

## Section 2 The Plan

### 2.1 Review Process and Statutory Context

Under the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended, each Planning Authority is obliged to prepare a development plan for its functional area every six years, the review of which should commence four years after its adoption. Accordingly the review process of the 2010 County Development Plan (CDP) and preparation of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown CDP 2016-2022, began in March 2014 when extensive notification of the review process was given and notice was published and forwarded to the relevant bodies. The CDP has been prepared in accordance with Section 11 and 12 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

### 2.2 Background to the Plan

The Plan sets out an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the functional area of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council for the period 2016-2022.

The Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, requires a planning authority to prepare a Development Plan for its functional area every six years.

The Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of section 10(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

### 2.3 Content of the Plan

The Plan has been prepared by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and comprises a written document with maps, and various appendices.

It's overall vision is to continue to facilitate appropriate levels of sustainable development predicated on the delivery of high quality community, employment and recreational environments - allied to the promotion of sustainable transportation and travel patterns

- but all the while protecting Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown's unique landscape, natural heritage and physical fabric, to ensure the needs of those living and working in the County can thrive in a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable manner.

The Plan has been structured into 10 main Chapters which deal with various topics as outlined below. These chapters contain different types of provisions (visions, policies, objectives and standards) which will be applied to future development proposals in the County.

#### 1. Strategic Overview

- 1.1 Introduction and Context
- 1.2 Core Strategy
- 1.3 Development Areas and Regeneration

#### 2. Sustainable Communities Strategy

- 2.1 Residential Development
- 2.2 Sustainable Travel and Transportation

#### 3. Enterprise and Employment Strategy

- 3.1 Enterprise and Employment
- 3.2 Retailing and Major Town Centres

#### 4. Green County Strategy

- 4.1 Landscape, Heritage and Biodiversity
- 4.2 Open Space and Recreation

#### 5. Physical Infrastructure Strategy

- 5.1 Environmental Infrastructure and Management
- 5.2 Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Flooding

#### 6. Built Heritage Strategy

- 6.1 Archaeology and Architectural Heritage

#### 7. Community Strategy

- 7.1 Social Infrastructure and Community Development

#### 8. Principles of Development

- 8.1 Urban Design Strategy
- 8.2 Development Management
- 8.3 Land Use Zoning Objectives

#### 9. Specific Local Objectives

#### 10. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA)

The Plan contains 17 Appendices as follows:

1. National, Regional and Local Context
2. Housing Strategy
3. Ecological Network
4. RPS/RMP/ACAs/CACAs
5. Industrial Heritage Survey
6. Wind Energy Strategy
7. Landscape Character Areas
8. ROW/RAR
9. Building Height Strategy
10. Development Management Thresholds Information
11. Rural Design Guide
12. Dún Laoghaire Urban Framework Plan
13. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
14. Green Infrastructure Strategy
15. Sandyford Urban Framework Plan
16. Statement outlining compliance with Ministerial Guidelines
17. Green Roofs Guidance Document

## 2.4 Strategic work done by the Council to ensure contribution towards environmental protection and sustainable development

Far in advance of both the submission of the pre-Draft Plan to the Elected Members for approval and the placing of the Draft Plan (and associated SEA, AA and SFRA documents) on public display, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council undertook various works in order to inform the preparation of the Plan.

The findings of this strategic work have been integrated into the Plan, contributing towards both environmental protection and management and sustainable development within the County.

Strategic work done by the Council includes the preparation of the following:

- Background work in relation to the Sustainable Communities Strategy
- Background work in relation to the Enterprise and Employment Strategy
- Background work in relation to the Physical Infrastructure Strategy

- Background work in relation to the Built Heritage Strategy
- Background work in relation to the Community Strategy
- Housing Strategy
- Ecological Network
- Review of Wind Energy Strategy
- Review of Landscape Character Areas
- Green Infrastructure Strategy
- Review of DLUFP
- Review of SUFP
- Climate Change proofing

The undertaking of this SEA process as well as the undertaking of the AA and SFRA were part of this strategic work and contributed towards the integration of environmental considerations into individual Plan provisions as detailed in Section 9 of this report.

