# Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Portumna Local Area Plan 2016 - 2022



# **Forward Planning**

Galway County Council Áras an Chontae Prospect Hill Galway



Per	riod of pub	olic dis	splay:			
of	February	2016	until	Wednesday	the	23 <sup>rd</sup>
					Period of public display:  of February 2016 until Wednesday	Period of public display:  of February 2016 until Wednesday the

#### Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Portumna Local Area Plan 2016-2022

The Draft Portumna Local Area Plan 2016-2022 was prepared and placed on public display for six weeks from Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015 until Friday 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2015. 22 submissions were received on the draft plan and a Chief Executive's Report was prepared on the submissions received and submitted to the Members of Galway County Council for their consideration.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2015, at the Council Meeting, the elected members considered the Draft Plan and Chief Executive's Report and proposed a number of alterations to the Draft Portumna Local Area Plan, which were deemed to be material alterations. They are listed in the table hereunder and are reflected on the attached maps, as appropriate.

# Material Alterations to the Draft Portumna Local Area Plan 2016-2022 Proposed by Members

#### MA<sub>1</sub>

Include subject lands within the plan boundary and zone Tourism as per attached map (Material Alterations Proposed to the Draft Plan – Map 1A Land Use Zoning - Draft Portumna Local Area Plan).

#### MA<sub>2</sub>

Rezone the lands from Recreation, Amenity and Open Space to Residential-Phase 2 as per attached Map 1A.

#### **MA 3**

Rezone the lands from Recreation, Amenity and Open Space to Residential-Phase 2 as per attached Map 1A.

#### **MA 4**

Rezone the lands from Recreation, Amenity and Open Space to Tourism as per attached Map 1A.

#### **MA 5**

Retain the "Existing Residential Land Use" and remove the Constrained Land Use as per attached Map 1A.

#### MA<sub>6</sub>

Rezone the lands from Residential Phase 2 to Town Centre/Mixed Use as per attached Map 1A.

#### **MA 7**

Amend the Land Use Matrix Table to "Open For Consideration" for Medical Facilities on Business and Enterprise zoned Lands

#### **MA8**

Amend the Land Use Table Matrix to "Open For Consideration" for Guest Houses on Community Facilities zoned Lands

#### **MA 9**

Amend the Draft Portumna Local Area Plan 2016-2022 as follows:

#### 3.7.2 Water Framework Directive

## Material Alterations to the Draft Portumna Local Area Plan 2016-2022 Proposed by Members

Irish Water is now responsible for the provision and operation of public water and wastewater services and provision of these services across Ireland.

For decades, Local Authorities have provided water and wastewater services within the resources available to them. In order to maintain continuity of service, Irish Water has entered into Service Level Agreements (SLA) with Galway County Council for the operation of Irish Water's assets for the next twelve years. Irish Water published a draft of its first integrated 25 Year Water Services Strategic Plan in February 2015. The Plan sets out Irish Water's short, medium and long term

objectives and strategies for the delivery of water services in Ireland. Irish Water's Capital Investment Plan 2014-2016 which outlines the indicative Investment priorities in water services infrastructure to the end of 2016 is currently being implemented.—over the coming years. The Their Capital Investment Plan is currently being prepared and projects and programmes requiring investment are being proposed and assessed for inclusion in the investment plan.

consists of a targeted programme consisting of individual projects and a range of sub-programmes, which will deliver improvements in drinking water quality, leakage, wastewater compliance, business efficiencies and customer service. Irish Water has also commenced work on a 25 Year Water Services Strategic Plan which will set out its long term strategy and objectives. The Capital Investment Plan will be adjusted as required to meet the objectives and priorities of the Water Service Strategic Plan as adopted following assessment.

The investment plan must balance investment in quality, service level, environmental compliance and catering for future growth. Irish Water's Investment budget is subject to approval by the Commission for Energy Regulation. The funding of additional capacity in water and wastewater networks to support population and economic growth will be subject to Irish Water's Capital Investment Plans, Connections Charging Policy and Irish Water's Policy for Network Extension and Reinforcement to Cater for Growth.

Portumna town and surrounding rural area receives its water supply from Lough Derg. The abstracted water is treated prior to consumption at the local treatment plant through processes of coagulation, filtration, chlorination and fluoridation, which provides potable water that meets the requirements of the European Communities (Drinking Water)(No.2) Regulations 2007(S.I. No.278 of 2007). the existing water treatment plant has limited capacity and requires upgrading to meet demand levels into the future. There is sufficient capacity at Portumna WTP to cater for future demand to 2022 and beyond. These works will necessitate the upgrading of the inlet pipe and additional final water storage provision at the plant. However the treatment plant is on the EPA's Remedial Action List 2013 and is not fully functional in terms of quality of water produced. There is also a deficit in treated water storage capacity at the treatment plant. Irish Water is proposing an upgrade of the treatment plant for inclusion in its Capital Investment Plan 2017-2021.

#### **Wastewater Disposal**

Portumna Wastewater Treatment Plant receives foul and combined flows from an extensive sewer network which collects discharges from the urban town area.

## Material Alterations to the Draft Portumna Local Area Plan 2016-2022 Proposed by Members

There are a number of pumping stations located throughout the town of Portumna which assist in delivering these flows to the Wastewater Plant for treatment. The treatment capacity is nearing capacity due to surface water infiltration, which is being analysed. Irish Water is proposing an upgrade of the plant to increase capacity 3700 p.e. It is envisaged that some upgrading works to the treatment process and the network will be required to meet future demands of the area.

