



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City
& County Council**

Forbairt Gheilleagrach,
Ceanncheathrú Chorpáraideach,
Cé na gCeannaithe,
Luimneach

Economic Development,
Limerick City and County Council,
Merchants Quay,
Limerick

EIRCODE V94 EH90

t: +353 (0) 61 556 000
e: forwardplanning@limerick.ie

21st February 2019

To: The Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council

Re: Limerick City and County Council Elected Members' Draft Submission on the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

I write in respect of the above referenced. Following a Members' Workshop on 5th February 2019 and a Planning and Economic Development SPC meeting on 11th February 2019, the key issues for Limerick in the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) were identified as follows:

- Limerick City and County Council recognises the **scale and importance of Cork**, however **there is over emphasis** on Cork relative to other cities in terms of balanced Regional growth.
- Lack of emphasis on the **Primacy of Limerick City**. We recognise the co-dependence with Shannon, however Limerick and Shannon should not be equal in the settlement hierarchy. More emphasis needs to be given to ensure that Limerick is positioned as the principle focus within the region in accordance with the National Planning Framework.
- The proposed **South Clare Strategic Development Zone (SDZ)** is premature pending the sequential development of the City Centre first and will undermine both the NPF and Limerick 2030 Vision. The NPF seeks to secure long term transformational and rejuvenation focused compact city growth. While Limerick 2030 envisages the city centre to be at the heart of the economic force of the region – an attractive magnet for retail, leisure, residential, commercial, educational and cultural growth.

- The MASP fails to set out a **clear strategic and co-ordinated approach** for the prioritization of the future growth, development and investment of the Metropolitan Area.
- **Key Attributes and Enablers** of Limerick including City Centre Revitalisation, the Georgian Quarter and creation of a Living City are not represented. Other key attributes not recognised include Thomand Park, the Milk Market and King John's Castle.
- The key attributes, infrastructure requirements and potential for development of **Newcastle West** is undersold and will prevent the Key Town achieving its full potential.
- Insufficient emphasis on the economic importance of **Industry 4.0**. Objectives for Economic Development are generic and not focused.
- Policy support for a new **Technology Park** on the north side of Limerick is required.
- **Climate Resilient City** proposed for Limerick, however lack of associated actions included e.g. CFRAM Defenses.
- The level and depth of **engagement** between businesses, third level institutions, representative bodies and statutory bodies in Limerick is a unique and formidable strength which justifies recognition.

In drafting the submission on behalf of the Elected Members of Limerick City and County Council, the executive would like to acknowledge that during discussions with Members that a further issue arose in relation to banning incineration in Limerick. However, this is not included in the Draft Submission having regard to the legal advice previously received in relation to the legality of inclusion of such an objective.

I am pleased to attach a Draft Submission to be made on behalf of the Elected Members to the Southern Regional Authority for your perusal and agreement. In this regard, the Mayor, Councillor James Collins, has called a Special Meeting of Limerick City and County Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Dooradoyle, Limerick on 25th February 2019 at 3.30pm.

It should be noted that the closing date for submissions to the Southern Regional Authority is Friday 8th of March 2019.

Yours sincerely,



Pat Daly
Director of Economic Development