



Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall Donegal County Council

Determination of requirement to carry out both a Strategic Environmental Assessment and an Appropriate Assessment of the proposed Material Alterations of the Draft Buncrana & Environs Development Plan 2014-2020.

Background

On 12th March 2014 & 31st March 2014, in accordance with the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended), the Members of Buncrana Town Council and Donegal County Council decided to make the draft Buncrana & Environs Development Plan 2014- 2020 subject to amendments, a number of which are Material Alterations.

As required by section 12(7)(aa) of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended), the purpose of this report is to determine if a Strategic Environmental Assessment or Appropriate Assessment or both such assessments, as the case may be, is or are required to be carried out as respects one or more than one proposed Material Alteration of the draft Development Plan.

To this end, there are a total of 18 Material Alterations which primarily relate to the Core Strategy, Housing & Economic Development objectives/ policies and also comprise nine land use zoning amendments. Having regard to the number and spatial extent of land use zoning amendments together with the complexity in SAC, SPA & NHA designations and the extent of ecological networks including Porthaw Glen, the Luddan coastal zone and the riparian river valleys and estuaries of the Crana and Mill Rivers, it is considered that there is significant potential for effects on the environment and/ or impacts on Natura 2000 sites and network such as would result in the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment of the proposed Material Alterations.

Therefore, pursuant to Section 12 (7) (aa) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the Planning Authority has determined that a Strategic Environmental Assessment and an Appropriate Assessment are required in respect of the proposed Material Alterations of the Draft Buncrana & Environs Development Plan 2014-2018.

END
15th March 2014