

## 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023

Notification of Approval of the Local Economic & Community Plan for Sligo (LECP) – Sligo 2030 One Voice One Vision following Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) & Appropriate Assessment (AA)

The draft Local Economic & Community Plan for Sligo, incorporating the Implementation Plan (Action Plan) has been approved by the Council at meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023.

Preparation of the draft Plan was undertaken by Sligo Co Council with assistance from Consultants KPMG-FA. It has been endorsed by the LCDC on 27th October 2022, and by the SPC for Planning, Community & Economic development, Arts & Culture on 9th November 2022. It has been agreed by the Sligo Economic Forum on 8th November 2022. It has been agreed by the Municipal Districts at their meetings held on 14 Nov 2022 (Ballymote Tubbercurry), 28 Nov 2022 (Sligo Drumcliffe) and 23 Jan 2023 (Borough of Sligo).

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) & Appropriate Assessment (AA) process has been carried out, and the Screening Reports and Determinations for each are attached herewith. It is concluded that the LECP to be adopted will not give rise to any effects on the ecological integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with any other plans, programmes, and projects etc. Consequently, Stage Two AA (including the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement) is not required. Further it is determined that SEA is not required for the LECP to be adopted.

The process of preparation and adoption of the LECP has been carried out in accordance with the updated Local Economic & Community Plan Guidelines, Nov 2021 (and previous version thereof June 2015).

The Draft LECP has been developed in a collaborative manner through engagement and consultation with a wide range of stakeholders including the community, business and economic sectors, state agencies and education providers. The reason for this engagement, in conjunction with the socio-economic analysis, is to take on board broad input to identify priorities and needs for Sligo that can be addressed through the high-level goals, objectives and actions while aligning to local, regional, national, and relevant EU policies.

**Dorothy Clarke Director of Services**