

**Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Determination
for the
Limerick City and County Festivals and Events Strategy 2024-2028 to be adopted**

This determination relates to whether the Draft Limerick City and County Festivals and Events Strategy 2024-2028 to be adopted, would or would not, be likely to have significant environmental effects, taking into account relevant criteria set out under the SEA Directive (Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of Ministers, of 27th June 2001, on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment) and transposing Regulations¹; and therefore would, or would not, necessitate the undertaking of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

The criteria set out under Annex II of the SEA Directive '*Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in Article 3(5)*' and Schedule 1 of the Regulations are considered in an accompanying Screening for SEA Report that has been prepared to inform this determination.

As identified in the SEA Screening Report:

- Implementing the Strategy will involve Limerick City and County Council helping to facilitate, promote, support and coordinate stakeholders in their activities in a way that is consistent with existing and emerging plans setting out public policy for sustainable development, including that relating to land use developments, land use activities, tourism and environmental protection and environmental management. The Strategy is situated alongside this hierarchy of statutory documents that has been subject to environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment, as appropriate, and forms the decision-making and consent-granting framework. The Strategy does not provide consent or establish a framework for granting consent and will not be binding on any decisions relating to the granting of consent.
- The Strategy fully aligns with the provisions of documents including the existing National Planning Framework, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and associated Limerick-Shannon Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan and the Limerick Development Plan, all of which have been subject to legislative requirements relating to public consultation and environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment. As such, the Strategy is wholly subject to the requirements of the provisions set out in these documents, including provisions relating to sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been integrated into these documents, including through SEA and AA processes, and does not introduce any alterations or additions to those provisions.
- In order to be realised, projects included in the Strategy (in a similar way to other projects from any other sectors) will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and other licencing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework. It is a specific provision of the Strategy to ensure that all of the provisions from the Development Plan (including those provisions identified in the accompanying Screening SEA report) shall be complied with throughout the implementation of the Strategy.
- Taking into account all of the above (refer also to Table 2.4 and Appendix I) it is demonstrated that: significant beneficial environmental effects are present already under the existing planning framework and would not result from the Strategy; and potentially significant adverse effects, if unmitigated, are present already under the existing planning framework, have already been envisaged and mitigated by the relevant assessments and would not result from the Strategy. Consequently, it is advised that the Strategy would not result in likely significant environmental effects and does not necessitate the undertaking of SEA.

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 Strategic Environmental Assessment Report". The undersigned hereby determines that SEA is not required for the Limerick City and County Festivals and Events Strategy 2024-2028 to be adopted.

Signatory:

Date: 22nd May 2025

¹ European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (SI No. 435 of 2004) amended by the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (SI No. 200 of 2011)