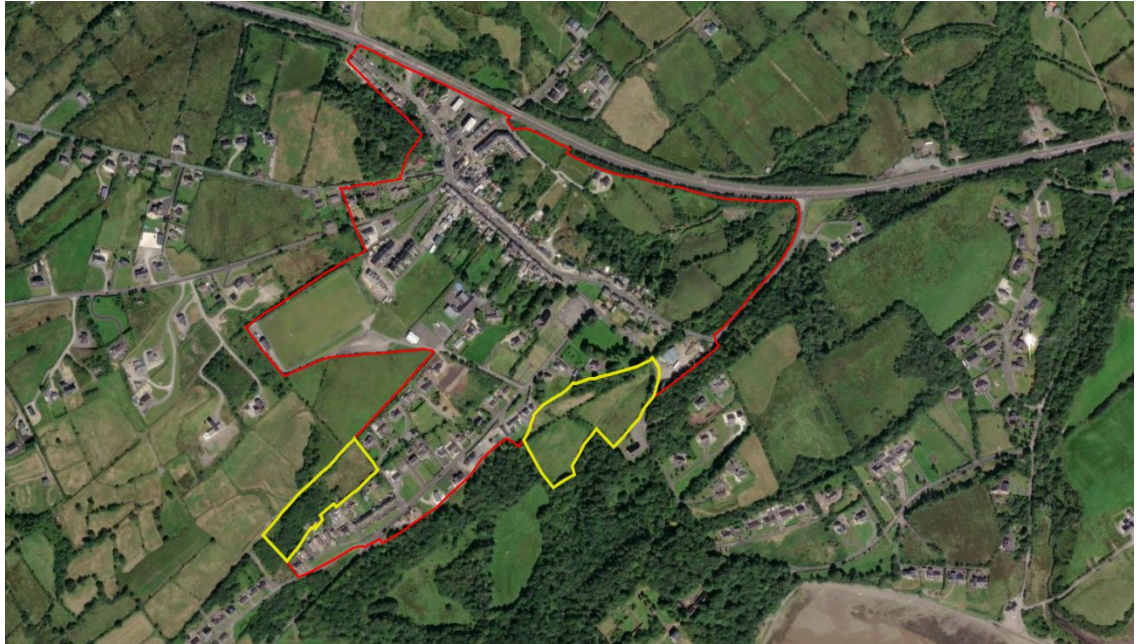
On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Jordan it was resolved to extend the Settlement Framework Boundary in Bruckless by including the lands outlined in yellow below:



On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Jordan it was resolved to extend the Settlement Framework Boundary in Dunkineely by including the lands outlined in yellow on the map below:



On the proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Conaghan it was resolved to extend the Settlement Framework Boundary in Mountcharles by including the lands outlined in yellow on the map below:



On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Jordan it was resolved to include Kilcar in the text referencing Marina Developments on page 224 of the Draft County Development Plan 2024-2030.

On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Jordan it was resolved to include Teelin in the text referencing harbour and visitor moorings on page 225 of the Draft County Development Plan 2024-2030

The following amendments were agreed in respect of the **Letterkenny/Milford Municipal District:**

Cllr Brogan at this juncture said that there had been considerable discussion in the Letterkenny/Milford MD regarding the settlement frameworks and that this was not reflected in the document. He said, he was of the opinion that issues had been rushed and that there was a need for more engagement. The Letterkenny/Milford MD, he advised did not get the same opportunity as other areas.

Mr Paul Christy, Senior Planner advised that a number of suggestions had been made at workshop level and that quite a number were already incorporated into the draft maps.

Cllr Brogan together with the Cathaoirleach asked that these be provided to the Letterkenny/Milford members including any amendments not incorporated into the mapping.



The Senior Planner noted that not all of the changes could be agreed with the executive but that the majority had been included in the mapping.

The Letterkenny/Milford members were unanimous in agreement that further consideration of the mapping as applicable to the Letterkenny/Milford MD was warranted and that the matter be deferred to the next meeting of Council.

Mr Liam Ward, Director Community Development & Planning Services said that it had been agreed to circulate maps to members as the workshop had run over time and that any member who had an issue was invited to contact the Planning office. Responding to calls that the matter be deferred for further consideration, he proceeded to outline the applicable timelines and said that any delay at this juncture would make the adoption of the plan an impossibility for the current Council. It was noted that there were complications also in terms of the new Planning Act which was due to be published within the next year.

Cllr Mc Monagle said that he believed that it would be possible for the Letterkenny/Milford members to meet and consider the applicable issues and still work to the timeline outlined by the Director of Service.

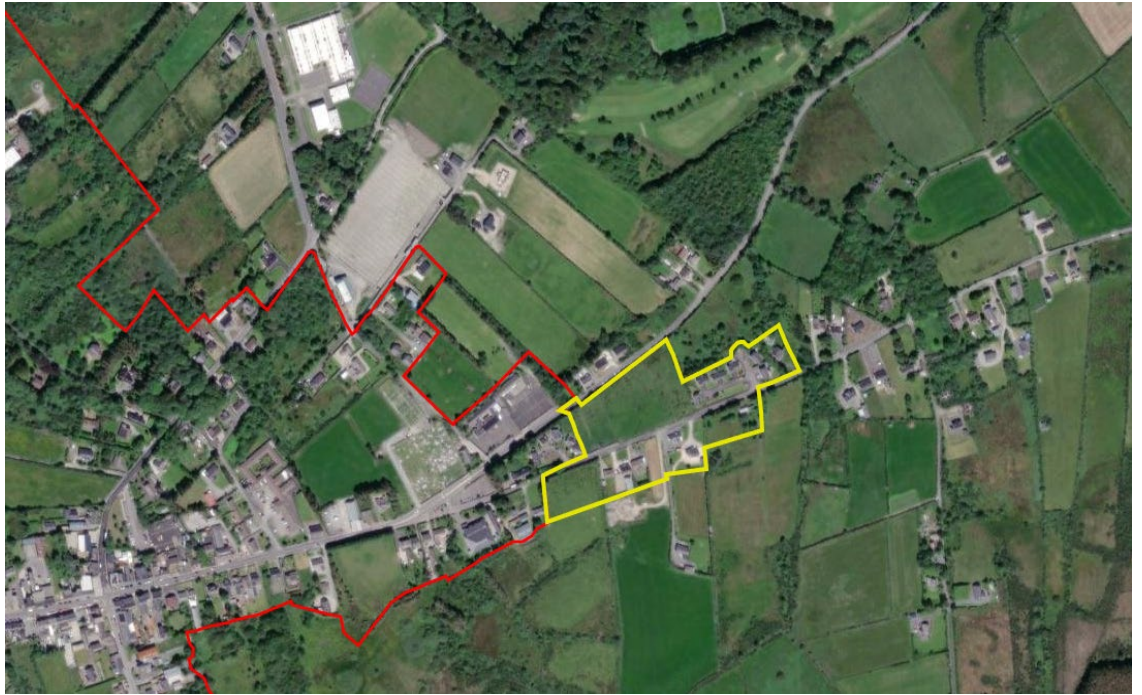
Mr Liam Ward said that another workshop could be arranged with the Letterkenny/Milford members and at the same time proceed with the environmental reporting. This, he advised, would enable the matter to come back to the July meeting, and adhere to the existing timeline. This would, he noted, however necessitate a Special Meeting of Council to accept any changes that were agreed in the workshop.

Cllr Mc Clafferty at this juncture proposed, seconded by Cllr Bradley that the local Oireachtas members be invited to attend a Special Meeting to discuss the issues arising from intensification issues on the N56 from the Five Points Junction, Killybegs to the Log Cabin, Creeslough. It was thus resolved to hold a meeting with the Oireachtas members in relation to intensification issues on the N56 on the morning of the 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2023.

The following amendments were agreed in respect of the **Glenties Municipal District**:

On the proposal of Cllr Mc Clafferty, seconded by Cllr O' Fearraigh it was resolved to to extend the Settlement Framework Boundary in Falcarragh by including the lands outlined in yellow on the map below:





C/161/23

**SEVEN STRATEGIC TOWNS LOCAL AREA PLAN – EXTENSION OF DURATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 19(1)9(D).**

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.

Mr Liam Ward, Director Community Development & Planning Services said that what was being sought was a resolution to defer not later than five years after the making of the current Plan (ie. by no later than 22nd July, 2023) to defer the publication of a new Draft Plan/making of a new Plan for a further period not exceeding 5 years [as provided for in Section 19(1)(d) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (As Amended)]. The reason for this, he said was twofold and the intention was that as soon as the Letterkenny Draft Plan and the County Development Plan were completed the focus would switch to the review of the Seven Strategic Towns Area Plan. This was prudent, he advised in the event of any fallout from the new County Development Plan. He alluded also to the fact that there were resource issues and asked members to pass a resolution deferring the making of the Draft Plan for the Seven Strategic Towns Area Plan. An undertaking was provided that same would be commenced by this time next year.

Members at this juncture referred to the fact that it had been indicated previously that the Seven Strategic Towns review had been highlighted previously as an opportunity to look at zoning/mapping issues and particularly those lands affected by the Residential Zoned Land Tax. Concern was raised that work on the plan would not commence until the Spring of 2024 yet Revenue were set to implement their process from the 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2024. Assurance was needed, they advised for the landowners concerned. Concern was also raised regarding any delays in the cross-border aspect of the plan.

Cllr Mc Dermott called for the RZLT to be deferred until the review had taken place and that that this be communicated to the Department and to Revenue. He was informed that the implementation of the legislation in relation to the imposing of levies was a matter for revenue and that the Planning Authority only prepared the maps. The Senior planner said that it was his belief that until the new plan and zonings were adopted the current plan remained in place.

Cllr Canning proposed, seconded by Cllr Mc Dermott an extension of duration for six months in terms of the commencement of work on the plan.

Cllr Brogan called for a deputation to meet with the Minister and to put forward a fair and balanced argument given that he was the only person with the authority to defer same.

Concern was also raised in relation to the following;

- The ether the was liability for the RZLT in areas of “Established Development” on holdings of less than an acre.
- Many people had missed out on the submission deadline.
- Unfair to impose the tax on lands where the relevant infrastructure was not in place.
- Areas zoned as “Strategic Reserve” cannot be developed yet owners under the RZLT levy will be punished for not developing their lands.

Mr Paul Christy, Senior Planner stated that the proposal to extend the life of the plan by six months created a problem in that the remaining window to prepare the new plan would not be enough. This he said was the reasoning to go with the maximum period as provided for in the legislation but with a commitment that work would commence within a year when the other major bodies of work alluded to were concluded and the necessary resources available.

This was further clarified by the Director of Service who said that once the Draft Letterkenny Area Plan and the Draft County Development Plan were concluded then works would commence hopefully in April or May next year on the Seven Strategic Towns Local Area Plan review.

Members were again informed that the key drivers in terms of the RZLT were the Department of Finance and the Revenue Commissioner and ultimately the Minister for Finance.

At this juncture members asked that additional clarification be sought in relation to the possible amendment of the RZLT deadlines prior to making a decision on the extension of duration for the Seven Strategic Towns Area Plan.

On the proposal of Cllr Brogan, seconded by Cllr Canning it was resolved to defer the matter to a Special Meeting of Council on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 at 4pm in the County House, Lifford. It was further resolved to deal with the remaining Settlement Framework issues for the Letterkenny/Milford Municipal District at this meeting.

C/162/23 **TO NOTE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CORPORATE POLICY GROUP HELD ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> OF MARCH, 2023**

Members noted the minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Policy Group held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March, 2023.

C/163/23 **TO ENDORSE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COISTE NA GAEILGE (COISTE NA GAEILGE) HELD ON THE 15<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY, 2022.**

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle seconded by Cllr Molloy it was resolved to endorse the minutes of the meeting of Coiste na Gaeilge held on the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2022.

C/164/23 **ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES, SEMINARS OR EVENTS**

Having noted authorisation of representation at a seminar, meeting or event under Section 142 (5) of Local Government Act, 2001, S.I. No. 668 of 2006, Local Government (Expenses of Local Authority Members) Regulations 2006, S.I. No. 37 of 2010, Guidelines given by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in relation to the Local Government Act, 2001 (Section 142) Regulations 2010, and the Local Government (Expenses of Local Authority Members) Regulations, 2014(as amended). On the proposal of Cllr Brogan, seconded by Cllr Harley, it was resolved to authorise any member, if he/she so wished, to attend the following conferences/ events, subject to the normal procedures:

- i. Individual members not exceeding their annual budget for attendance at conferences.
- ii. Payment of expenses for attendance to be conditional on the member furnishing documentary evidence of attendance.
- i. Submission of a Conference Report.

**Training**

- AILG Elected Member's Training Programme 2023. (Consolidated version).

Cllr Crossan informed members that the Module 3 Seminar on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June would be of particular benefit as the Office of the Planning Regulator would be presenting an overview of existing and emerging planning legislation and policy guidance.

**Conferences**

- "Count Her In National Conference" held on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023 in Cork City Concert Hall.

### Abroad

- Attendance of the Cathaoirleach at a networking event with the Donegal Association in London on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2023.
- Attendance of the Cathaoirleach at the launch of the “Donegal Book of Honour” in Leuven, Belgium from the 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2023
- Attendance of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime representative at the CPMR Political Bureau meeting in Florence on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June, 2023.

C/165/23

### **REQUEST FOR DEPUTATION FROM THE WEST ULSTER RAILWAY INITIATIVE**

On the proposal of Cllr Brogan, seconded by Cllr McGowan it was resolved that the deputation be invited to attend a future meeting of the Roads & Transportation SPC.

C/166/23

### **RECRUITMENT OF ASSISTANT HERITAGE OFFICER**

On the proposal of Cllr Sweeny, seconded by Cllr Harley it was resolved to adopt the following motion:

*"That this Council pursues the recruitment of an assistant Heritage Officer for County Donegal through engagement with the Heritage Council and commits to supporting this role into the future".*

Cllr Sweeny received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

He paid tribute to the excellent work carried out by the Heritage Officer who with assistance from the Cultural Services Department strived to ensure that the priorities outlined in the Heritage Plan were promoted and followed through. Additional resources were needed, he said, to relieve the pressure on the Heritage Officer so that the full potential and goals outlined in the Heritage Plan could be fully realised.

Over the years, he said, there had been increased funding opportunities which had placed a significant burden on the Heritage Officer's workload. It was acknowledged also that it had not been possible to apply for funding under the Historic Towns Initiative in 2023 as the resources were not in place to facilitate same. The employment of an A.H.O would, he contended, have allowed this to proceed. Some aspects of the Heritage Plan itself could not be followed up on, he added, due to the lack of resources. He alluded also to the hidden value of the Heritage Department and its contribution also to the tourism product and the tourism economy.

He thanked the Director of Service for his response and said it was essential that Donegal County Council pushed forward and explored all available options so that an Assistant Heritage Office could be employed without delay.

Cllr Harley outlined his support for the motion.

There was no opposition to the motion.

Mr Patsy Lafferty, Director Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services noted that while funding approval had not been forthcoming to date, the Council would continue to pursue all available options with the relevant agencies including the Heritage Council and the and the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage. In the absence of such funding, the only other option, he advised, was to look at funding the post as part of the annual revenue budget process.

C/167/23

**PRESENTATION BY MR JOHN GALLAGHER, SENIOR ENGINEER  
IN RELATION TO HOUSING CONSTRUCTION AND HOUSING  
ACQUISITION FOR THE PERIOD 2023 – 2026**

It was unanimously agreed at this juncture to consider collectively a number of the motions relating to housing acquisitions, namely items 12, 15,16 and 18 and that prior to this a presentation by Mr John Gallagher, Senior Engineer on the current acquisition programme would be delivered to members.

Mr Patsy Lafferty, Director Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services said that the Council was committed to acquiring houses and noted that it had a good track record in that regard. He said that in 2022 the Department had allowed Local Authorities to purchase houses for specific purposes. It was acknowledged that this had also to be looked at in the context of the Defective Concrete blocks issue. The Council was, he confirmed, was fully committed to recommencing the acquisition of houses in line with the thrust of the motions. He referenced also, the motion from Cllr A Doherty in relation to the Approved Housing Bodies and the fact that there were issues with the Capital Advanced Leasing Facility Scheme. There were difficulties with this scheme in rural counties, he said, and the financial model had not been particularly successful. The Department, it was noted, had agreed to review, and revise the scheme and an updated version was in place over the past few months with the financial model now reflecting construction costs as opposed to market rents.

