



To: Chief Executives, City and County Councils
Chief Executive, Office of Planning Regulator
Chairperson, An Bord Pleanála
Directors, Regional Assemblies

Cc: Senior Planners, City and County Councils
Deputy Regulator, Office of Planning Regulator
Director of Planning, An Bord Pleanála
Assistant Directors, Regional Assemblies

Circular Letter: EUIPR 02/2021

15 October 2021

**Publication of Consultation Draft Strategic Environmental Assessment,
Guidelines for Regional Assemblies and Planning Authorities**

I am requested by Mr. Peter Burke, T.D., Minister of State for Planning and Local Government to inform you of the publication today of the **Draft Strategic Environmental Assessment Guidelines for Regional Assemblies and Planning Authorities** for public consultation. A copy of the Draft Guidelines is enclosed.

Submissions are invited in respect of the Draft Guidelines, rather than on wider matters of planning and/or environmental policy.

Written submissions on these draft Guidelines may be made to the Department for the five week period between 15 October and up to **5pm on Friday 19 November 2021**.

Submissions may be sent via email to:

sea.guidelines@housing.gov.ie

or in writing to:

Mr. Paul Scott,
SEA Guidelines Submissions,
EU and International Planning Regulation Unit,
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage,
Custom House,
Dublin 1, D01 W6X0.

Submissions should be made by one medium only, either electronic or hard copy.



Receipt of submissions will be acknowledged but it will not be possible to issue individual responses. In the interests of transparency, all written submissions received will be made publicly available on the Government's website.

Although being issued in Draft format to enable feedback and refinement, it is intended that planning authorities and regional assemblies would have regard to these Draft Guidelines, noting that strategic environmental assessments of several draft development plans around the country are currently underway and are at different stages of completion.

It is expected that the Draft Guidelines will be finalised before the end of 2021, to be issued pursuant to Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

Any queries in relation to this Circular letter should be emailed to euplanningregulation@housing.gov.ie.

Eamonn Kelly
Principal Officer
EU & International Planning Regulation