**Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Determination under:**

**Under Article 7 (13K) of the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004 (SI No. 436 of 2004) as amended by the Planning and Development (SEA) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (SI No. 201 of 2011) for:**

**Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Longford County Development Plan 2015-2021**

A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening determination has been made by Longford County Council regarding Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Longford County Development Plan 2015-2021.

Article 7 (13K) of the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004 (SI No. 436 of 2004) (as amended), requires, inter alia, a determination to be made as to whether Proposed Variation No. 2 warrants the undertaking of SEA.

Such a determination takes into account relevant 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.

The Proposed Variation incorporates the following into the County Development Plan:

1. The provisions of the Longford Town and Environs Local Area Plan (LAP) as adopted, at Appendix 1A (replacing current mapping and text); and
2. The provisions of the Urban Regeneration Housing Act, 2015.

The SEA screening process has found that:

* With respect to part A of the Proposed Variation, on account of SEA being undertaken alongside the preparation of the new Draft Longford Town LAP and the established European principle of subsidiarity[[1]](#footnote-1), it is determined that SEA is not required to be undertaken; and
* With respect to part B of the Proposed Variation, the County Development Plan already provides for the development of sites and areas in need of development, regeneration and renewal - this change provides further detail on how what is already provided for in this regard will be achieved. There are no additional adverse effects arising from this change (significant, potential or uncertain) that were not envisaged and mitigated by the SEA of that Plan, including Policy CS 2. That SEA process successfully facilitated the integration of mitigation into the Draft Plan in order to contribute towards the protection of the environment. Positive effects arising from the development of sites and areas in need of development, regeneration and renewal (such as a reduced need to develop greenfield sites in sensitive locations) have already been envisaged by the SEA of the County Development Plan and will be further contributed towards. This includes any potential interactions with the provisions of the Draft Longford Town and Environs LAP.

Consequently full SEA is not required.

An SEA Screening Report has been prepared which accompanies and has informed this determination.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signatory (Approved Officer): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. SEA Directive 2001/42/EC: “With a view to avoiding duplication of the assessment, Member States should take account, where appropriate, of the fact that assessments will be carried out at different levels of a hierarchy of plans and programmes.” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)