

Senior Executive Officer,  
Planning Department,  
Kildare County Council,  
Áras Chill Dara,  
Devoy Park,  
Naas,  
Co. Kildare.

21<sup>st</sup> November 2016

**Re: Draft Kildare County Council Development Plan 2017-2023.**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The National Transport Authority (the "Authority") have reviewed the Material Alterations to the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023 and welcomes those alterations which address the issues raised in our previous submission. On review of the Material Alterations document, and with the previous submission in mind, the Authority makes the following recommendations:

1. Economic Development

The Authority notes that Objective ECD 3 has been altered to reflect the requirements that may emerge from the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and that a new objective has been inserted in order to incorporate a core principle of the Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area (the "Transport Strategy"). The phasing of employment land development as recommended, has not been fully incorporated, however.

*Recommendation:*

It is recommended that Objective ECD 4 is amended to read as follows:

The Council will ensure that development of employment land will occur in line with the provision of transport infrastructure, services, and supporting measures as set out in the Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area, 2016-2035, insofar as is practicable.

2. Movement and Transport

The Authority notes that Objective PTO 5 was not removed as requested.

*Recommendation:*

The Authority reiterates its initial recommendation that Objective PTO 5 is removed, as the Transport Strategy does not provide for the creation of a rail, road and bus transport hub near Naas.

There is concern that the pursuit of such a standalone project may compromise other transport measures in Kildare and the Greater Dublin Area which are being pursued at present as part of the implementation of the Transport Strategy.

### 3. Growth of Leixlip

The Authority notes the insertion of a new objective SO 12, which provides for the future growth of Leixlip to the north of the rail corridor. This approach to the growth of the settlement is consistent with the principles of land use integration as set out in the Transport Strategy. Given the absence of linkages for all transport modes across the rail line between the existing built-up area and the proposed development lands, including access to Confey Station, it is of critical importance that the development of these lands takes place in line with investment in transport infrastructure, and in accordance with a statutory Local Area Plan.

#### *Recommendation*

The Authority recommends that additional text is inserted into SO 12 which states that the growth envisaged in this location will be undertaken in a phased, coherent manner in line with investment in infrastructure, including transport, according to a Local Area Plan agreed with all relevant statutory agencies.

I trust that the views of the Authority will be taken into consideration in the finalisation of the Kildare County Development Plan.

Yours sincerely,



**Michael MacAree**  
**Head of Integrated Planning**