## 2.5 Relationship with other relevant Plans and Programmes

### 2.5.1 Introduction

The Plan sits within a hierarchy of land use forward planning strategic actions. The Plan must comply with relevant higher level strategic actions and may, in turn, guide lower level strategic actions. Much of the text of the following sections is taken from Appendix I of the Plan.

#### *International*

- EU Habitats Directive
- EU Urban Waste Water Directive
- EU Water Framework Directive
- EU Waste Framework Directive
- EU Drinking Water Directive
- EU Bathing Water Directive
- EU Freshwater Fish Directive
- EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive
- EU Floods Directive
- EU SEA Directive
- EU Control of Major Accidents Directive
- EU Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe Directive
- EU - Energy Performance of Building Directive
- EU Energy Efficiency Directive

### **National**

- National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020, People Places Potential, (2002)
- Infrastructure and Capital Investment 2012–2016: Medium Term Exchequer Framework (2011)
- Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future (2009)
- National Cycle Policy Framework 2009-2020 (2009)
- Construction 2020 A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector (2014)
- Irish Water Proposed Capital Investment Plan 2014-2106 (2014)
- Our Sustainable Future: A Framework for Sustainable Development in Ireland 2012 (2012)
- National Heritage Plan (2002)
- Actions for Biodiversity, 2011 – 2016 (2011)
- Towards a Resource Efficient Ireland, A National Strategy to 2020, incorporating Irelands National Waste Prevention Programme (2014)
- National Hazardous Waste Management Plan, 2014-2020 (2014)
- Putting People First Action Programme for Effective Local Government (2012)
- The National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016 (2007)
- Buildings for Everyone: A Universal Approach (2012)
- National Disability Strategy Implementation Plan 2013-2015 (2103)
- A Strategy for Public Libraries 2013-2017 (2013)
- Student Accommodation Scheme (2007)
- Achieving Effective Workplace Travel Plan Guidance for Local Authorities (2012)
- National Climate Change Strategy 2007-2012 (2007)
- National Climate Change Adaptation Framework, Building Resilience to Climate Change (2012)
- Towards nearly Zero Energy Buildings in Ireland Planning for 2020 and Beyond (2012)
- Ireland and the Climate Change Challenge: Connecting How Much with How To (2012).
- National Energy Efficiency Action Plan 3 (NEEAP) (2009)

### **Regional**

- Regional Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area 2010-2022 (2010)
- Retail Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2008-2016 (2008)
- Greater Dublin Area Draft Transport Strategy 2016 – 2035 (2015)
- Integrated Implementation Plan 2013-2018 (2013)
- Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan (2013)<sup>1</sup>
- Planning and Development of Large-Scale, Rail Focussed Residential Areas in Dublin (2013)
- Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (2005)
- Greater Dublin Water Supply Strategic Study 1996-2016 (1996)
- Eastern River Basin District River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015 (2010)
- Dublin Mountains Strategic Plan for Development of Outdoor Recreation 2007-2017 (2007)
- Waste Management Plan for the Dublin Region 2005-2010 (2005)
- Air Quality Management Plan for the Dublin Region 2009-2012 (2009)
- Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan December 2013–2018 (2013)
- Green City Guidelines (2008)

### **Ministerial Guidelines**

- Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas (2009)
- Urban Design Manual Best Practice Guidelines (2009)
- Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments (2007)
- Delivering Homes, Sustaining Communities (2007)
- Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities (2007)
- The Planning System and Flood Risk Management (2009)
- Irish Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (2013)
- Spatial Planning and National Roads – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2012)
- National Cycle Manual (2011)

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<sup>1</sup> The Sutton to Sandycove cycleway is incorporated into the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan 2013.