Addressing members, Mr Gallagher provided an overview of the following development in housing.

- Construction Schemes (Completed & On- Site)
- Construction Scheme s (Tender & Design)
- Turnkey Acquisition
- Land Acquisition
- House Acquisition
- Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs)
- Summary of targets, Delivery and Costs 2022 – 2026

C/168/23

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS – CONTINUATION OF THE MEETING BEYOND 6PM**

On the proposal of Cllr Mc Monagle, seconded by Cllr Mc Clafferty it was resolved in accordance with Standing Order No 28 to suspend Standing Order No 3 to allow the meeting to continue beyond 6pm.

C/169/23

**SPEED UP THE PURCHASES OF HOUSES RELATING TO THE TENANT-IN-SITU SCHEME**

On the proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Murray it was resolved to adopt the following motion:

*"I am calling on this Council to speed up the purchasing of houses relating to the Tenant- in-Situ Scheme as a matter of urgency".*

Cllr Jordan received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

He said that all were aware of why the scheme had been brought in and had promised to allay the fears of tenants in receipt of RAS and HAP. These, he said, had been under the impression that the Local Authority would purchase properties thus easing the burden once the eviction ban was lifted. Overall, it was acknowledged, that the process itself was slow. He said, he was aware that several landlords had made expressions of interest to the Council and were willing to extend out the notice to quit date in order to get a guarantee from the Council that they will purchase the building. People, he said, were at their wits end and currently there was no light at the end of the tunnel. He urged the Council to speed up the process given the fear and frustration that existed at present and to move forward in a consistent manner with the Tenant - In - Situ Scheme.

Cllr Murray concurred with this and advised of the need to cut out the level of bureaucracy involved.

There was no opposition to the motion.

Mr Patsy Lafferty, Director Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services acknowledged that there was frustration with the roll out of this scheme. Initially, he said, a Notice of Termination had to issue where the eviction is due to the sale of the house. It was hoped to fast-track these as quickly as possible, he said, but there was a specific process to be followed particularly in relation to negotiations with the landlord, the value for money element and the overall conveyancing aspects. The Council, he said, was committed to rolling out the scheme as quickly as possible within these parameters.

Cllr Jordan said that whilst appreciative of the response, he was not convinced that it would allay the fears that existed, and that the landlord would not ultimately be able to wait. He asked that the process be streamlined to avoid unnecessary delays.

C/170/23

**PROCUREMENT OF HOUSES FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR**

On the proposal from Cllr T Crossan, seconded by Cllr A Doherty it was resolved to adopt the following motion: -

*"That Donegal County Council in light of the worsening housing crisis are more proactive in procuring houses from the private sector to help alleviate the crisis".*

Cllr Crossan received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Culture Services in relation to the above.

He queried whether the Council had the appetite to purchase properties given the pace of the progress to date and the huge demand that existed. He expressed disappointment at the response received in relation to his query on the number of houses purchased in 2022. There was disappointment also, he added, in that an expression of interest submitted in 2021 had still not been followed up despite the house being tested for deleterious materials and deemed to be in good condition. He called for a more proactive acquisition programme and for additional priority to be given to this situation.

Cllr A Doherty said that the housing issue was and is a national crisis with too many bottlenecks in the overall supply chain. IBEC, he advised had highlighted the fact that housing supply was related to the economy. Housing supply, he added, was the crux of the problem and called on the Council to pursue the appropriate bodies that would allow us here in Donegal to increase our housing supply.

There was no opposition to the motion.

Mr Patsy Lafferty, Director Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services reassured the members that the Council was committed to speeding up the delivery of all aspects of housing. "Housing for All, he advised, was focussed on "new build" and did not initially include housing acquisition, but that aspect had been allowed to recommence in 2022 in specific circumstances. This had initially meant, he advised, that discussion had to take place in relation to the Defective Concrete Blocks issue before the acquisition policy could be formalised. He said that he would take on board the comments and issues raised by the members.

Cllr Crossan concluding said that he would be keeping an eye on the matter going forward.

C/171/23

**THAT DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL STAND OVER THEIR COMMITMENT MADE TO THE TOWN COUNCILS OF BUNCRANA, LETTERKENNY, BUNDORAN AND BALLYSHANNON IN 2014**

It was unanimously agreed to take Cllr Murray's motion at this juncture.

On the proposal of Cllr Murray, seconded by Cllr N Crossan the following motion was adopted:

*“That Donegal County Council stands over the commitment, made prior to the abolition of the town councils in 2014, to the communities in Buncrana, Letterkenny, Bundoran and Ballyshannon, that they would maintain the same level of public service that had been enjoyed prior to their abolition.*

*As such, the council commits to undertaking a comparable review of the current level of services in each of the four towns with regard to town gardening services, street sweeping, monies for roads infrastructure, customer facing services and all other services formerly provided by the town councils. Further, the council commits to restoring any gaps in services should same be noted”.*

Cllr Murray received a response from the Director of Roads & Transportation in relation to the above.

C/172/23

### **RECOMMENCEMENT OF STALLED HOUSING PROJECTS**

On the proposal from Cllr A Doherty, seconded by Cllr McMonagle it was resolved to adopt the following motion:

*“Donegal County Council calls on the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage to ensure that stalled social housing projects initiated by Approved Housing Bodies can recommence, amend where necessary the Capital Advance Leasing Scheme, plan and ensure greater engagements between department officials, Donegal County Council and Approved Housing Bodies to allow the optimum delivery of social housing in the county”.*

Cllr A Doherty received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Culture Services in relation to the above.

His motion, he said, hoped to get on board all who provided housing, including the Approved Housing Bodies. He commented on the lack of AHB development in the Inishowen Peninsula currently and in the past. This, he noted, was applicable to all types of housing delivery and stated that the social infrastructure was not in place to facilitate this growth.

He said that he hoped the change from market rents to construction would bring about change.

He called on the Council to pursue all areas of housing where it was possible to increase housing supply. There were issues also, he advised, in relation to the Council’s own housing stock. Thus, he said, the crisis required cross department support if the situation was to improve.

Cllr Mc Monagle concurred with this.



There was no opposition to the motion.

Mr Patsy Lafferty, Director Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services noted that there had been ongoing engagement with the AHB sector and said that recent changes to the CALF Scheme should enable the AHBs to deliver more units in the county.

C/173/23

**THAT AS A MATTER OF URGENCY THIS COUNCIL ACTIVELY SEEK FOUR AND FIVE BED HOUSES WHICH ARE ON THE OPEN MARKET FOR SALE**

On the proposal of Cllr McMonagle, seconded by Cllr A Doherty it was resolved to adopt the following motion:

*"That as a matter of urgency this Council actively seek Four and Five bed houses which are on the Open Market for sale to meet the growing demand from families who currently find themselves in overcrowded homes which are not meeting their physical and mental health well-being."*

Cllr McMonagle received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Culture Services in relation to the above.

He said that many tenants were living in cramped and unsociable situations with many having medical reasons for needing a four or five bed roomed house. He expressed at the pace of progress and noted that representations in several cases had been ongoing for years.

He was he said mindful that there were other issues at play namely the DCB situation but contended that this was no excuse for having families living in overcrowded and stressful situations. There were, he advised, a minimum of four and five bed houses being built. Referencing the reply to his question, he said that he was of the belief that the number who had sought a transfer to larger accommodation was much more than 29. It was imperative, he said, that a review was conducted so that a comprehensive evaluation could be provided in relation to those whose situation had changed.

Welcoming the response, he said, that the provision of four and five bedded houses needed to be factored in to meet the demand. Targets were far too low, he added, to accommodate those on the waiting lists, and an ambitious acquisition programmed was needed.

Cllr A Doherty seconded the motion asked that a briefing be provided at MD level on the current need for four- and five-bedroom housing.

C/174/23

**NEED FOR CHANGE IN THE REGULATIONS REGARDING THE TIME FRAME FOR SEPTIC TANK GRANTS AND WATER WELL GRANTS**

On the proposal of Cllr Naughton, seconded by Cllr Brogan it was resolved to adopt the following motion:

*"That Donegal County Council call on the Minister for Environment, Climate, and Communications Mr. Eamon Ryan TD and the Minister for Housing Mr. Darragh O'Brien TD to change the regulations in relation to the time frame for septic tanks grants and water well grants".*

Cllr Naughton received a response from the Director of Water & Environment in relation to the above.

He welcomed the response and referenced the fact that the lowest uptake of septic tanks grants was in Donegal. Inspections in 2023, he said, had shown that many people had not registered for the grant in 2013 and were now at a disadvantage in terms of the remedial works required.

Donegal as a rural county had an abundance of one-off houses and these people were now in a precarious situation as the tanks in question are now no longer viable.

He outlined also issues impacting on many young couples who applied for well grants and the fact that the house had to be over seven years old to apply for same. Concern was also raised in relation to the exorbitant fees being charged by Uisce Eireann for water connections. He thus called for the regulations to be amended to alleviate the burden on many young families.

Cllr Brogan said this was a very practical and reasonable motion and one that needed to be progressed if we are serious about progressing the derelict properties issue.

Mr Michael Mc Garvey, Director Water & Environment said that he had spoken to Cllr Naughton earlier on the matter. There were two main issues here, he said, and that Donegal County Council had raised the matter on numerous occasions with the Department. It was important, he added, that something was done so as to alleviate water quality issues and in the interest of the homeowners. He concurred that the seven-year requirement in terms of applying for a well grant was something that needed to be looked at.

He was he said happy to convey the issues as raised to the Department.

C/175/23

### **EXTENSION OF THE ACTIVE TRAVEL PROGRAMME BEYOND TOWN BOUNDARIES**

On the proposal of Cllr L Doherty, seconded by Cllr G Doherty it was resolved to adopt the following motion:

*"I am asking this Council to write to the Minister asking him to extend the Active Travel Programme beyond the town boundaries. To retrospectively provide safe walking and cycling infrastructure,*

*segregated from other traffic, into settlements and in settlement areas, from suitable adjacent rural areas. To allow access to cultural, recreational, commercial, educational and employment destinations and attractions".*

Cllr Doherty received a response from the Director of Roads & Transportation in relation to the above.

He highlighted the need to extend the programme outside town boundaries for a variety of social and economic reasons and in the interest of general safety. In many instances, he advised, schools were outside the town boundaries. If people were to be encouraged to walk and cycle, he said, these extensions were necessary to facilitate the Active Travel programme.

He cited the example of the Centre of Excellence in Convoy where access options would be enhanced if there was such an extension.

Cllr Gary Doherty said that the motion was timely and warranted immediate consideration.

There was no opposition to the motion.  
Cllr Doherty thanked members for their support.

C/176/23

### **CYCLEWAYS FOR TOWNS AND VILLAGES IN DONEGAL**

On the proposal of Cllr Mc Clafferty, seconded by Cllr O'Fearraigh it was resolved to adopt the following motion:

*"I am asking that this Council write to Minister for Transport, Eamonn Ryan regarding his intentions for more much needed Cycleways in our towns and villages in Donegal who as of yet do not have any, or where none are forthcoming that I'm aware of". These are much needed on safety grounds throughout the county.*

Cllr Mc Clafferty received a response from the Director of Roads & Transportation in relation to the above.

He highlighted the fact that once you leave Creeslough heading to Dunfanaghy there was no cycleway or walkway or even a footpath. There had been, he noted, several serious accidents on this stretch of road. He cited the need for the introduction of a walkway or cycleway in the interest of pedestrian and cyclist safety. It was vital, he added, that pressure was maintained, so that the issues highlighted could be addressed.

Cllr O' Fearraigh said that the matter required immediate consideration given that this was a dangerous stretch of road for all types of road users.

There was no opposition to the motion.

The Cathaoirleach drew attention to the fact that motions at plenary level should be strategic and county-wide in nature.

Mr Bryan Cannon, Director Roads & Transportation alluding to the motions submitted by Cllrs L Doherty and Mc Clafferty said that both reflected the situation in different parts of the county. He noted that an allocation of €4.5m had been made to Donegal County Council under the Active Travel as provided by the Minister for Transport through the National Transport Authority. The Council in turn, he added, submitted projects to the NTA who assess and award funding within the permitted allocation. It was acknowledged that projects which did not have require land purchase/CPO and which are provided within the existing road footprint are preferred as they provide greater opportunity for modal shift. He highlighted several of the considerations which the NTA took into consideration when assessing projects.

He alluded to the fact that the Active Travel and Greenways Team in the county do their best to maximise opportunities. It was noted that the national road projects being delivered along the N56 by the NRO team did include for active travel/cycle facilities and that all new strategic routes being developed also provided for modal shift opportunities. The Ten – T and the Letterkenny Southern Network Project were cited as examples. These, he said, were effectively transport corridors and facilitated the change to other types of transport.

Cllr Mc Clafferty welcomed the reply and said that the matter was indeed county-wide and that the issues highlighted in the Glenties Municipal District were reflective of the problems being encountered county-wide.

C/177/23

**EXTENSION AND ROLLOUT OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AFFORDABLE PURCHASE SCHEME AND THE LDA COST RENTAL SCHEME**

On the proposal of Cllr G Doherty, seconded by Cllr A Doherty it was resolved to adopt the following motion:

*"That Donegal County Council make submissions to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and the Land Development Agency outlining the urgent need for the extension and rollout of:*

- the Local Authority Affordable Purchase Scheme (LAAPS)*
- and;*
- the LDA Cost Rental Scheme*

*in order to acknowledge and address the housing crisis in the county and to offer some solution to middle income earners who are being priced out of the housing purchase and rental markets".*

Cllr Doherty received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

He said that the motion had been submitted based on representations made to him by people seriously affected by the affordability crisis in the housing market at present. The LAAPS Scheme, he said, had been presented a solution to the housing crisis and marketed as same by the Department. To participate in the scheme, local authorities, he said, had to demonstrate an affordability challenge yet Donegal was not included.

He said he believed this authority would be able to meet this challenge.

Recognising that the Council was doing a Housing Need Demand assessment at present, he said that the next logical step was to submit an application to the LAAPS Scheme.

He proceeded to quote a response to a parliamentary question submitted by Mr Pádraig Mac Lochlainn T.D. as to why there had not been an application from Donegal County Council, and the fact that the Department was willing to meet and work with Donegal County Council.

He called for a meeting with the Department to discuss the need for Donegal to be included in all available housing schemes. It was acknowledged that many of the schemes under the "Housing for All" umbrella were not being accessed by the Council and that the Department blamed the Council and vice versa for the lack of progress. An accommodation needed to be found as soon as possible, he added.

Cllr A Doherty concurred with this assessment.

There was no opposition to the motion.

Mr Patsy Lafferty, Director Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services said the motion referred to those cohort of households which are caught between not qualifying under the Social Housing provisions and being unable to repay a mortgage for the cost of a house in Donegal. Reference was made to several affordable housing initiatives in place at present. He alluded to the First Home Equity Scheme (not delivered by the local authority) which is available to first time buyers and eligible homeowners to purchase a newly built home in a private development. He said that the Council had meet with the Housing Delivery Coordination office, the LGMA in relation to the Affordable Housing Scheme and the Cost Rental Scheme. The CRS, he noted, was a new form of long-term sustainable home rental and was targeted at middle income households with income above the social housing limit. The financial model here he said determined that rents would be set at a rate which covered the construction costs and the ongoing costs of managing and maintaining the properties. The rents he advised had to be 25% below the prevailing market rate. An economic viability assessment had concluded, he added, that current market rents in the county would not satisfy the economic assessment viability requirements for the operation of the CRS in Donegal.

Concluding, he said that in the case of the LAAPS Scheme a Housing Need Demand Assessment had to be completed before sitting down again with the Department. This, he confirmed, was well advanced as part of the County Development plan process and the Council would be looking to complete same as soon as possible.

Cllr Doherty welcomed the response and noted that there were now many properties in Donegal which were heading towards rental values of €2000 per month. This, he said, needed to be pointed out to the Department as it was clear that rental costs were higher in Donegal than currently anticipated.

