



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



## An tAire do Thithíocht agus Forbairt Uirbeach

Minister for Housing and Urban Development

28 September 2017

For the Attention of:

Mr. John Mulholland, Chief Executive,  
Laois County Council,  
Áras an Chontae,  
JFL Avenue,  
Portlaoise,  
Co. Laois.

**Section 31 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended  
by the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010  
Decision to Issue a Direction relating to the  
Laois County Development Plan 2017-2023**

Dear Chief Executive,

I am writing to you in connection with the Laois County Development Plan 2017-2023 as adopted by the Council on 26 June 2017 and the notice of intent to issue a direction which my colleague, Minister Eoghan Murphy, T.D., issued to you on 18 July 2017.

Having now carefully considered your report, I have decided to confirm the direction on the Laois County Development Plan 2017-2023 as per the draft direction of 18 July 2017.

As appears therefrom, I have formed the provisional opinion (i) that the Planning Authority has ignored or not taken account of submissions made on my behalf in November 2016 and May 2017 in respect of the proposed Laois County Development Plan 2017-2023 and (ii) that the plan as

adopted is not in compliance with the requirements of s.10(2)(n), s.10(5) and (5A), s.28 (1B)(b) and s.31(1)(c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

Accordingly Laois County Council should **TAKE NOTICE** that on the 28 day of September, 2017 I have issued a Direction pursuant to Section 31 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

A copy of this Direction is attached to this letter.

#### **STEPS TO BE TAKEN**

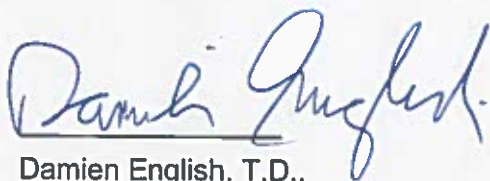
In light of the foregoing the Planning Authority is required, pursuant to Section 31(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to comply with this Direction.

The Laois County Development Plan 2017-2023 must therefore be altered as indicated in the attached Direction, and the Planning Authority should ensure that copies of the Development Plan as altered are available for inspection at its offices and on its website.

The Planning Authority should also publish notice of the making of the Direction and alteration to the Plan, and post a copy of such notice on its website.

My officials remain available to assist you, as necessary, in complying with the foregoing process.

Yours sincerely,



Damien English, T.D.,

Minister for Housing and Urban Development

Copied to:

Cathaoirleach, Laois County Council, Áras an Chontae, JFL Avenue, Portlaoise, Co. Laois

Director, Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly, Ballymun Civil Centre, Ballymun, Dublin 9