

Longford County Development Plan 2015-2021

Variation No. 3

Variation no. 3 consists of the addition under section '5.5.2.3 *Alternative Energy Developments*' of the Longford County Development Plan 2015-2021 of the following:

- additional text relating to Government energy policy and legislation as follows:-

The Government White Paper '*Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030*', published by the then Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources (now Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment) states that a low carbon future will involve "*moving to lower emissions fuels (e.g. moving from peat and coal to gas), and ultimately away from fossil fuels altogether...In the short to medium-term, the mix of non-renewables will shift away from more carbon-intensive fuels, like peat and coal, to lower-carbon fuels like natural gas*". The Planning Guidelines for the Midland Region 2010-2022 promote the delivery of renewable energy throughout the Midland Region (Goal 8 and TIP33), and specifically as per Section 5.8.2 and Policy TIP 35, seek to promote the expansion of the existing gas network throughout the Midland Region'.

- addition of the following related **Policy AED1**:-

'New housing schemes and large developments in towns and villages will be encouraged to source their heating and energy requirements from the Natural Gas network where available'.