C/178/23

### **CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS**

#### *Votes of Sympathy*

A vote of sympathy was extended to the following:

- Mairead Gibbons, Housing & Corporate, Carndonagh PSC on the death of her mother, Anna Rita Mc Laughlin.
- Lorraine Coll, Environment Section on the death of her mother, Kathleen Murphy.

#### *St Patrick's Day Events in the USA*

The Cathaoirleach updated members in relation to his visit to the USA for the St Patrick's Day events in Philadelphia, New York and Boston. He said that the trip had been very worthwhile and that all those that he had met had been appreciative of the visit. The visit, he said, was important in that it helped maintain links with the Donegal Diaspora and built relationships that were of mutual benefit. It was a link that, he said, that needed to be developed and maintained.

C/179/23

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Members noted the report circulated with the agenda together with the following items highlighted in the report:

#### **1. Community Development & Planning Services**

- A. Community Development
- B. Planning Services
- C. Regeneration & Development
- D. Capital Projects Delivery Unit

#### **2. Water and Environment**

- A. Waste and Litter Management
  - (i) *Big Donegal Clean Up*
  - (ii) *Anti-Dumping Initiative 2023*
  - (iii) *Network for Irelands Environmental Compliance & Enforcement (NIECE) 'Sharing Experiences in Waste Enforcement'*

- (iv) Donegal Recycling Centres at Lahey, Stranorlar, Dungloe, Letterkenny, Milford & Carndonagh*
- (v) Food Waste Recycling Week (5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023)*
- (vi) Dog Fouling Awareness Video*
- (vii) Donegal Secures 14 Blue Flags and 4 Green Coast Awards for 2023*

- B. Climate Action
  - (i) Local Authority Climate Action Plan*
- C. Air Quality
  - (i) Solid Fuel Enforcement Activities*
- D. Water Services
  - (i) Water Services Transition to Uisce Éireann*
  - (ii) Uisce Éireann's Small Towns and Villages Growth Programme (2025-2029)*

### **3. Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services**

- A. Housing
  - (i) Housing for All – Social Housing Programme Update*
  - (ii) Ending of Eviction Ban and 'Tenant in Situ' Initiatives*
  - (iii) Defective Concrete Blocks Grant Scheme*
  - (iv) Social Houses affected by Defective Concrete Blocks*
  - (v) Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme 2023*
  - (vi) Best Kept Council Housing Schemes 2023 Competition*
  - (vii) 2023 Allocation – Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability*
- B. Cultural Services
  - (i) Creative Ireland*
  - (ii) National Famine Commemoration 2023*
  - (iii) Regional Cultural Centre*
  - (iv) Donegal County Museum*
  - (v) County Donegal Heritage Office*

### **4. Economic Development, I.S. & Emergency Services**

- A. Fire Services
  - (i) Operations*
  - (ii) Fire Prevention*
  - (iii) Major Emergency Management*

## **5. Roads & Transportation**

- A. Central Technical Services
  - (i) *BALAMI Piers & Harbours Programme*
  - (ii) *Greenways Projects*
  - (iii) *Public Lighting 2023*
  - (iv) *Climate Action & Energy Efficiency*
  
- B. Roads Area Update
  - (i) *Annual Road Works Programmes*
  - (ii) *Local Improvement Schemes*
  - (iii) *Velocity Patcher*
  
- C. National Roads Office
  - (i) *TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project Donegal*
  - (ii) *A5 Western Transport Corridor*
  - (iii) *Donegal National Road Project 2023 Overview*
  - (iv) *All Island Strategic Rail Review*

C/180/23 **HOW MANY HOUSES HAS THE COUNCIL BOUGHT DIRECTLY IN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS.**

Cllr McMahon submitted the following question:

*How many houses has this Council bought directly in the last twelve months?*

He received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

C/181/23 **NUMBER OF UKRAINIAN AND ASYLUM SEEKERS LIVING IN THE COUNTY**

Cllr McMahon submitted the following question:

*Can I have a breakdown of the number of Ukrainian and Asylum Seekers living in the county? I would ask that this is provided on a Municipal District basis and include a breakdown per town and rural area?*

He received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

C/182/23 **DEER SMASHES ALONG THE N56 AND OTHER ROADS**

Cllr Mc Clafferty submitted the following question:

*What is the Council's position on all the current cars getting wrecked by deer smashes along the N56 as well as other routes/roads?*

He received a response from the Director of Roads & Transportation in relation to the above.



C/183/23 **DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL'S PLANS FOR BUILDING MORE NEW ESTATES**

Cllr Mc Clafferty submitted the following question:

*What are Donegal County Councils plans in relation to building more new estates in our towns and villages locally where demand is steady?*

He received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

C/184/23 **PROCUREMENT OF HOUSES IN 2022 FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR**

Cllr T Crossan submitted the following question:

*How many houses have Donegal County Council procured in 2022 from the private sector, and what is the approximate timeframe from expression of interest to completion?*

He received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

C/185/23 **HOW MANY EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST ARE CURRENT IN TERMS OF HOUSE PROCUREMENT**

Cllr T Crossan submitted the following question:

*How many expressions of interest are current in terms of house procurement?*

He received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

C/186/23 **SI HOUSING APPLICATIONS**

Cllr A Doherty submitted the following question:

*SI Housing Applications.*

*Has Donegal County Council concluded the county review of all S.I. housing applications, and in response to the Government's temporary time-limited waiver, the pressing housing and the land acquisition need in the County, will the Council undertake to expedite the SI application process and ensure that all housing decisions are considered and delivered in good time?*

He received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

C/187/23 **HOW MANY SOCIAL HOUSES DOES THE COUNCIL INTEND TO BUILD IN EACH OF THE TIER 2 SETTLEMENTS IN DONEGAL**

Cllr Murray submitted the following question:

*How many social houses does the Council intend to build in each of the Tier 2 settlements in Donegal over the next 5 years, broken down on a year-by-year basis?*

He received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

C/188/23 **THE RELOCATION MARKETING CAMPAIGN (DCC)**

Cllr A Doherty submitted the following question:

The Relocation Marketing Campaign (DCC) has received 60+ relocation enquiries from overseas.

*What are the pre-requisites and resource needs emerging as of critical importance and required by the interested parties?*

*How important is local, national and international transport availability & provision and an assurance of an adequate county housing supply for the overseas enquiries received to date?*

He received a response from the Director of Economic Development, IS & Emergency Services in relation to the above.

C/189/23 **HOW MANY FOUR AND FIVE BED HOUSES HAVE THE COUNCIL PURCHASED SINCE 2021**

Cllr McMonagle submitted the following question:

*How many Four Bed and Five Bed Houses has the Council purchased since 2021 and can I have the number of extensions that were built to facilitate overcrowded families in our Social Housing Stock since 2019?*

He received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

C/190/23 **NUMBER OF TENANTS ON THE HOUSING TRANSFER LIST**

Cllr McMonagle submitted the following question:

*How many tenants are on the Housing Transfer list awaiting transfer to larger accommodation due to family make up and numbers?*

He received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

C/191/23 **NUMBER OF PROVIDED IN DONEGAL SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF "THE HOUSING FOR ALL POLICY"**

Cllr G Doherty submitted the following question:

*How many homes have been provided in Donegal since the introduction of the 'Housing for All' Policy under the following headings?*

*- Tenant in Situ Scheme*

- Croí Cónaithe
- Local Authority Affordable Purchase Scheme (LAAPS)
- LDA Cost Rental Scheme
- Local Authority Home Loan Scheme
- Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant
- Cost Rental Scheme
- Ready to Build Scheme

Cllr Doherty received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

C/192/23 **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN COUNCIL HOUSING ESTATES.**

Cllr McGowan submitted the following question:

*Can a short report be given on anti-social behaviour in Council Housing Estate's, is it on the increase, what steps are the Council taking to deal with anti-social behaviour, and what action is the Council taking to stop the scourge of drugs across the county affecting the quality of life for the majority of council tenants?*

He received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

C/193/23 **INCOME RECEIVED AS A RESULT OF PARKING CHARGES**

Cllr G Doherty submitted the following question:

*Can I have a breakdown in tabular form of income received as a result of parking charges including?*

- *Amount of income amount per town – for the years 2018, 2019 and 2022.*
- *Amount of income derived from the Donegal eParking App – for the years 2018, 2019 and 2022*
- *Amount of income derived from parking meters – for the years 2018, 2019 and 2022.*
- *Which towns have a free on-street parking period?*

He received a response from the Director of Roads & Transportation in relation to the above.

C/194/23 **PERFORMANCE OF THE POTHOLE PATCHING MACHINE**

Cllr McGowan submitted the following question:

*Can an update be given on the performance of the pothole patching machine that is in the county at present and what are the long-term plans for dealing with potholes especially in the winter months?*

Cllr McGowan received a response from the Director of Roads & Transportation in relation to the above.

C/195/23

**LONG COVID**

Cllr Crawford submitted the following question:

*Long Covid*

*How many employees of this Council have (a) applied for ill health retirement on the grounds of disability arising from Long Covid? (b) how many applications have been approved and are currently on ill health retirement? and (c) Is Occupational Health and Safety an internal service or is it outsourced and if the latter who is the service provider?*

He received a response from the Director of Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

C/196/23

**NUMBER OF PERMANENT POSITIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN PERMANENTLY/TEMPORARILY FILLED IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS.**

Cllr Crawford submitted the following question:

*Within Council how many permanent positions have been (a) permanently filled in the last twelve months? (b) how many have been filled in a temporary capacity over the same period? And (c) how many remain unfilled and what grades have been included in all the above positions?*

He received a response from the Director of Corporate, Housing & Cultural Services in relation to the above.

C/197/23

**NUMBER OF LITTER WARDENS IN THE COUNTY**

Cllr McGowan submitted the following question:

*How many litter wardens are there in the county and please give details?*

He received a response from the Director of Water & Environment in relation to the above.

C/198/23

**MOTIONS FROM OTHER COUNCILS**

Members noted the following motions from other Councils.

**CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL**

“That Clare County Council supports the recent Macra na Feirme campaign, entitled “The Rural Revival, Steps for our Future”. This campaign was a march that departed Athy, Co. Kildare at 7pm on Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, marching through the night, physically carrying their message, before arriving at Government Buildings circa 1p.m. on Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. The message is simple, Macra Na Feirme members want to be able remain at home, working and living in their own communities and the key components of their message are as follows:

Accessing affordable housing and cumbersome housing planning guidelines.

Disjointed and scarce healthcare services for rural communities.

The Government's definition of a family farm as 'average' and 'typical'.  
No recognition or engagement by Government on a farming succession scheme.

Lack of planning for the future of our rural communities informed by rural people.

Imposition of quotas on young farmers availing of grant aid support.

Lack of public transport for rural Ireland.

I am also requesting that this Notice of Motion be circulated to all other local authorities."

#### **KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL**

"That Kerry County Council calls on the Government to immediately initiate a National Pension Scheme for the State. That this motion would be circulated to all Local Authorities."

#### **KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL**

"That we as a Council would lead by example and change our correspondence with elected members to paperless, electronic system for those who wish to avail of it, as it would greatly reduce our paper trail, and would also make it easier from a GDPR perspective as we would not have to worry about the disposal of said correspondence when it is no longer required."

#### **MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL**

"I respectfully seek the support of my colleagues and Management of Mayo County Council to petition the Minister for the Housing, Local Government and Heritage to double the maximum grants for the Croí Cónaithe Scheme from €30,000 for a vacant property and €50,000 for a vacant property confirmed derelict to €60,000 and €100,000 respectively, given the recent unprecedented increases in the price of construction materials and the fact that these increases have not yet stabilised. In addition, I respectfully ask for your support to petition the Minister to expand the Croí Cónaithe Scheme to owners who wish to renovate vacant or vacant homes confirmed derelict, subject to conditions that the property is subsequently used for long term occupancy either through a sale or through a long-term lease. Furthermore, that those approved under the existing scheme be included when the changes have been implemented, if they have not yet drawn down their funding."

#### **OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL**

"That Offaly County Council calls on the Government to extend the Eviction Ban for all 'No Fault' tenants who face eviction until meaningful action is taken, to include measures that will ensure that thousands of children and their parents around the country aren't added to the growing Homeless List."

#### **WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL**

"That Westmeath County Council would write to the Minister for Housing and request that he support and encourage the immediate

construction of affordable housing units by temporarily removing the need for local authority contributions and facilitating the designation of affordable units in developments that area in the planning system or that have a grant of planning.”

### **WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL**

“That Wexford Council endorses and remains committed to the roll out of the Able Disabled campaign as a means of inclusion and prioritising the needs of those with a disability by companies and utilities. Furthermore, as part of the evolving nationwide expansion of the AD call sign, this Council calls on all Chambers of Commerce members, County Councils, and all utilities to engage, promote, and sign up to the AD Aware Programme as part of their corporate social responsibilities. Upon passage, this motion is circulated to all Local Authorities, Chambers of Commerce Ireland, Regulators and Government Information Service for dissemination.”

### **WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL**

(a) Any person or body, on payment of the prescribed fee, may make a submission or observation in writing to a planning authority in relation to a planning application within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

(b) Any submission or observation received shall:

(i) State the name of the person or body making the submission or observation, and

(ii) Indicate the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent.

(2) Subject to article 26, the planning authority shall acknowledge any submissions or observations as soon as may be after receipt in the form set out at Form No. 3 of Schedule 3, or a form substantially to the like effect.

(3) Where a submission or observation, under this article, is received by the planning authority after the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application, the planning authority shall return to the person or body concerned the submission or observation received and the fee and notify the person or body that their submission or observation cannot be considered by the planning authority.

(4) Where the planning authority so consents, a submission or observation under sub-article (1) may be made in electronic form.

“This Council asked the minister to strengthen section 29(b) sub section (1) and (2) of the planning and development, (submissions or observations in relation to planning application) to put an end to bogus submissions or objections and that the SPC would look to see if this local authority could change our own policies to avoid this.

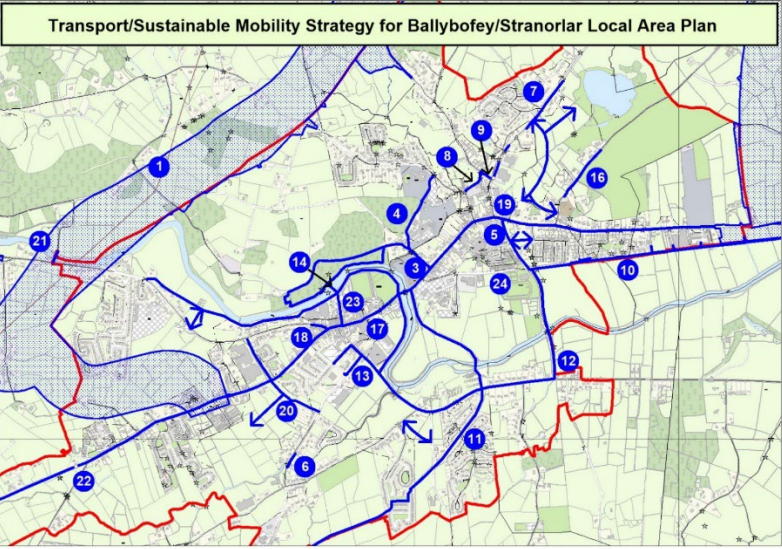
If this motion is passed that it would be circulated to all local authorities.”

This concluded the business of the meeting.

