



CARLOW
COUNTY COUNCIL
 COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHEATHARLACH

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11th October 2019

David Kelly, Director,
 Southern Regional Assembly,
 Assembly House,
 O'Connell Street,
 Waterford X91 F8PC

Re: Proposed Material Amendments to the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region

A Chara,

Carlow County Council wishes to acknowledge and welcome the inclusion of a number of Proposed Material Amendments to the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region as sought by Carlow County Council in March 2019. It is understood that minor amendments proposed to the attributes of Carlow Town as outlined in Carlow County Council's submission in March 2019 are to be incorporated as non-material amendments to the finalised document.

In particular, the Council welcomes;

- i) The recognition given in the document to large key towns (to include Carlow) which are of a scale to function as self-sustaining regional drivers (Material Amendment no's 6-8);
- ii) The amendments to RPO 19 which seeks to strengthen Carlow's role as a Key Town (Material Amendment no. 16);
- iii) Inclusion of specific objective RPO 19(b) to support the preparation of a cross-boundary Joint Urban Area Plan (UAP) for Carlow Town in conjunction with Laois Co Co and support for cross boundary collaboration in the Greater Carlow Graiguecullen Urban Area (Material Amendment 16).

It is also noted that a New RPO C in Section 3.8 (Material Amendment no. 23): Inter-Urban Networks as Regional Drivers of Collaboration and Growth is introduced which references the: *Waterford-Kilkenny-Carlow-Dublin M9/Rail Network/Axis*. It is requested that this axis be acknowledged as an Economic Corridor located along the M9 urban route having regard to the tier 2 port at Belview, the designation of Waterford City as one of the five cities and capital of the South East Planning Area and to provide capacity and alternative locations/choices for the greater Dublin area within strategic towns of critical mass along this route.

Is Mise Le Meas,

Kieran Comerford,
 Acting Director of Services

DIRECT LINES: CODE 059

Carlow MD Area Engineer	9136272	Information Technology	9136215	Fire Service & Building Control	9131144
Planning	9170346	Housing	9136296	County Museum	9131554
Human Resources	9170314	Waste & Environment	9136231	Rent Payments	9172497
Múinebheag MD Area Engineer	9172415	Rates	9172489	Recreation & Amenity	9170377
Local Enterprise Office	9129783	County Library	9129705	Arts	9136203
Register of Electors	9170313	Community	9136204	Motor Taxation	9170342
Roads / Transportation	9170379	Loan Payments	9172491		