

**Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Determination
under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) for:
Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Newcastle West Local Area Plan 2023-2029**

A Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Determination is being made by Limerick City and County Council regarding Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Newcastle West Local Area Plan 2023-2029.

Section 20 (3) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, requires, inter alia, a determination to be made as to whether Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Plan warrant the undertaking of SEA.

In carrying out this Screening for SEA, the Council is taking into account the following:

- Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Newcastle West LAP 2023-2029, including consideration of criteria set out in Schedule 2A 'Criteria for determining whether a plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment' of the SEA Regulations, as amended;
- Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Newcastle West LAP 2023-2029;
- Screening for Appropriate Assessment Determination and AA Natura Impact Report for Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Newcastle West LAP 2023-2029;
- SEA Environmental Report for the Draft Newcastle West LAP 2023-2029;
- AA Natura Impact Report for the Draft Newcastle West LAP 2023-2029; and
- Draft Local Area Plan 2023-2029.

The Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Material Alterations demonstrates that most Proposed Material Alterations are not likely to result in significant effects. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan and the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development, it is identified that all potential effects arising from most Proposed Alterations: either are present already (beneficial) and will be further contributed towards; or will be mitigated so as not to be significant (adverse). In addition, some alterations merely added clarifications or amended context setting text for Plan provisions and these will not result in significant environmental effects. Consequently, most Proposed Material Alterations do not require SEA.

The Proposed Material Alterations identified below¹ are advised as requiring SEA and consideration in an SEA Environmental Report:

Ref.	SEA Screening Consideration Ref. – see above
To amend the draft plan to restrict the indicative link road to active travel measures only – Proposed by Elected Members – Municipal Meeting 6th September 2023. ²	Considerations Ref. 9 - SEA Required
To include the Newcastle West southern distributor road as included in the current Newcastle West Local Area Plan 2014 – 2020 – Proposed by Elected Members – Municipal Meeting 6th September 2023. ³	Considerations Ref. 8 and 9 - SEA Required
To change the zoning of the “New Residential” and “Residential Services Sites” zoned lands shown in the attached map to “Agriculture” zoning – Proposed by Elected Members – Municipal Meeting 6th September 2023.	Considerations Ref. 9 - SEA Required
To provide a “New Residential” zoning on the subject lands, where a residential zoning currently exists in the current Newcastle West Local Area Plan 2014-2020, as shown in the attached map – Proposed by Elected Members – Municipal Meeting 6th September 2023.	Considerations Ref. 9 - SEA Required

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above and in the Screening for SEA Report. The undersigned hereby determines pursuant to Section 20 (3) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that SEA is required for the above Proposed Material Alterations. The SEA will be completed by 23rd September 2023.

Signed: 
Signatory
Approved Officer
September 2023

¹ For detail please refer to Proposed Material Alterations document.

² Including for the purpose of assessment, the associated amendments to Local Transport Plan.

³ Including for the purpose of assessment, the associated amendments to Local Transport Plan.