LIFFORD-STRANORLAR MD (maps attached)		
REF.	ISSUE	PROPOSED AMENDMENT
1	Ballybofey/Stranorlar Zoning Map (re 'New Residential Phase 2, Site Ref. 2.1)	<p>Rezone to 'Open Space and Recreation' arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Mc Gowan, seconded by Cllr L Doherty it was resolved to rezone the ( 'New Residential Phase 2, Site Ref. 2.1) to 'Open Space and Recreation' arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment as outlined on the Draft Ballybofey Stranorlar Zoning Map. (New Residential Phase 2, Site Ref. 2.1)</b></p>
2	Ballybofey/Stranorlar Zoning Map (re the only site zoned 'Strategic Residential Reserve', Dreenan)	<p>Rezone to 'Agricultural/Rural'</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Mc Gowan, seconded by Cllr L Doherty it was resolved to rezone the only site zoned 'Strategic Residential Reserve', Dreenan) to 'Rural/Agricultural' as outlined on the Ballybofey Stranorlar Zoning Map. (re the only site zoned 'Strategic Residential Reserve', Dreenan)</b></p>
3	St. Johnston Settlement Framework (SF) Map	<p>Revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Crawford, seconded by Cllr G Doherty it was resolved to revise the St Johnston Settlement Framework (SF) Map arising from the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) as outlined on the St Johnston Framework Settlement Map.</b></p>
4	Lifford SF Map	<p>Revised to include TEN-T project corridor.</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Crawford, seconded by Cllr G Doherty it was resolved to revise the Lifford Settlement Framework map to include the TEN-T project corridor.</b></p>
5	Chapter 19 Ballybofey/Stranorlar Local Area Plan Section 19.5 Housing P. 284	<p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Mc Gowan, seconded by Cllr L Doherty it was resolved to amend BS-H-P-2 by inserting the following point at the end of said policy in relation to site New Residential 2.3 (now renamed New Residential 2.2 to account for the proposed omission of the original New Residential zoning of said name) to manage the flood risk on parts of the site (identified in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment) in an appropriate manner consistent with the Flood Risk Management Guidelines.</b></p>

		<p><b>g) Require that any development proposal on site New Residential 2.2 is accompanied by a detailed site-specific flood risk assessment, does not provide for any residential development within any areas identified as High End Future Scenario Flood Zone A or B and does not otherwise exacerbate flood risk on the site or elsewhere.</b></p>																								
<b>6</b>	<p>Chapter 19 Ballybofey/Stranorlar Local Area Plan Section 19.7 Transportation and Sustainable Mobility Table 19.3 P.289-291</p>	<p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Mc Gowan, seconded by Cllr G Doherty it was resolved to amend Table 19.3 outlined below and renumber rows accordingly in order to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Clarify that the route of the greenways shown on the old railway lines in the Transport/Sustainable Mobility Strategy Map in Section 19.7 are indicative only.</b></li> <li>• <b>Provide for:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Active travel projects on the N15 Axis through Ballybofey/Stranorlar</b></li> <li>○ <b>Active travel facilities on the N15 (From 80kph speed limit sign to Cappry 60kph speed limit sign).</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white;"> <th style="text-align: center;">Map Ref.</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Location/ Name</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Priority/Project Description</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Key Benefits</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>10.</b></td> <td>Old Stranorlar to Strabane Railway Line</td> <td>Greenway along the old Stranorlar to Strabane Railway Line Note: Indicative Route Shown. Final route will be determined by a formal Route Selection Process.</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct connectivity between residential areas in eastern Stranorlar and St Mary's Primary School/the Finn Valley centre.</li> <li>• Part of future wider greenway network.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>11.</b></td> <td>Old Stranorlar to Donegal Town Railway Line</td> <td>Greenway along the old Stranorlar to Donegal Town Railway Line Note: Indicative Route Shown. Final route will be determined by a formal Route Selection Process.</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct connectivity between southern residential areas and town centre areas.</li> <li>• Part of future Stranorlar to Donegal Town greenway.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>17.</b></td> <td>N15 axis through Ballybofey and Stranorlar</td> <td>General active travel improvements (e.g. provision of additional pedestrian crossings)</td> <td>Enhanced active travel connectivity permeability and safety.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"><b>Sustainable Mobility and Local Roads</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>22.</b></td> <td>N15 (From 80kph speed limit sign at western end of Ballybofey/Stranorlar</td> <td>Provision of Active Travel Facilities</td> <td>Enhanced active travel infrastructure and associated safety benefits.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Map Ref.	Location/ Name	Priority/Project Description	Key Benefits	<b>10.</b>	Old Stranorlar to Strabane Railway Line	Greenway along the old Stranorlar to Strabane Railway Line Note: Indicative Route Shown. Final route will be determined by a formal Route Selection Process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct connectivity between residential areas in eastern Stranorlar and St Mary's Primary School/the Finn Valley centre.</li> <li>• Part of future wider greenway network.</li> </ul>	<b>11.</b>	Old Stranorlar to Donegal Town Railway Line	Greenway along the old Stranorlar to Donegal Town Railway Line Note: Indicative Route Shown. Final route will be determined by a formal Route Selection Process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct connectivity between southern residential areas and town centre areas.</li> <li>• Part of future Stranorlar to Donegal Town greenway.</li> </ul>	<b>17.</b>	N15 axis through Ballybofey and Stranorlar	General active travel improvements (e.g. provision of additional pedestrian crossings)	Enhanced active travel connectivity permeability and safety.	<b>Sustainable Mobility and Local Roads</b>				<b>22.</b>	N15 (From 80kph speed limit sign at western end of Ballybofey/Stranorlar	Provision of Active Travel Facilities	Enhanced active travel infrastructure and associated safety benefits.
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<b>11.</b>	Old Stranorlar to Donegal Town Railway Line	Greenway along the old Stranorlar to Donegal Town Railway Line Note: Indicative Route Shown. Final route will be determined by a formal Route Selection Process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct connectivity between southern residential areas and town centre areas.</li> <li>• Part of future Stranorlar to Donegal Town greenway.</li> </ul>																							
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<b>22.</b>	N15 (From 80kph speed limit sign at western end of Ballybofey/Stranorlar	Provision of Active Travel Facilities	Enhanced active travel infrastructure and associated safety benefits.																							



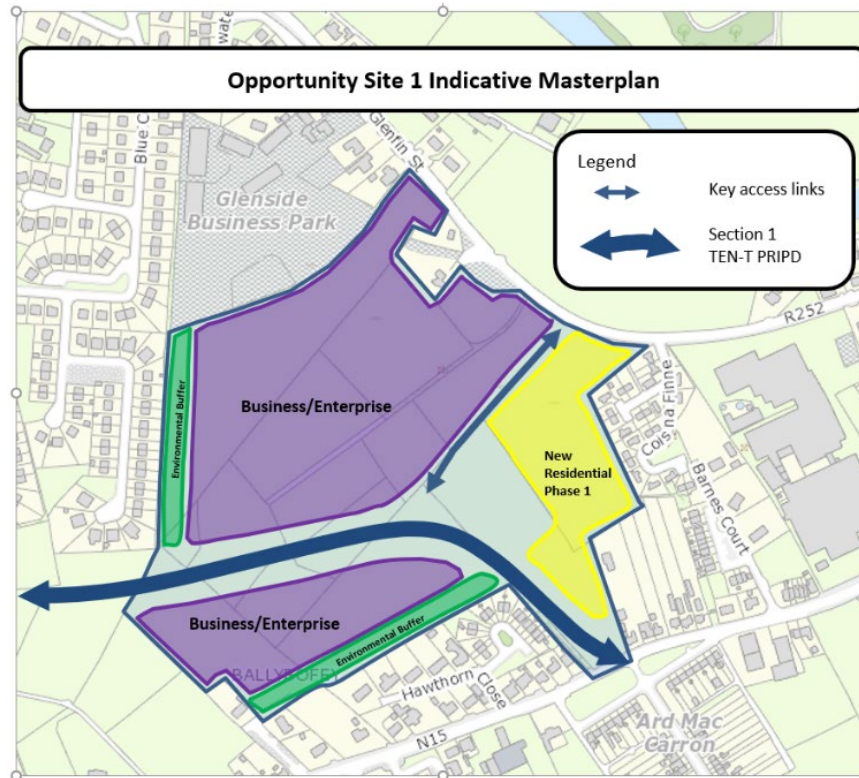
		to Cappry 60kph speed limit sign)	
7	Chapter 19 Ballybofey/Stranorlar Local Area Plan Section 19.7 Transportation and Sustainable Mobility P.293	<p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Mc Gowan, seconded by Cllr G Doherty it was resolved to delete the existing Transport/Sustainable Mobility Strategy Map in Section 19.7 and insert the following replacement map in order to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide for active travel projects on the N15 axis through Ballybofey/Stranorlar</li> <li>• Provide for active travel facilities on the N15 from the 80kph speed limit sign at the western end of Ballybofey/Stranorlar to the Cappry 60kph speed limit sign.</li> <li>• Illustrate the Section 1 TEN-T PRIPD Approved Route Corridor/CPO scheme Boundary instead of the current Section 1 TEN-T PRIPD draft detailed design.</li> </ul>	 <p>The map, titled 'Transport/Sustainable Mobility Strategy for Ballybofey/Stranorlar Local Area Plan', shows a network of roads and routes. Blue lines with arrows indicate the proposed active travel routes, numbered 1 through 24. Red lines outline the Section 1 TEN-T PRIPD Approved Route Corridor/CPO scheme Boundary. The map includes a river and various land use areas.</p>
8	Section 19.10 Recreation, Community and Natural Heritage P. 307	<p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Mc Gowan, seconded by Cllr G Doherty it was resolved to insert a new policy regarding the Community Infrastructure Zoning adjoining Robertson National School to manage the flood risk on parts of the site (identified in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment) in an appropriate manner consistent with the Flood Risk Management Guidelines.</b></p> <p><b>BS-RCNH-P-8</b> Ensure that any development proposal on the Community Infrastructure Zoning adjoining Robertson National School be accompanied by a detailed site-specific flood risk assessment, only provides for water compatible ancillary educational infrastructure (e.g. outdoor sports and recreational facilities) and does not otherwise exacerbate flood risk on the site or elsewhere.</p>	

9

Chapter 19  
Ballybofey/Stranorlar Local  
Area Plan  
Section 19.11 Opportunity  
sites  
P.308

**On the proposal of Cllr Mc Gowan, seconded by Cllr G Doherty it was resolved to delete the existing Opportunity Site 1 Indicative Masterplan and insert the following replacement indicative Masterplan in Section 19.11 in order to:**

- **Illustrate the approximate route of the Section 1: N15/N13 Ballybofey TEN-T PRIPD Link Road rather than the draft detailed design of same which has yet to be formally submitted for planning approval.**
- **Indicate that access onto the above link road from Opp. Site 1 will be via a single strategic access at a location to be determined and to provide flexibility in relation to the exact location of same.**

