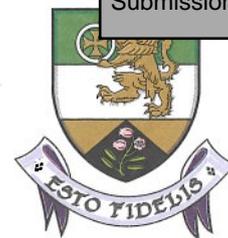


Offaly County Council

Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road,
Tullamore, Co. Offaly.

Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí

Áras an Chontae, Bóthar Charleville,
An Tulach Mhór, Contae Uíbh Fhailí.



T: 057 9346800 F: 057 9346868 / www.offaly.ie / customerservices@offalycoco.ie

Ms. Angela McEvoy
Senior Planner
Laois County Council
Áras an Chontae
Port Laoise,
Co. Laois

*Dheola
Ack.
Template -
give to Liz
[Signature]*



April 5, 2018

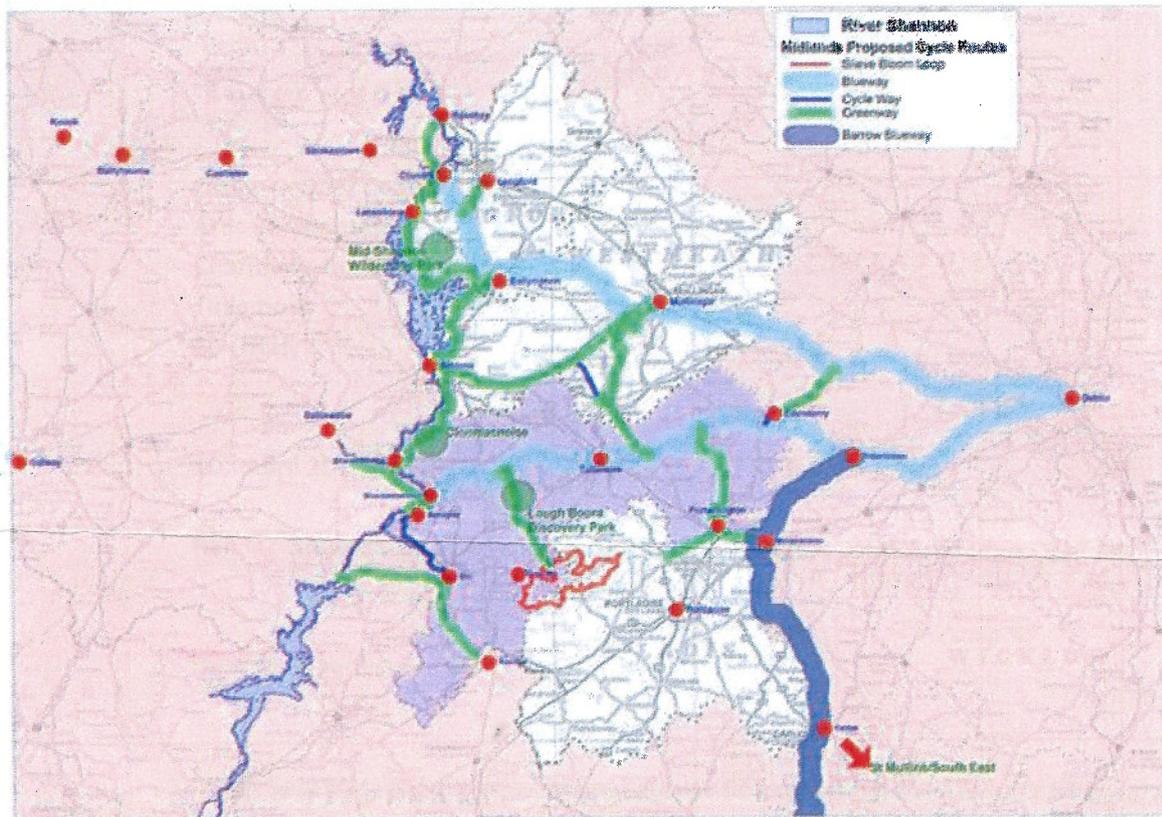
Re: Submission in relation to Draft Mountmellick Local Area Plan 2018-24

A chara,

Offaly County Council acknowledges the letter received from Laois County Council on March 22, 2018, inviting submissions in relation to the Draft Mountmellick Local Area Plan 2018-24 and would like to make the following submission in this regard;

1. Cycling Network on Old Canal Line

In relation to the policies contained in Chapter 9: Economic Development of the draft Mountmellick Local Area Plan, the Council may consider including a policy to investigate the feasibility of connecting up Mountmellick with regional and national cycle networks (as shown in the below map) via the Old Canal Line, closed in 1960 but which extends from a point to the east of Mountmellick to Monasterevin, which may potentially be suitable for cycleways providing positive economic, social and cultural benefits to the town and wider rural hinterland.