This upgrade is currently being assessed for inclusion in its Capital Investment Plan 2017-2022.

#### MA 10

Amend Text of Objective UI 2 in the Draft Portumna Area Plan 2016-2022 as follows:

Policy UI 1 – Water Supply, Wastewater And Surface Water Infrastructure
Support Irish Water in the provision and maintenance of adequate wastewater
disposal and water supply and the maintenance of the existing combined (sewage
and surface water) surface water
drainage infrastructure, in accordance with EU
Directives, to service Portumna. This will include satisfactory capacity for public
wastewater and a satisfactory quantity and quality of water supply. Sustainable
Drainage System approaches and techniques within the plan area shall also be
supported.

#### Objective UI 2 - Water Supply and Water Conservation

Ensure that new developments are adequately serviced with a suitable quantity and quality of drinking water supply, promote water conservation (leakage and demand management) to reduce the overall level of water loss in the public supply and require that new domestic developments provide for water supply metering.

#### **MA 11**

Insert new policy NH2 in the Draft Portumna Area Plan 2016-2022 as follows: Policy NH2: Green Infrastructure Strategy

The Council shall commence the preparation of a Green Infrastructure Strategy within the lifetime of the plan as resources permit.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

In addition to the above:

- Update the Local Area Plan boundary on *Maps 1A* and *1B-Land Use Zoning*, *Map 2 -Specific Objectives* and *Map 3-Flood Risk Management*, as necessary.
- Update the table of *Areas of Zoned Land* on page 20-21 of the Draft Portumna Local Area Plan 2016-2022 as a consequence of the Material Alterations.
- Update any typos in the document.

Under Section 20 (3) (f) of the Planning & Development Act (as amended), the Chief Executive determined that a number of the proposed material alterations to the Draft Portumna Local Area Plan 2015-2021 required Strategic Environmental Assessment and/or an Appropriate Assessment to be carried out, namely on Material Alterations MA 1, MA3 & MA 5 above.

Under Section 20 (3) (e) to (i) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), Article 14 of the Planning & Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations, 2004 (as amended), Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) as amended, Galway County Council has carried out Appropriate Assessment (AA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screenings of the proposed material alterations to the Draft Potumna Local Area Plan 2016-2022. Following on from the Screenings carried out, it was considered that one or more of the proposed material alterations would be contrary to The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009) and Circular PL2/14 recently issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government. In this regard, a number of land use zonings proposed under the material alterations are susceptible to flooding as outlined in the Stage 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, carried out as part of the preparation of the Portumna Local Area Plan 2016-2022. In addition to the above, it was considered that one or more of the proposed Material Alterations had the potential to impact negatively on the environment and the potential to indirectly impact on a European Site. It was also considered that the cumulative impact on the local environment required further assessment, hence the requirement for a Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment on one or more of the Material Alterations proposed.

Under Section 20 (3) (g) of the Planning & Development Act, 200, as amended, on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015, the Chief Executive specified that 14 weeks were considered necessary to facilitate the SEA and AA of the proposed Material Alterations. Accordingly, the Chief Executive specified that the SEA and AA would be completed on or before the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

The SEA and AA Screenings of the proposed material alterations supplements this document, in addition to the Appropriate Assessment Natura Impact Report on Material Alterations No's 1, 3 & 5 and the Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report on Material Alterations No's 1, 3 & 5. All documents should be read in conjunction with the Draft Portumna Local Area Plan 2016-2022. A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Addendum Report is also included which highlights the outcome of the review of the flood risk related material alterations.

The proposed material alterations, the SFRA Addendum Report, the SEA & AA Screening Reports and the Appropriate Assessment Natura Impact Report on Material Alterations No's 1, 3 & 5 and SEA Environment Report on Material Alterations No's 1, 3 & 5 are now placed on public display for a period of 4 weeks from Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February to Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2016 during which period submissions are invited.

Written submissions or observations with respect to the proposed material alterations to the draft local area plan may be made to the planning authority within the stated 4 week display period and shall be taken into consideration before the making of any material alterations.

The Chief Executive shall prepare a report on any submissions or observations received during the display period and shall submit their report to the members of the authority for their consideration. The report shall list the person who made the submission/observation, summarise the issue(s) raised, contain the opinion of the Chief Executive in relation to the issue raised and his recommendation in relation to the proposed material alteration to the draft local area plan, including any change to the proposed material alteration he considers appropriate, taking account of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, statutory obligations of any local authority in the area and relevant policies or objectives for the time being of the Government or of any Minister of the Government.

The Members shall then consider the proposed material alterations of the draft local area plan and the Chief Executive's Report and no later than 6 weeks after the Chief Executive's Report has been furnished to all members, they shall then make the local area plan or amend as appropriate, with all,

some or none of the proposed material alterations. Where the planning authority decides to make or amend the local area plan or change the material alteration of the plan by resolution

It shall be necessary for the passing of the resolution by not less than half of the members of the planning authority and this requirement is in addition to and not a substitution for any other requirements in applying to such a resolution.

#### A further modification to the material alteration

- may be made where it is minor in nature and therefore not likely to have any significant effects on the environment or adversely or adversely affect a European site;
- -shall not be made where it refers to an increase in the area of land zoned for any purpose or an addition or deletion to a protected structure.

When performing their functions under this subsection, the members of the planning authority shall be restricted to the considering the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, the statutory obligations of any local authority in the area and any relevant policies and objectives for the time being of the Minister or any Minister of the Government.









