



Oifig an
Rialaitheoir Pleanáil
Office of the
Planning Regulator

19th July 2019

Planning Department
Meath County Council
Buvinda House, Dublin Road
Navan - C15 Y291

RE: Draft Variation No.3 to Navan Development Plan 2009-2015

To whom it concerns,

Thank you for your authority's work in preparing Proposed Variation No.3 to the Navan Development Plan 2009-2015.

The Office of the Planning Regulator has assessed the proposed Variation under the relevant provisions of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2018 under which the Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR) was established on 3rd April last.

As your authority will be aware, one of the key functions of the OPR includes the assessment of statutory plans and strategies to ensure their consistency with legislative and policy requirements relating to planning.

National Planning Framework and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy

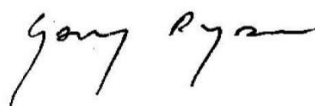
In particular, the Office seeks to ensure broad policy consistency between national, regional and local levels of the statutory planning policy hierarchy, from the National Planning Framework to the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies and to your authority's County Development Plan.

The Office notes the recent finalisation of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly which identifies Navan as a Core Region Key Town and as the primary focus for development in County Meath. As noted in the draft Variation documentation, the RSES includes specific Regional Policy Objectives to support the delivery of road infrastructure in tandem with the development of strategic residential and employment lands in Navan. The zoning for employment/enterprise on the Trim Road in the proposed Variation is in alignment with the strategic role of Navan provided for in the RSES and will support the future economic growth of the town.

With the completion of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES), Meath County Council is now obliged to progress the review of its County Development Plan (CDP) in accordance with statutory requirements and prepare a new statutory plan for the county. A central concern for the new Meath CDP will be to ensure strong consistency with the policies and objectives of the RSES and the National Planning Framework. The future CDP will also incorporate the former town council development plan areas, such as Navan, into a comprehensive new countywide plan covering the whole territory of Meath. As such, the OPR therefore notes that the strategic development policies for Navan, including for residential and economic development, will be considered as part of this statutory CDP process and that the current Navan Development Plan will be superseded appropriately by this process.

If you have any further queries please contact me, using the details provided below, or any of the staff of the Office of the Planning Regulator at plans@OPR.ie

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Gary Ryan

Director, Office of the Planning Regulator

076 100 2747

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