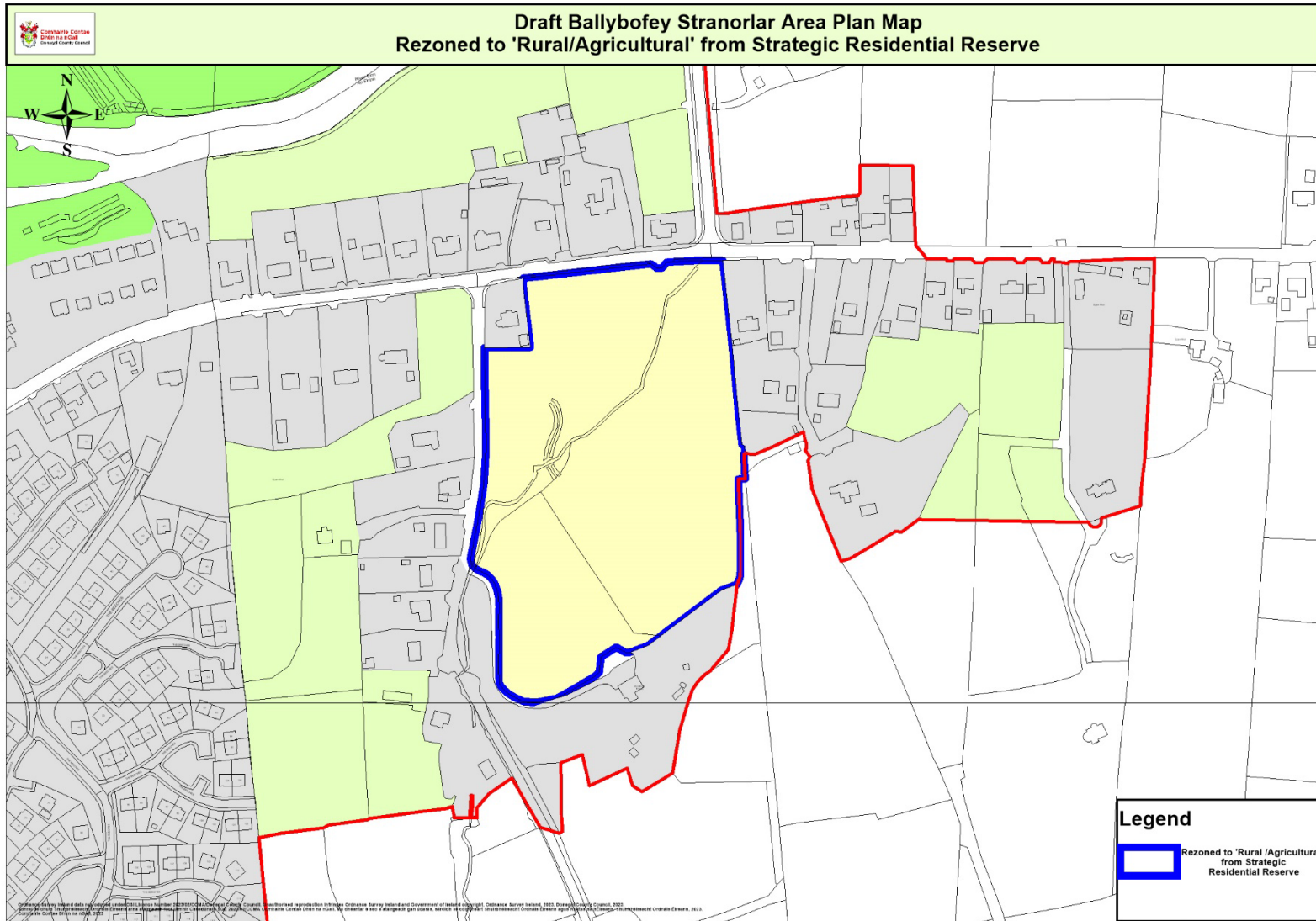


<p><b>10.</b></p>	<p>Chapter 19 Ballybofey/Stranorlar Local Area Plan Section 19.11 Opportunity sites P.308</p>	<p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Mc Gowan, seconded by Cllr G Doherty it was resolved to amend Policy BS-OPP-P-1 as outlined below so as to clarify that any development of Opp. Site 1 should not prejudice the delivery of the strategic functionality, road safety, and carrying capacity of the Section 1: TEN-T PRIPD Link Road and that any access to Opp. Site 1 from said link road will be via a single strategic access point, the location and design of which shall be subject to the strict agreement of Donegal County Council.</b></p> <p><b>Policy BS-OPP-P-1</b> Facilitate business/enterprise (including light engineering/manufacturing, logistics/warehousing, service-based enterprises) and multiple residential development proposals on Opp. Site 1 which accord with the Opp. Site 1 indicative Masterplan and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Do not prejudice the delivery, strategic functionality, road safety, and carrying capacity of, the Section 1 TEN-T PRIPD link road. In this regard any multimodal access enabling permeability across and to this Opp Site 1 shall be via a single strategic access point the location and design of which shall be subject to the strict agreement of Donegal County Council.</b></li> <li>• <b>Facilitate, in conjunction with the aforementioned the provision of safe, quality, and direct local transport link including public and private vehicular, pedestrian and cycling infrastructure between the Section 1 TEN-T PRIPD Link Road and the Glenfinn Road.</b></li> </ul>
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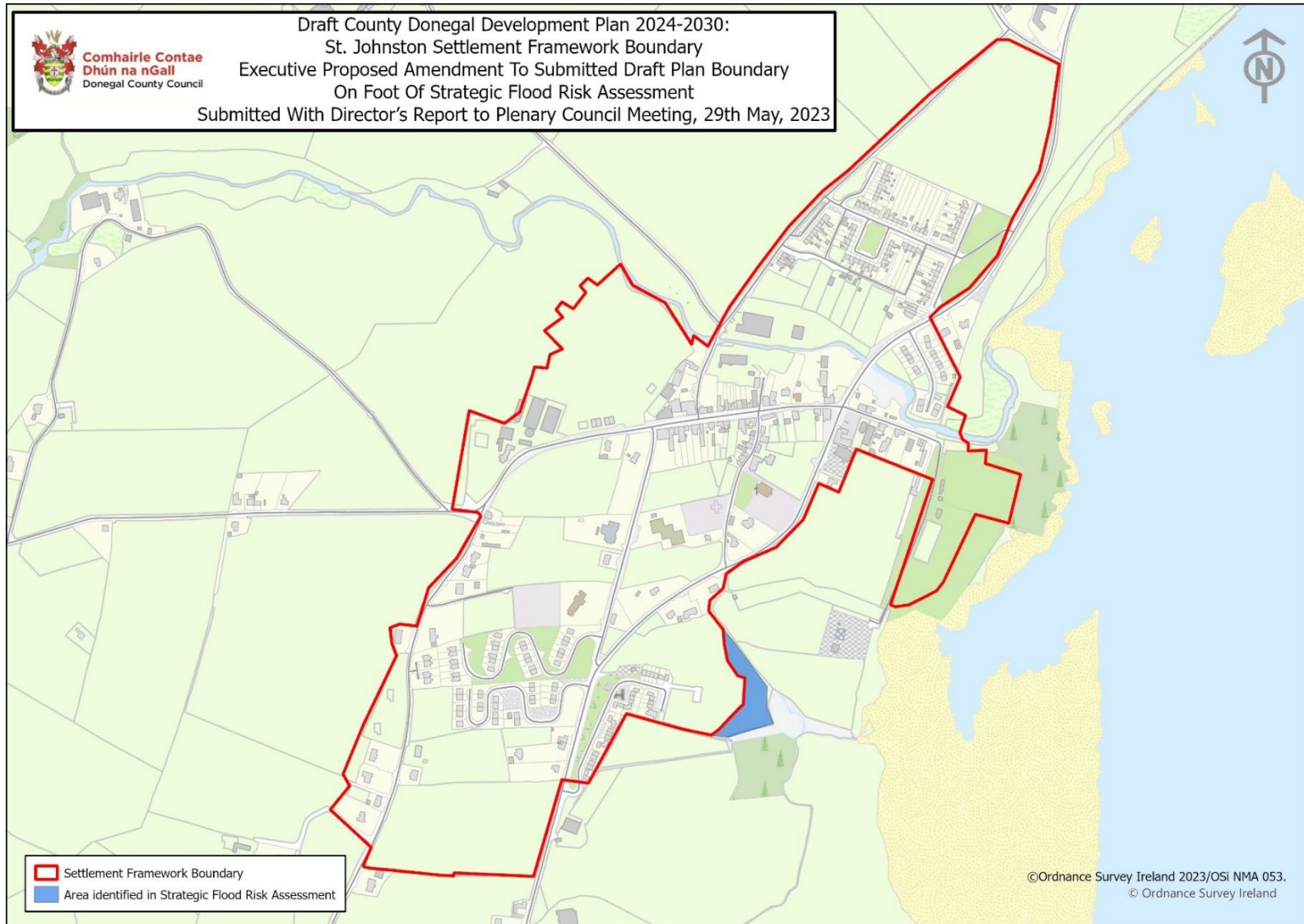




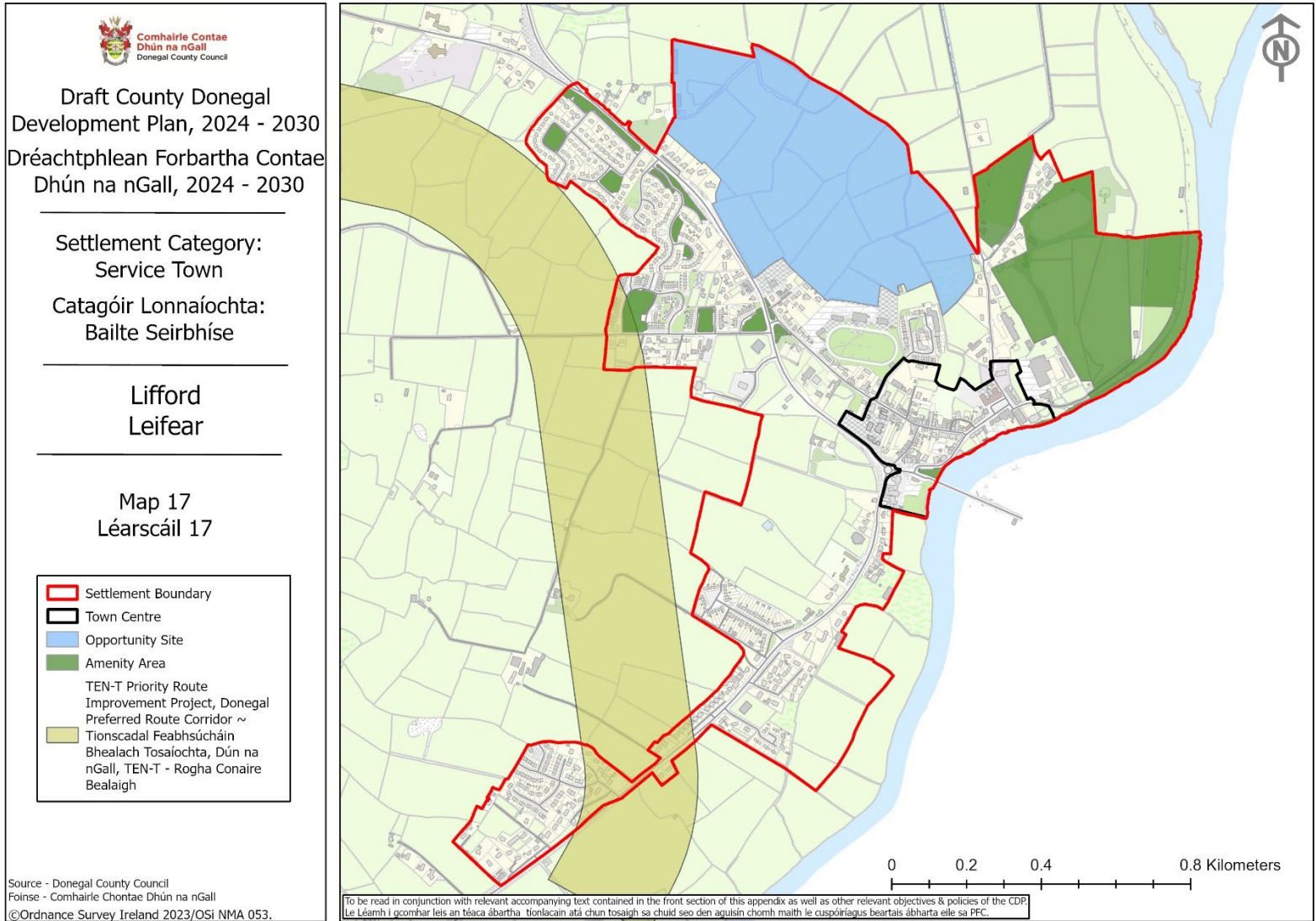
# Ballybofey Stranorlar Zoning Map



## St. Johnston Settlement Framework Map



# Lifford Settlement Framework Map





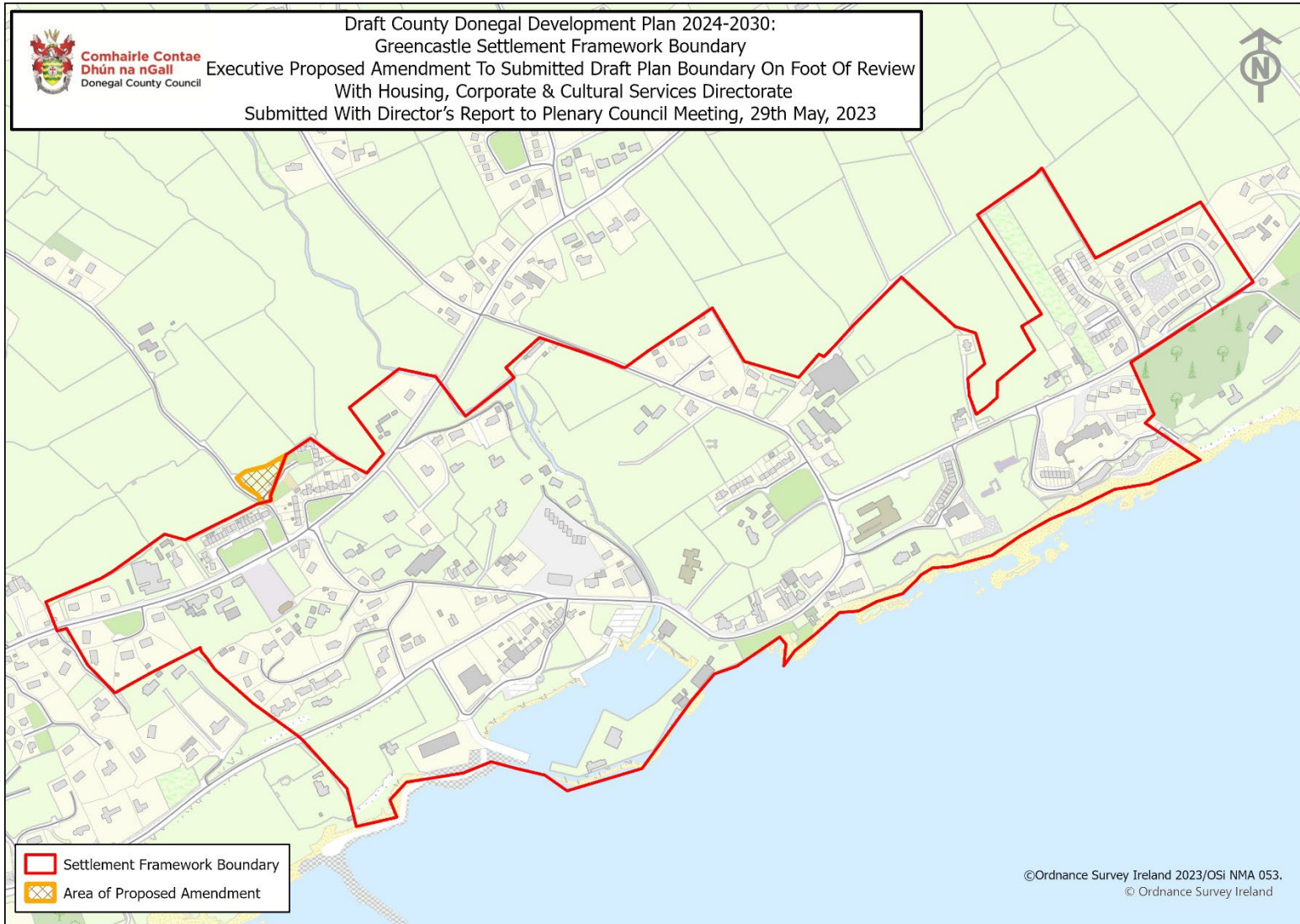
## Inishowen MD

INISHOWEN MD (maps attached)		
REF.	ISSUE	PROPOSED AMENDMENT
1	Greencastle SF Map	<p>Minor revision to allow opportunity to explore further housing options.</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr A Doherty, seconded by Cllr N Crossan it was resolved to amend the Greencastle Settlement Framework Map as attached to allow for the exploration of further housing options.</b></p>
2	Clonmany SF Map	<p>Minor revision to allow opportunity to explore further housing options.</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr A Doherty, seconded by Cllr Mc Dermott it was resolved to amend the Clonmany Settlement Framework Map as attached to allow for the exploration of further housing options.</b></p>
3	Burnfoot SF Map	<p>Addition of Bypass line as contained in current CDP.</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Murray, seconded by Cllr Canning it was resolved to amend the Burnfoot Settlement Framework map as attached to facilitate the addition of a Bypass line as contained in the current CDP.</b></p>
4	Gleneely	<p>Revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Mc Dermott, seconded by Cllr A Doherty it was resolved to amend the Gleneely Settlement Framework map as attached to facilitate the revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</b></p>
5	Newtoncunningham	<p>Revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr T Crossan it was resolved to amend the Newtowncunningham Settlement Framework map as attached to facilitate the revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</b></p>
6	Quigley's Point	<p>Revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr T Crossan, seconded by Cllr Canning it was resolved to amend the</b></p>

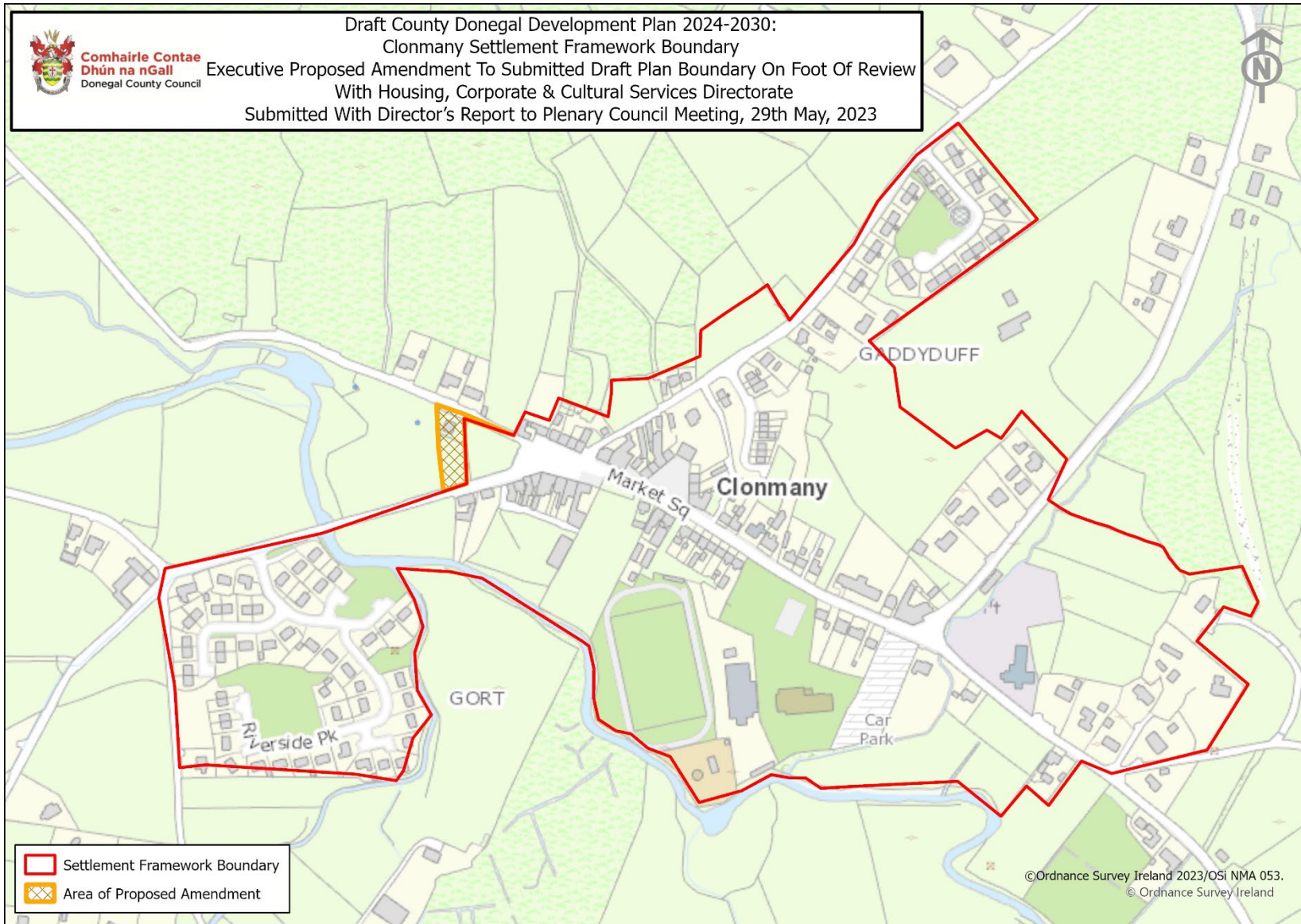


		<b>Quigley’s Point Settlement Framework map as attached to facilitate the revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</b>
<b>7</b>	Buncrana Zoning Map	<p>Revised zonings arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Donaghey, seconded by Cllr Murray it was resolved to amend the Buncrana Zoning Map as attached to facilitate the revised zonings to “Open Space &amp; Recreation arising from the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</b></p>