2. Flood Management

In relation to Objective FM03 of Chapter 17 (p.61) of the Local Area Plan, Offaly County Council requests that this objective reflect that any short or long term infrastructural and flood defence works proposed to alleviate flooding in Mountmellick should take account of its impact on the town of Portarlinton and its hinterland which is located downstream of Mountmellick on the River Barrow and is particular sensitive to significant change in land run-off and river flow from works up-stream.

Is mise le meas,

Siara Hughes
 Administrative Officer





Senior Planner
Planning Section
Aras an Chontae
JFL Avenue
Portlaoise
Co. Laois

08/05/2018

Uisce Éireann
Bosca OP 6000
Baile Átha Cliath 1
Éire

Irish Water
PO Box 6000
Dublin 1
Ireland

T: +353 1 89 25000
F: +353 1 89 25001
www.water.ie

**Re: Draft Local Area Plans for Portlaoise LAP, Portarlington LAP, Mountmellick LAP
2018 - 2024**

Dear Sir / Madam,

Irish Water acknowledges receipt of your letter and welcomes the opportunity to review the Draft Local Area Plans for Portlaoise LAP, Portarlington LAP, Mountmellick LAP 2018 – 2024.

Irish Water has no further comments to add to the existing information relating to water services within each settlement. In terms of determining serviceability for vacant sites, we advise that we will only be in a position to confirm water and wastewater availability for site specific new development through Irish Water's pre-connection enquiry process.

Irish Water is available to discuss the submission with the Council and any other issue with respect to the provision of water services within our remit

Yours Sincerely,

Suzanne Dempsey
Spatial Planning Strategy Specialist

**An Roinn Tithíochta,
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil**
Department of Housing,
Planning and Local Government



08 May, 2018

Senior Planner,
Planning Section
Laois County Council,
Áras an Chontae,
JFL Avenue,
Portlaoise,
Co. Laois.

Re: Draft Mountmellick Local Area Plan 2018-2024

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Housing and Urban Development to refer to your recent letter in relation to the above and set out hereunder observations on behalf of the Minister.

The Department notes the Mountmellick Draft Local Area Plan 2018-24 and the strategy of the plan to create a sustainable settlement with a vibrant town centre and attracting future residential and employment development.

Flood Risk

The Department notes the importance potential flooding issue in Mountmellick and recognises the ongoing work of the Laois County Council with the OPW in developing infrastructure and programmes to address this issue. The Local Area Plan is accompanied by a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) which examines the extent of flood risk within the town and compliance with *'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines'* (2009) issued under s.28 of the Planning & Development Act (as amended). The SFRA includes the production of detailed flood maps indicating the Flood Zones A and B (per section 3.5 of the 2009 Guidelines). Figure 3.1 of the Guidelines clearly requires that a sequential approach to flood risk is



taken to the zoning of lands for development (eg. lands in identified Flood Zones A & B should not be zoned for residential or other '*Highly vulnerable development*' per Table 3.2 of the Guidelines). The Department advocates close adherence to the sequential approach to flood risk management in the plan process and the Council is advised to examine the Draft LAP to ensure that proposed zoning objectives are fully integrated with the SFRA and the 2009 Guidelines.

The planning authority is reminded to have regard to any observations made by the Office of Public Works, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, the National Parks & Wildlife Service, the Environmental Protection Agency and Irish Water. In this regard, Laois County Council must satisfy itself that it has met the relevant requirements as appropriate, and that the Mountmellick Draft Local Area Plan 2018-24 is fully compliant with its obligations under planning legislation.

The officials of the Department are available to discuss the matters raised above and in the first instance you are advised to contact Mr. Stewart Logan, Planning Adviser on



Is mise le meas,

Niall Cussen
Chief Planner
Forward Planning Section