



Proposed Variation no. 1 of Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027

Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination

This determination relates to whether the Proposed Variation No. 1 of the Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027 (CDP) would - or would not - necessitate the undertaking of Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment under section 58(6) of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended) and Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, as amended).

The Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027 provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Longford County Council. The main purpose of the Proposed Variation no. 1 is to align the CDP with Ministerial Guidelines published in accordance with Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), i.e. the Housing Growth Requirements Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2025). This would involve amendments to the text of the 'Strategic Residential Reserve' zoning objective contained in Volume 2 of the County Development Plan.

As identified in the AA Screening Report:

- The County Development Plan was subject to Stage 2 AA, which identified sources for likely significant effects on European Sites and facilitated the integration of measures into the Plan to ensure the appropriate protection and management of European Sites with which all lower-tier plans and projects must comply.
- The Proposed Variation no. 1 would not introduce sources of likely significant effects on any European Sites in addition to those already considered by the Stage 2 AA undertaken for the County Development Plan.
- It is concluded that the Proposed Variation no. 1 has no likelihood for any significant effect on any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects.
- Consequently, Stage Two AA (including the preparation of a Natura Impact Report) is not required.
- Any potential amendments to the Proposed Variation will undergo AA screening and may require a subsequent determination by the Council.

The accompanying Screening for AA Report has been carefully considered and its reasoning and the conclusion presented agreed with and adopted.

It is hereby determined Proposed Variation No. 1 to the Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027 will not give rise to any significant effect on any European Site, alone or in combination with any other plans or projects; and that Stage Two AA (including the preparation of a Natura Impact Report) is not required for Proposed Variation No. 1.

Signed: Barbara Heslin
Barbara Heslin
Director of Service (Physical Development)

Date 10/6/26