# Greencastle Settlement Framework Map

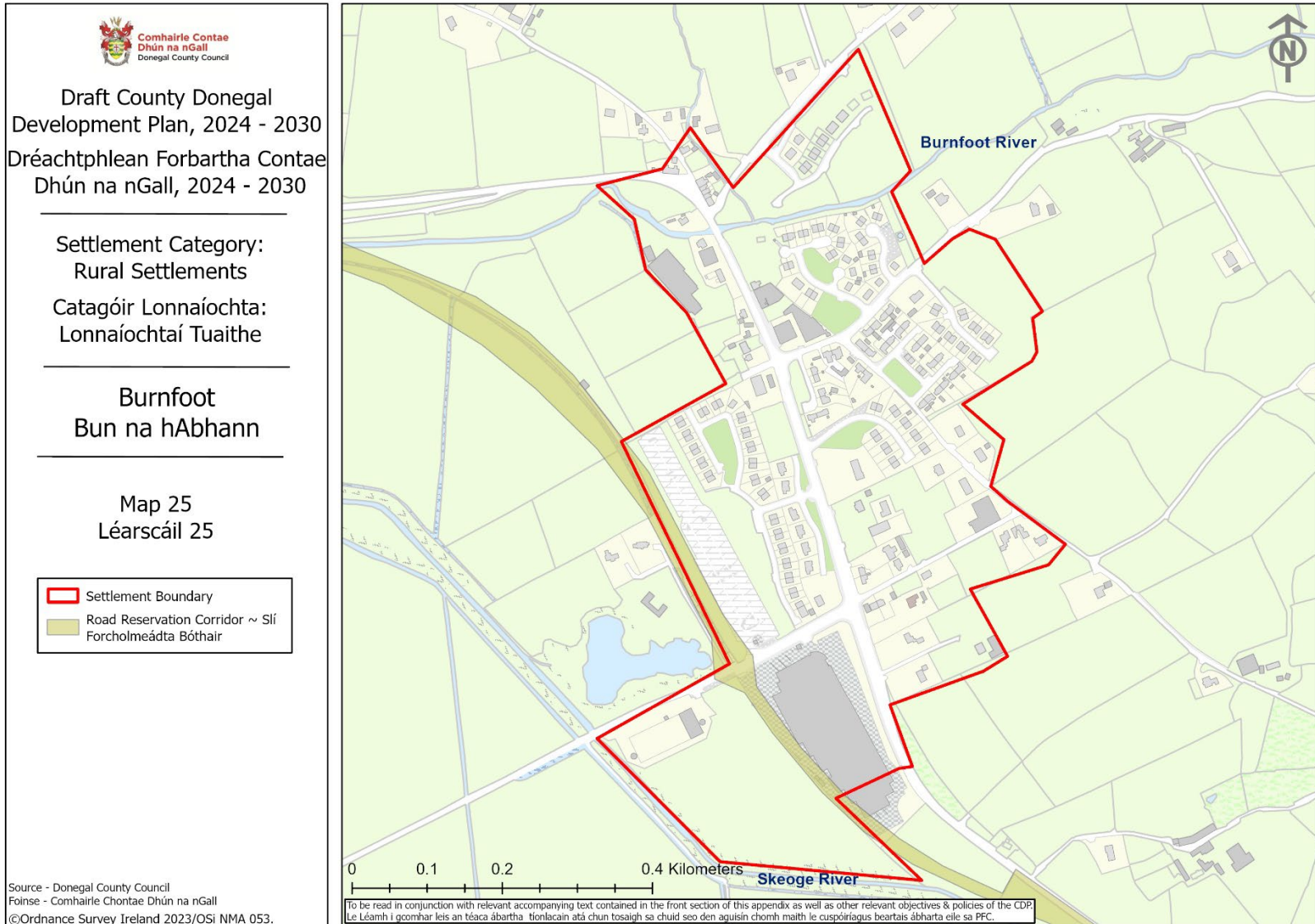


# Clonmany Settlement Framework Map

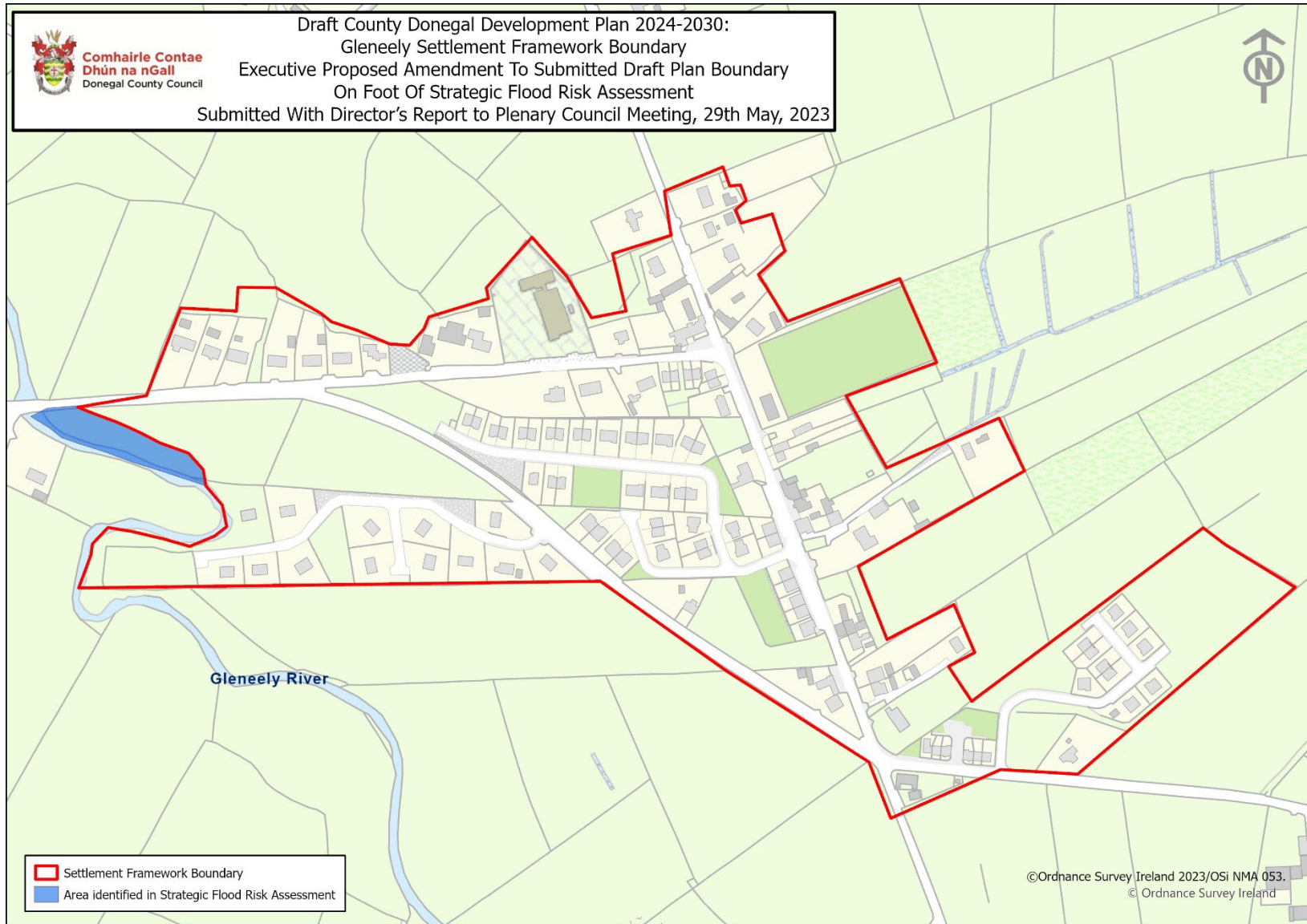




# Burnfoot Settlement Framework Map

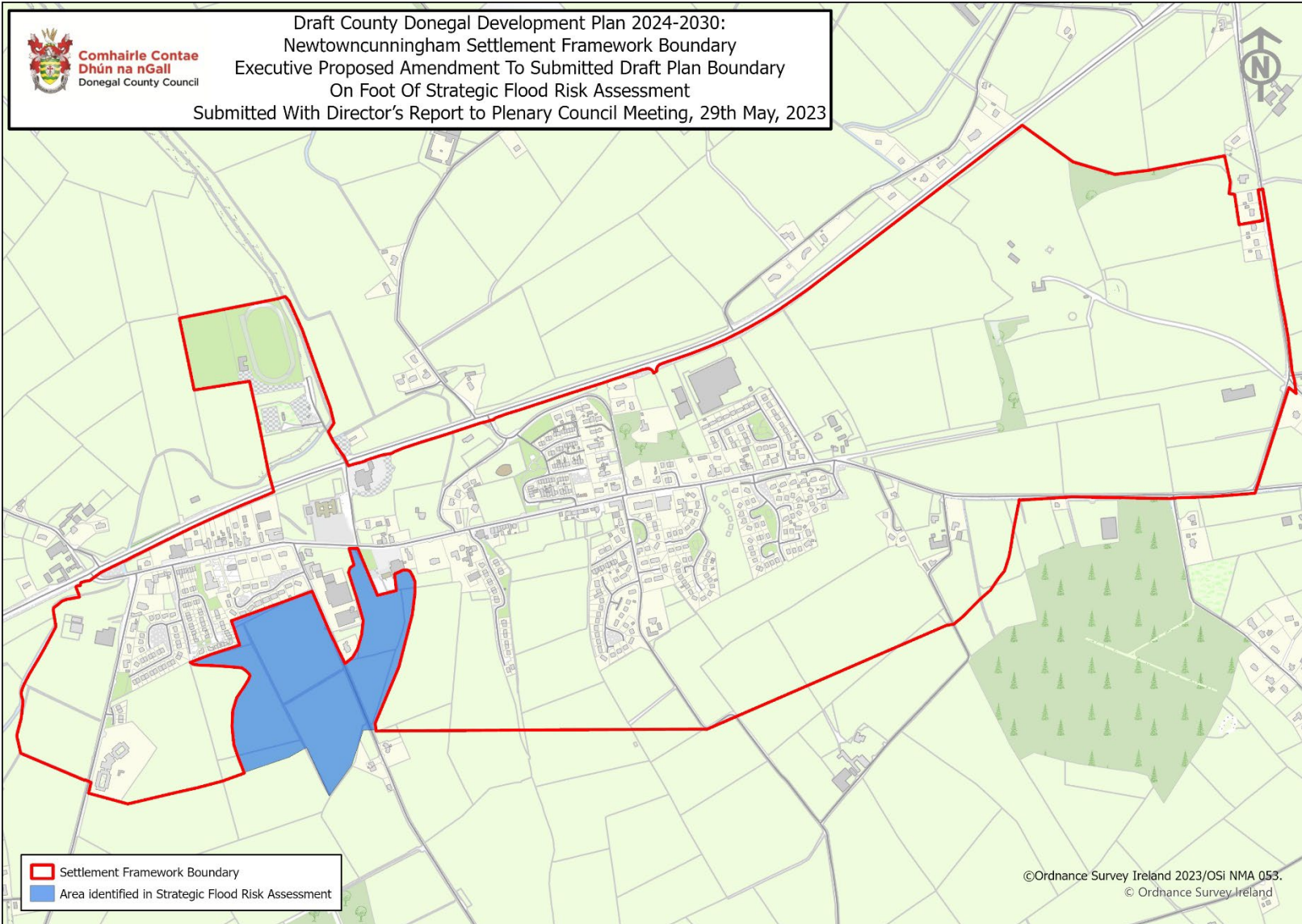


# Gleneely Settlement Framework Map

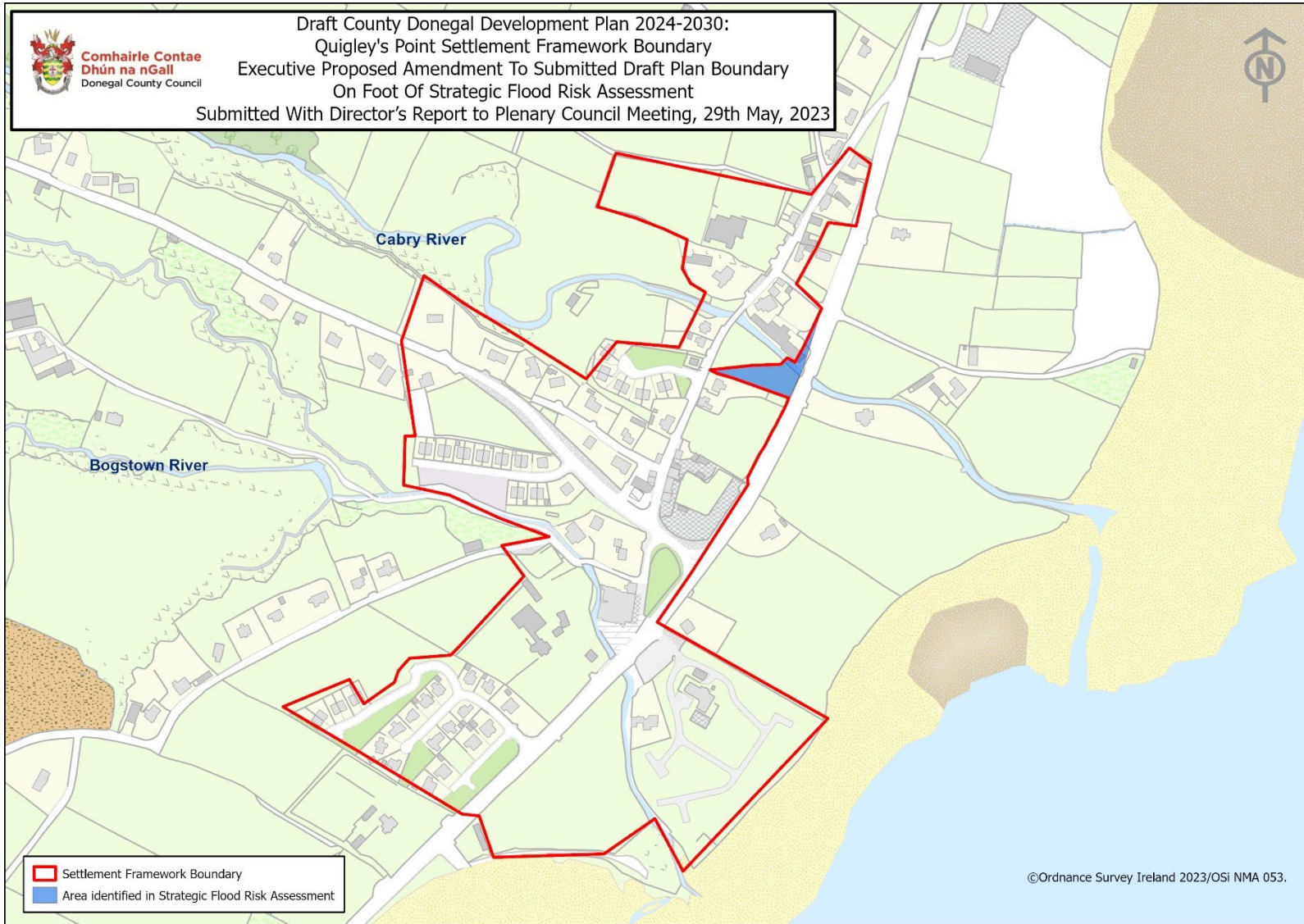




# Newtowncunningham Settlement Framework Map

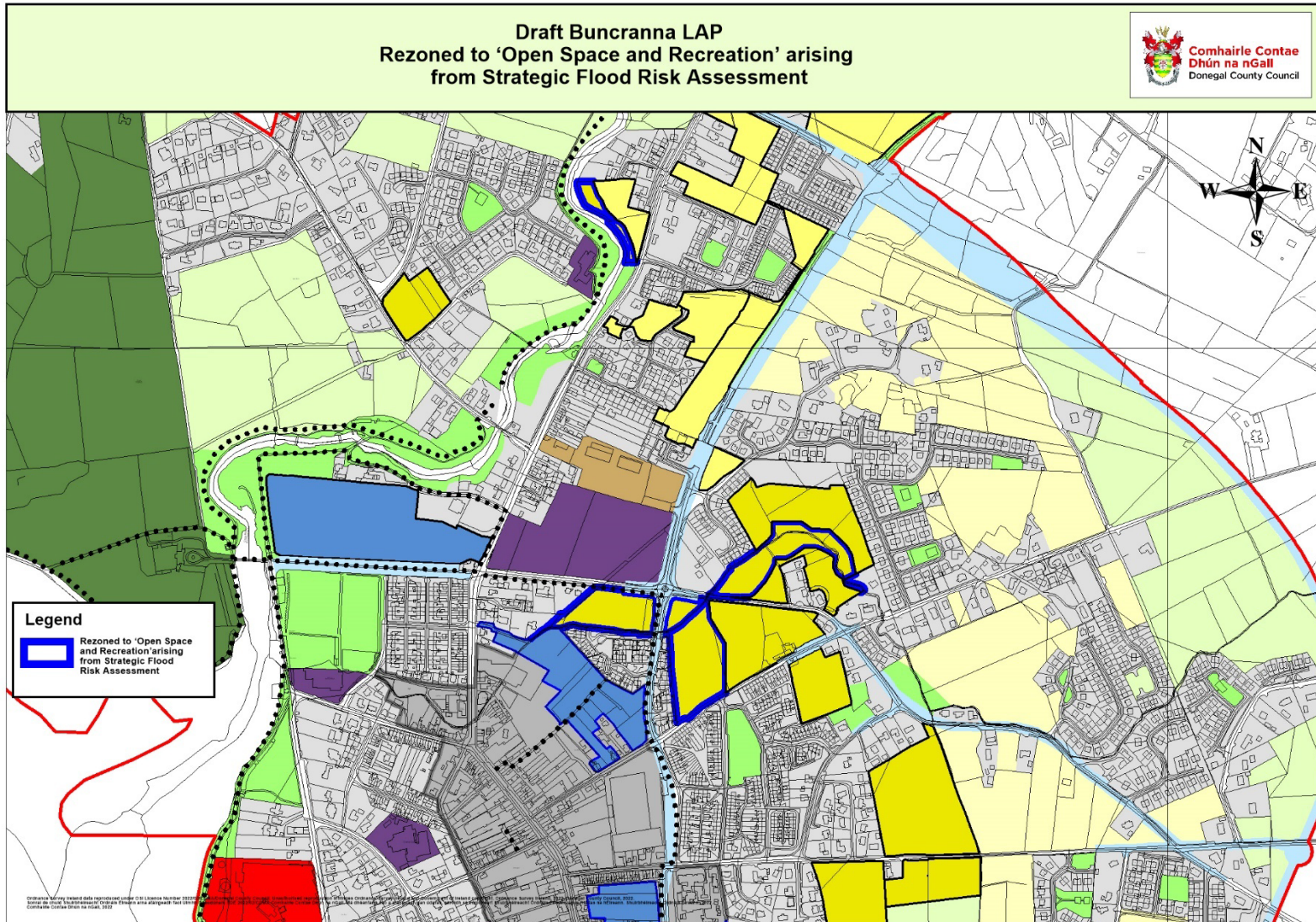


# Quigley's Point Settlement Framework Map





# Buncrana Zoning Map



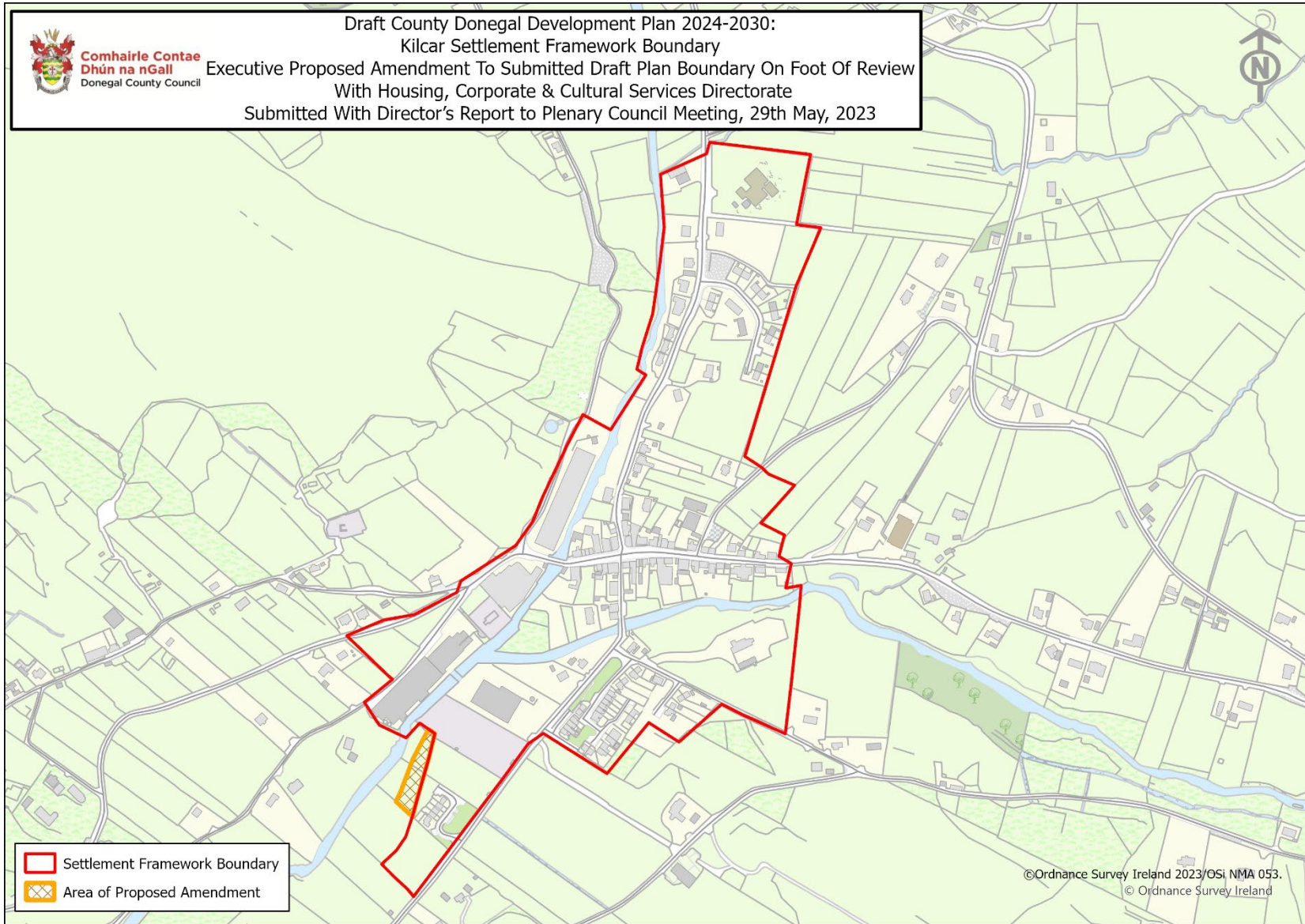




## Donegal MD

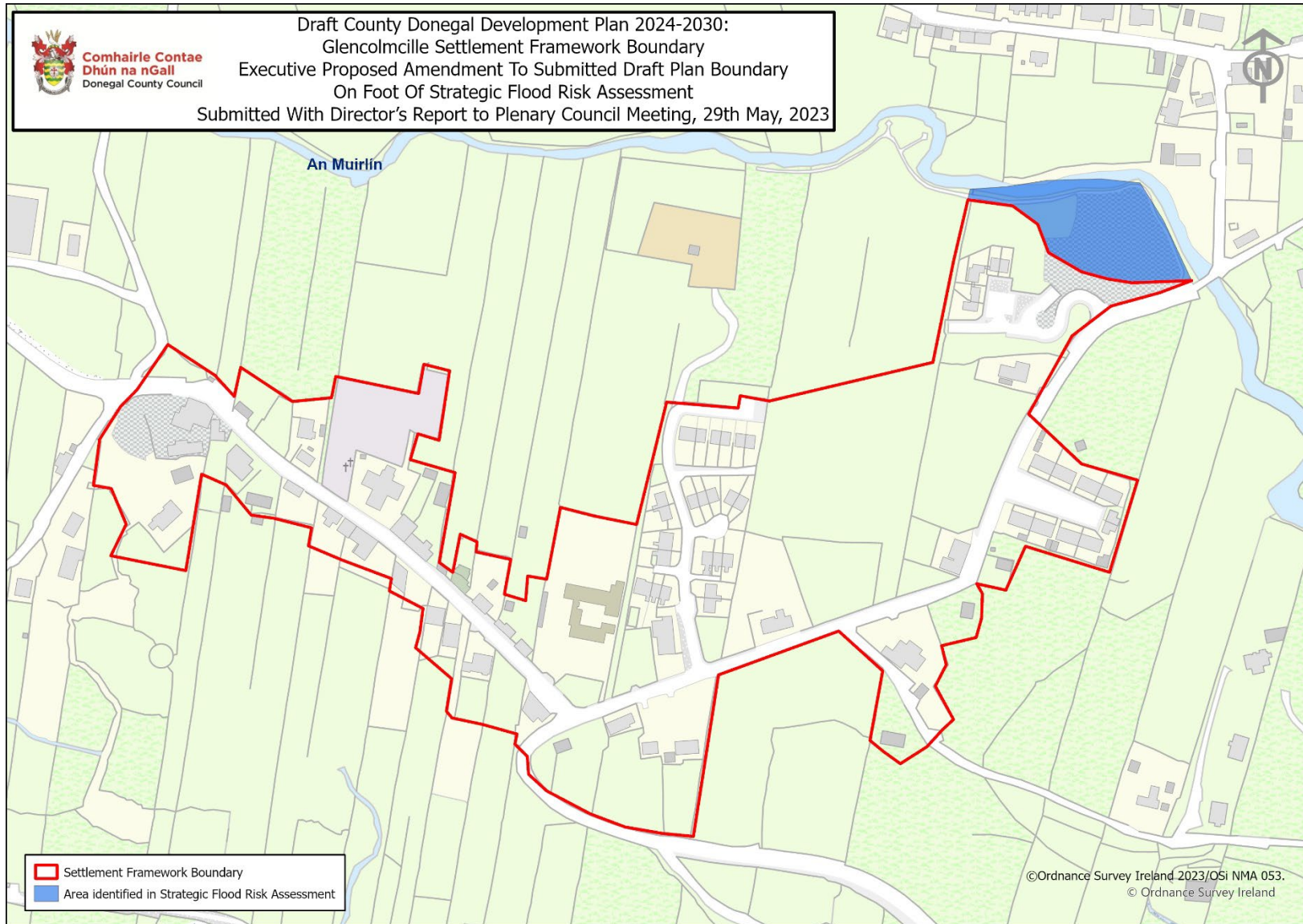
DONEGAL MD (maps attached)		
REF.	ISSUE	PROPOSED AMENDMENT
<b>1</b>	Kilcar SF Map	<p>Minor revision to allow opportunity to explore further housing options.</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Jordan it was resolved to amend the Kilcar Settlement Framework Map as attached to facilitate the exploration of further housing options.</b></p>