- A Resource Opportunity Waste Management Policy in Ireland (2012)
- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2010)
- Implementation of SEA Directive (2001/42/EC): Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment, Guidelines for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities (2004)
- Implementation of SEA Directive (2004)
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-Threshold Development (2003)
- Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment (2013)
- Code of Practice on the Provision of Schools and the Planning System (2008)
- "Ready Steady Play! A National Play Policy (2004),
- Childcare Facilities- Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2001)
- National Childcare Strategy: A Guide for Providers 2006-2010 (2006)
- Quarries and Ancillary Activities (2004)
- Architectural Heritage Protection. Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011)
- Framework and Principles for the protection of the Archaeological Heritage (1999)
- Government Policy on Architecture 2009-2015: Towards a Sustainable Future: Delivering Quality within the Built Environment (2009)
- Retail Planning Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2012)
- Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2005)
- Development Plans: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2007)
- Local Area Plans Guidelines for Local Authorities (2013) and Manual for Local Area Plans (2013)
- Wind Energy- Development Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2006)
- Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures-Guidelines for Planning Authorities (1996)
- Government Policy Statement on 'Strategic Importance of Transmission and Other Energy Infrastructure' (2012)
- Bio-Energy Action Plan for Ireland (2007)
- Government White paper 'Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland, Energy Policy Framework 2007-2020" (2007)
- A National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 (2015)
- Tree Preservation - Guidelines for Planning Authorities (1994)

### ***Local Documents***

- Guidelines for Sustainable Development, Dún-Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council (1999)
- Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Cycle Network Review Study Report (2012)
- Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Cycling Policy. Smarter Travel, Better Living (2010)
- Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014 – 2018 (2008)
- Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Arts Development Policy 2011 – 2014 (2011)
- Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Heritage Plan 2013 – 2019 (2013)
- Parklife: A Policy for enhancing Biodiversity in Parks and Green Spaces: An action of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown 2009-2013 (2009)
- LR Open Space Strategy 2012-2015
- DLR Trees: A Tree Strategy for Dún-Laoghaire Rathdown 2011-2015 (2011)
- Dalkey Islands Conservation Plan 2013-2023 (2013)
- Green Infrastructure Strategy (2014)
- Taking In Charge Policy Document (2011-updated-2013)
- Coastal Defence Strategy Study (2010)
- DLR Green Roof Guidance Document (2014)
- DLR Library Development Programmes 2010-2013 and 2015-2018
- DLR Building Heights Strategy (2011)
- Cherrywood Planning Scheme (2014)
- Sandyford Urban Framework Plan 2011-2016 (2011)
- Dún Laoghaire Urban Framework Plan 2016-2022
- Deansgrange Local Area Plan 2010–2020 (2010)
- Goatstown Local Area Plan 2012-2018 (2012)

- Glencullen Local Area Plan 2008–2018 (2008)
- Kiltiernan/Glenamuck Local Area Plan 2013 – 2019 (2013)
- Stillorgan Local Area Plan 2007–2017 (2007)
- Woodbrook/Shanganagh Local Area Plan 2006–2016 (2006)
- Stepside Action Area Plan (2000)

## 2.5.2 National Spatial Strategy

The National Spatial Strategy (NSS) 2002-2020 is a 20 year National Plan that sets out a strategy for balanced Regional development across Ireland and it informs National decisions as to where development (and Government investment) should take place. The NSS, while acknowledging the Greater Dublin Area (GDA) as the driver of the national economy, seeks to promote a better balance of population, jobs and development elsewhere in the State.

## 2.5.3 Infrastructure and Capital Investment

The Infrastructure and Capital Investment Plan 2012-2016 (Medium Term Exchequer Framework) succeeded the National Development Plan which ran from 2007-2010. This Plan was formulated - at a time of tight fiscal constraints - to assess the capacity of Ireland's infrastructure and identify remaining gaps which needed to be addressed to aid economic recovery, social cohesion and environmental sustainability.

## 2.5.4 Regional Planning Guidelines

The Regional Planning Guidelines (RPGs) for the Greater Dublin Area 2010-2022 provide an overall spatial policy framework for the GDA to 2022 and focus on the physical consolidation of the Dublin Metropolitan Area and the proper integration of land use and transportation to promote more sustainable forms of development across the Region. RPG's projections for population and housing targets, published in June 2010, suggest that the GDA will grow significantly through both natural increase and continued in-migration. Up to 118,000 new houses could be needed across the seven GDA Local Authorities by 2022 to cater for the demand generated by the combination of population increase and

changing household composition. Substantial retail and commercial development and the commensurate delivery of social and community infrastructure will also be needed to cater for the scale of projected growth.

It is worth noting that these projections were prepared prior to the Census in 2011. It should also be noted that the GDA Regional Authority has been replaced by a new Eastern and Midlands Regional Assembly.

