

County Development Plan: Introduction

As the blueprint for development in County Sligo, the County Development Plan is the over-arching strategic framework document for sustainable development in spatial, economic, social and environmental terms.

As such, the development plan must offer clear guidance on sustainable development policies and objectives addressing various issues such as housing and the creation of sustainable communities, transport, urban development, waste management, judicious use of natural resources, climate change etc. (*Development Plans – Guidelines for Planning Authorities*, DoEHLG, June 2007)

Sligo County Development Plan 2011-2017 sets out an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of County Sligo, in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). The Plan relates to the County of Sligo, except for the Sligo and Environs area, which is covered by the *Sligo and Environs Development Plan 2010-2016*.

This Plan builds on the review of Sligo County Development Plan 2005-2011, taking into account recent development trends as well as national and regional policy changes. The Plan presents the Council's outlook for the future development of the County for the period up to 2017, within the framework of a longer-term perspective. Within this strategic outlook, the Plan sets out planning policies that are aimed at:

- driving forward the economic and social development of Sligo, by boosting competitiveness and enhancing the quality of life for the citizens of Sligo within an environment of outstanding quality, through:
 - the implementation of a Core Strategy for the County aimed at achieving the balanced development of County Sligo,
- and thus:
 - responding to national and regional planning policy contained in the National Spatial Strategy and Regional Planning Guidelines.

Fig. 1.A County Sligo's location in the national context

