

7th February 2020

Senior Executive Officer,
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department,
Fingal County Council,
County Hall,
Main Street,
Swords,
Co. Dublin,
K67X8Y2

Re: Variation No.3 of Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023

A Chara,

Thank you for your authority's work in preparing Proposed Variation no. 3 (herein, the proposed variation) of the Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023.

The Office of the Planning Regulator (the Office) notes and welcomes the overall reasoning behind the proposed variation, seeking to remove the indicative line of Road Proposal, "N3 – N4 Barnhill to Leixlip Interchange" (as shown on Sheet 13, Blanchardstown South), in order to allow effective appraisal and avoid potential for prioritisation of a mapped route and facilitate the final route selection.

The Office has evaluated and assessed the proposed variation under the provisions of sections 31AM(1) and (2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended (the Act).

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

The Office is currently developing an evaluation and assessment methodology for statutory plans. The submission below has been prepared to provide a high-level input to your authority in finalising the proposed variation of the plan.

1. Matters within the scope of section 10 and section 10(2)(n)

No matters arise requiring observations or recommendations by the Office within the scope of section 10 or 10(2)(n) of the Act.

2. Consistency of proposed variations with the hierarchy of statutory plans

No matters arise requiring observations or recommendations by the Office concerning consistency with the hierarchy of plans.

3. Consistency of proposed variations with relevant section 28 guidelines

No matters arise requiring observations or recommendations by the Office concerning section 28 quidelines.

4. Policy directives issued under section 29

No matters arise requiring observations or recommendations by the Office concerning section 29 policy directives.

5. Other legislative and policy matters as the Minister may communicate

No matters otherwise arise requiring observations or recommendations by the Office concerning other legislative or policy matters.

Summary

Accordingly, the Office broadly supports the proposed variation and urges your authority to finalise same and has no specific recommendations to make under the provisions of Section 31AM(3)(a) of the Act above.

Your authority is required to notify this Office within 5 working days of the making of the variation and send a copy of the written statement and maps as made.

Please feel free to contact the staff of the OPR in the context of any queries in relation to the above, which we would be happy to facilitate. Contact can be initiated through the undersigned or at plans@opr.ie.

Is mise le meas,

Gary Ryan

Director, Office of the Planning Regulator

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