<b>2</b>	Glencolmcille SF Map	<p>Revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Jordan it was resolved to amend the Glencolmcille Settlement Framework Map to facilitate the revised SF boundary arising from the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.</b></p>

# Kilcar Settlement Framework Map





# Glencolmcille Settlement Framework Map

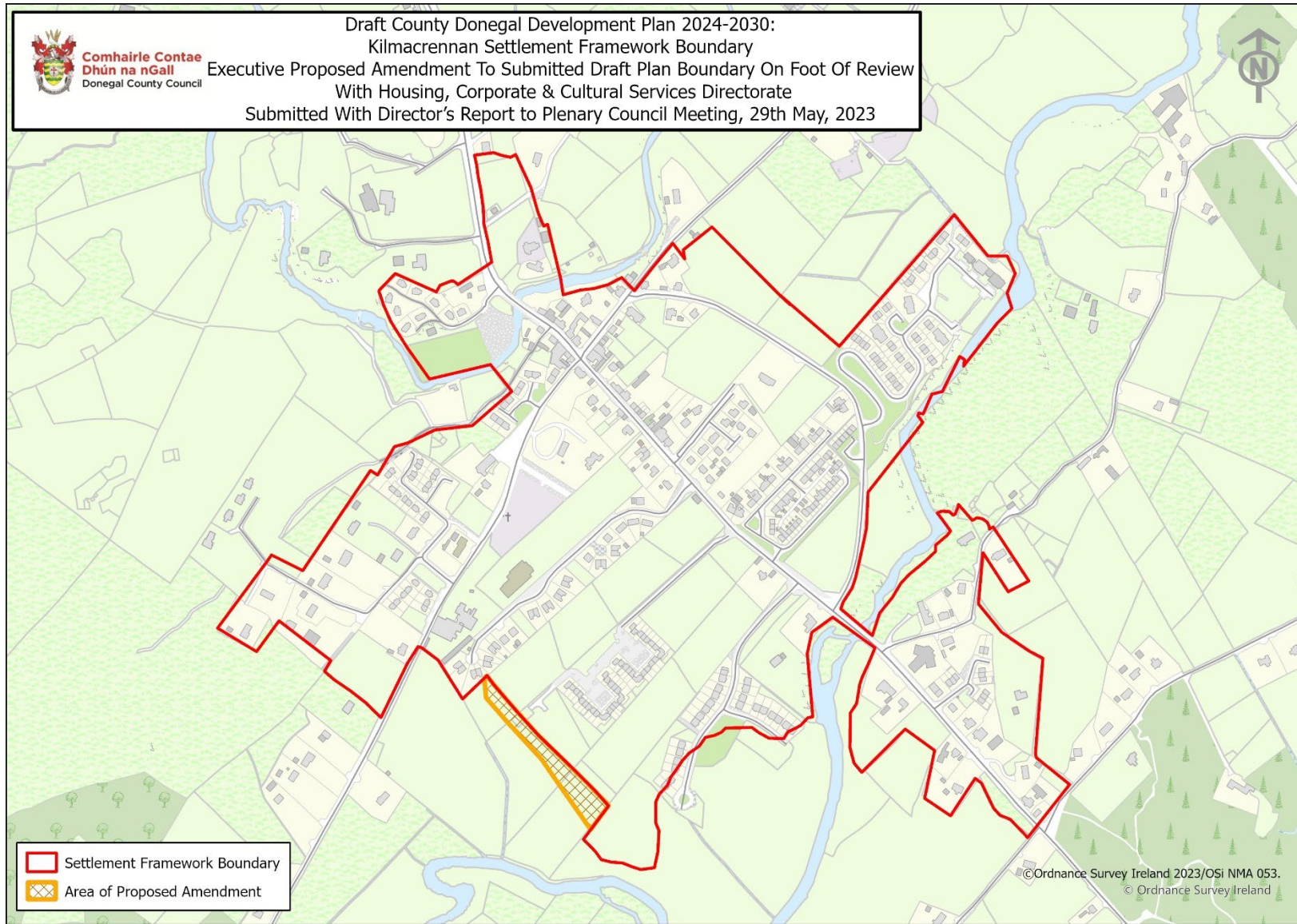


## Letterkenny MD

LETTERKENNY MD (maps attached)		
REF.	ISSUE	PROPOSED AMENDMENT
1	Kilmacrennan SF Map	<b>Minor revision to allow opportunity to explore further housing options.</b>  <b>On the proposal of Cllr Mc Bride, seconded by Cllr Brogan it was resolved to amend the Kilmacrennan SF Map as attached to facilitate the exploration of further housing options.</b>



# Kilmacrennan Settlement Framework Map

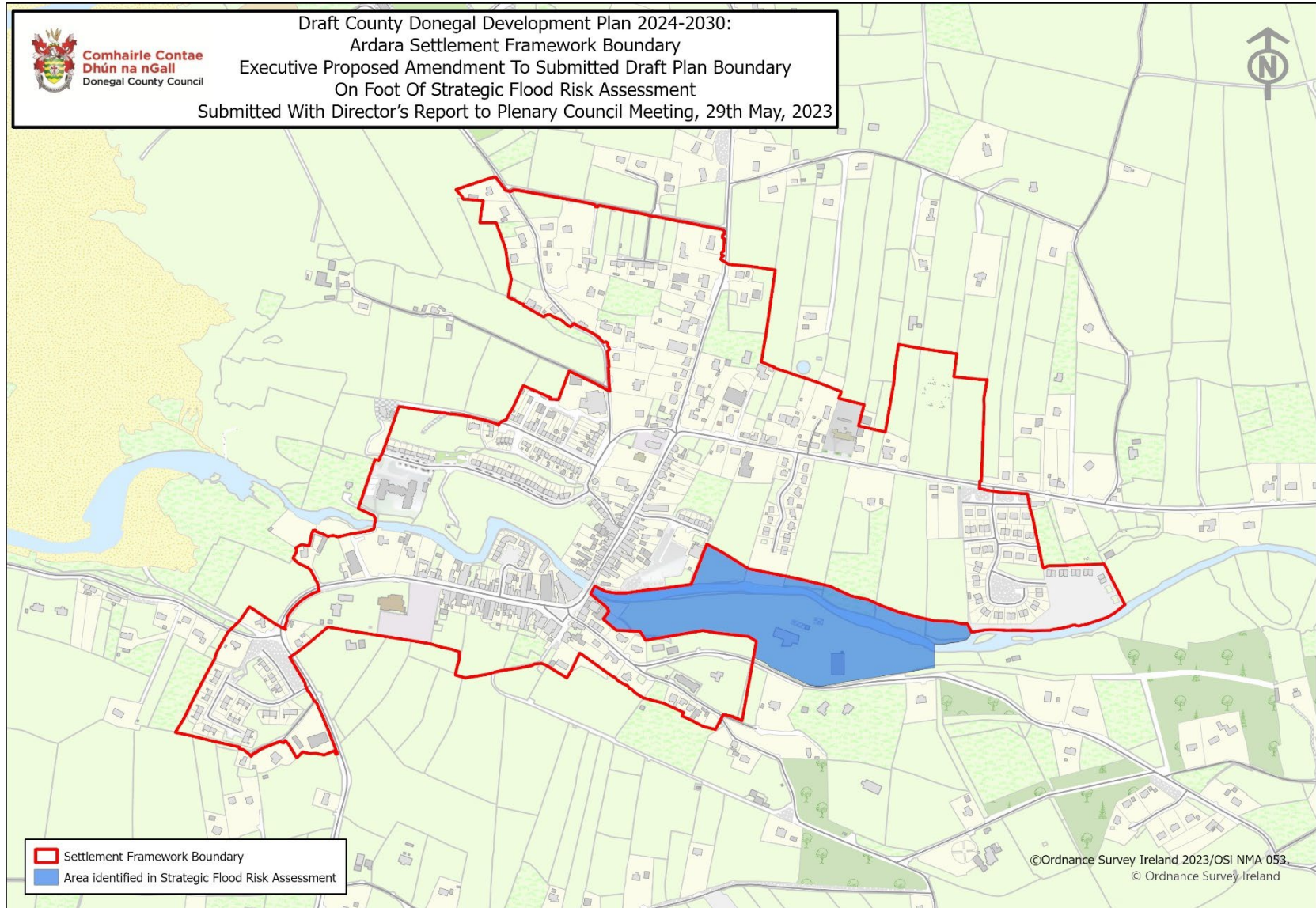


## Glenties MD

GLENTIES MD (maps attached)		
REF.	ISSUE	PROPOSED AMENDMENT
<b>1</b>	Ardara SF Map	<p>Revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr N Mc Garvey, seconded by Cllr Molloy it was resolved to amend the Ardara SF Map as attached to facilitate the revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</b></p>
<b>2</b>	Doochary SF Map	<p>Revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr N Mc Garvey, seconded by Cllr Molloy it was resolved to amend the Doochary SF Map as attached to facilitate the revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</b></p>
<b>3</b>	Glenties SF Map	<p>Revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</p> <p><b>On the proposal of Cllr N Mc Garvey, seconded by Cllr Molloy it was resolved to amend the Glenties SF Map as attached to facilitate the revised SF boundary arising from Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).</b></p>

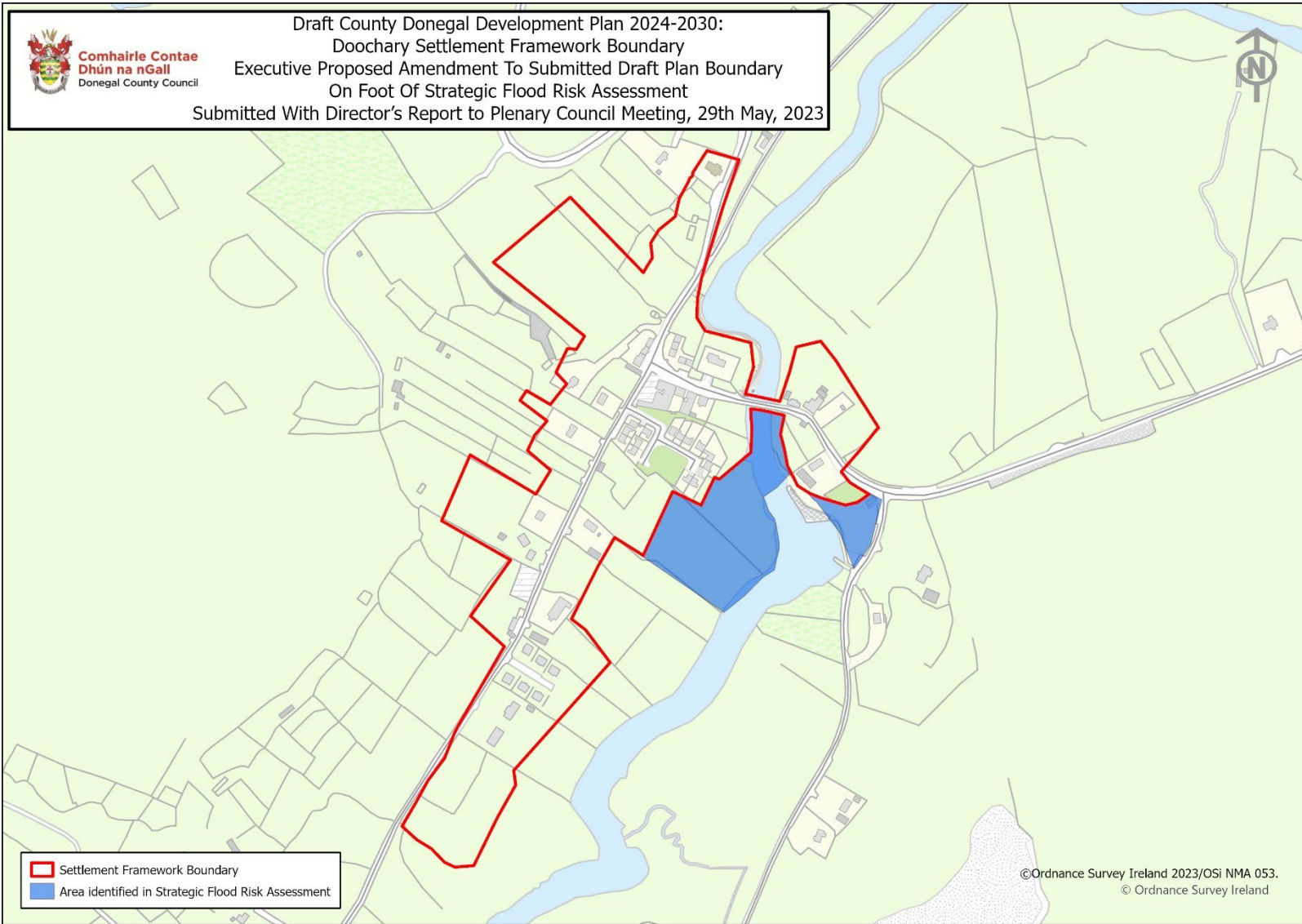


# Ardara Settlement Framework Map

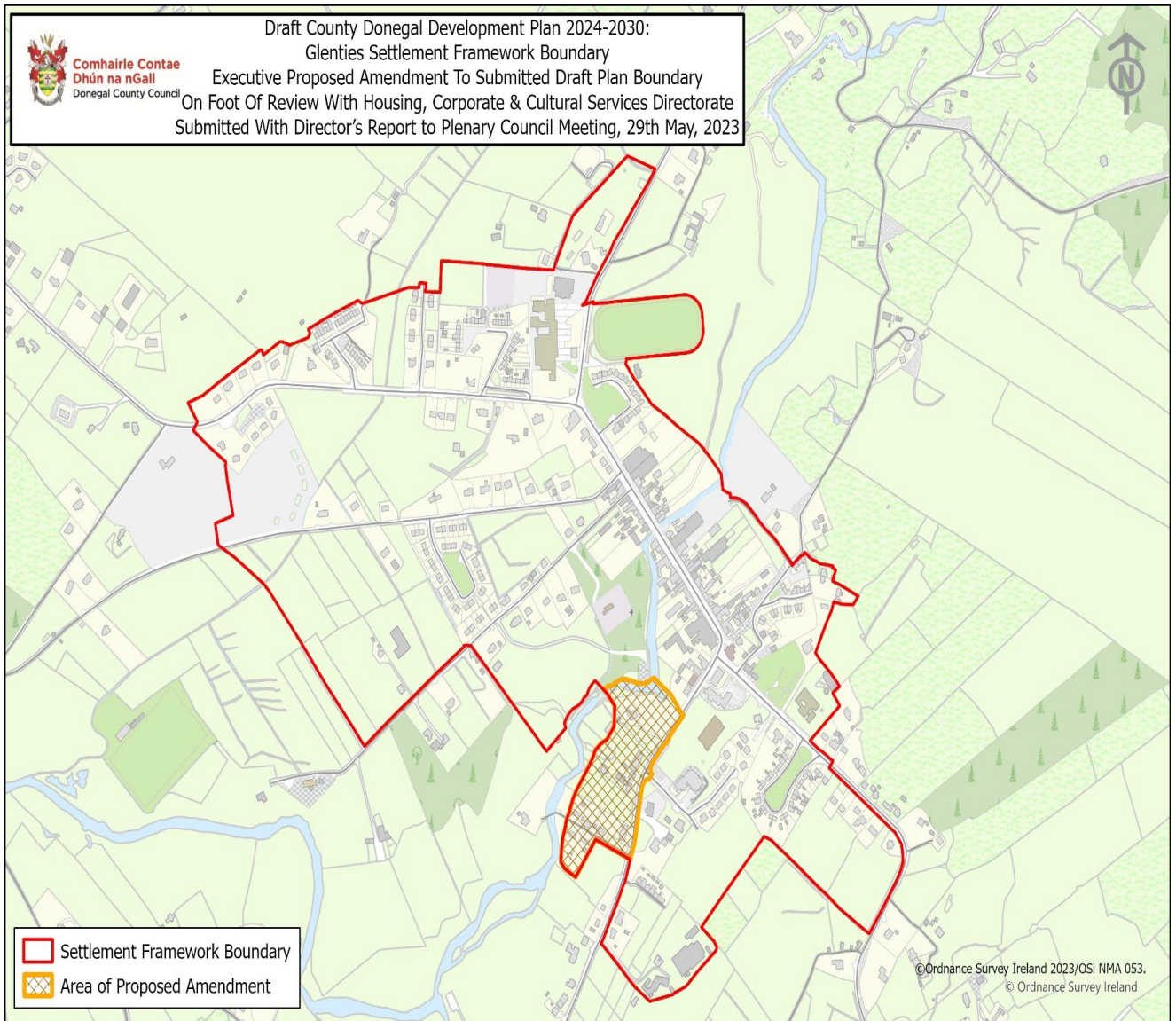




# Doochary Settlement Framework Map

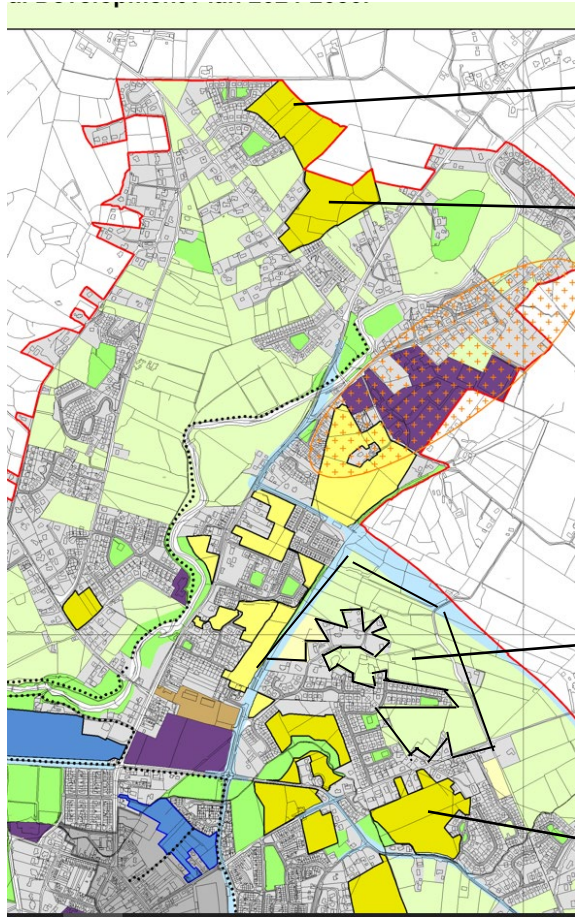


# Glenties Settlement Framework Map



**TABLE OF CHANGES MADE TO LAND USE ZONING MAP FOR  
BUNCRANA AT PLENARY COUNCIL MEETING 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023.**

**Appendix 2**



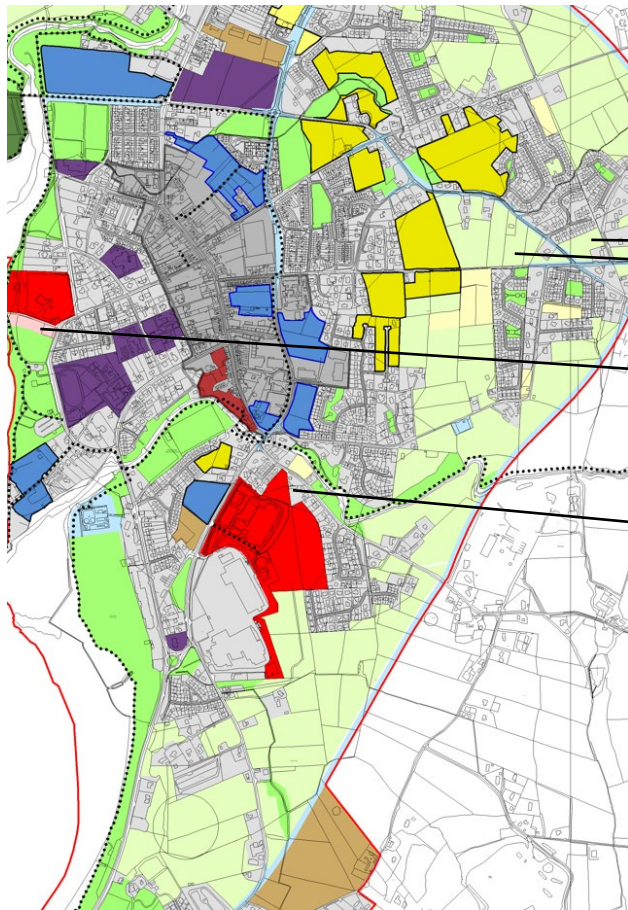
1. Rezoned from Rural/Agriculture to 1<sup>st</sup> phase New residential.

2. Rezoned from Outside the plan boundary to 1<sup>st</sup> phase New residential.

3. Rezoned from SRR to Rural/agriculture.

4. Rezoned from SRR to phase 1 New residential.





5. Rezone from SRR to Rural /Agriculture.

Rezoned from open space and recreation to Tourism

Rezoned from Settlement consolidation site to Established development.