## 2.5.5 Other Lower Tier Land Use Plans

Detailed land use plans have been adopted for local areas and have been taken into account, integrated or included within the County Plan. Such plans include the following:

- Sandyford Urban Framework Plan 2011-2016 (2011)
- Dún Laoghaire Urban Framework Plan 2016-2022
- Cherrywood Planning Scheme (2014)
- Deansgrange Local Area Plan 2010–2020 (2010)
- Goatstown Local Area Plan 2012-2018 (2012)
- Glencullen Local Area Plan 2008–2018 (2008)
- Kiltiernan/Glenamuck Local Area Plan 2013 – 2019 (2013)
- Stillorgan Local Area Plan 2007–2017 (2007)
- Woodbrook/Shanganagh Local Area Plan 2006–2016 (2006)
- Stepside Action Area Plan (2000)

The Plan proposes a number of new Local Area Plans including the Ballyogan and Environs Local Area Plan, Sallynoggin Local Area Plan and the Dundrum Local Area Plan.

## 2.5.6 Eastern River Basin Management Plan

Local Authorities including Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council have prepared a River Basin Management Plan and Programme of Measures for the Eastern River Basin District (ERBD) 2009-2015 which is implemented in order to help protect and improve waters in the County and wider River Basin Districts.

The ERBD Management Plans and associated Programmes of Measures include provisions to help ensure that water bodies in the district meet the objectives of the Water Framework Directive. The Plan identifies the status of water bodies within the RBD and provides objectives in order to implement the requirements of the Water Framework Directive.

### **2.5.7 National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme**

A Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Study is being undertaken for the Eastern River Basin District by the Office of Public Works.

The national CFRAM programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive. The Programme is being implemented through CFRAM Studies which are being undertaken for each of the six river basin districts in Ireland.

The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. In 2015, draft Flood Maps were published. The final output from the studies will be CFRAM Plans, to be published in 2017. The Plans will define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed.

### **2.5.8 Smarter Travel 2009**

'Smarter Travel' is the Government's action plan to free towns and cities from traffic congestion, substantially cut CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and encourage car based commuters to leave their cars at home. This plan sets out 49 individual actions to encourage a shift toward walking, cycling and greater public transport usage. By 2020 the aim is to move 500,000 potential car based commuters to other more sustainable forms of transport and in doing so, cut CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by at least 4 million tonnes. The Plan aims to ensure that electric vehicles account for 10% of all vehicles on the roads

and to move over 150,000 people to work by bike each year.

### **2.5.9 GRID 25 and associated Implementation Plan**

Grid25 is a high-level strategy outlining how EirGrid intends to undertake the development of the electricity transmission grid in the short, medium and longer terms, to support a long-term sustainable and reliable electricity supply. The Grid25 strategy thereby seeks to implement the provisions of the 2007 Government White Paper on Energy - "Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland" in terms of development of electricity transmission infrastructure. The Grid25 Implementation Programme is a practical strategic overview of how the early stages of Grid25 are intended to be implemented.

### **2.5.10 Draft National Peatlands Strategy**

The Draft National Peatlands Strategy, prepared by the NPWS, will, when finalised, establish principles in relation to Irish peatlands in order to guide Government policy. The Draft Strategy aims to provide a framework for which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and economic contribution.

### **2.5.11 National Strategic Aquaculture Plan**

Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) has assisted the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and the Marine in preparing a Draft National Strategic Aquaculture Plan. The Plan is being prepared in compliance with Strategic EU Guidelines for the Sustainable Development of EU Aquaculture and will be consistent with the aim of the proposal for the Common Fisheries Policy reform to promote aquaculture through "an open method of co-ordination".

### **2.5.12 New Waste Management Plans**

In accordance with Section 22 of the Waste Management Act, 1996 and the Waste Management (Planning) Regulations, 1997, notice was given of the intention to commence

the preparation of new Regional Waste Management Plans in 2013.

There are now three new Plans prepared for the following new waste management planning regions:

- Connacht-Ulster;
- Eastern-Midland (comprising local authorities: Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Dublin City, Fingal, Kildare, Laois, Longford, Louth, Meath, Offaly, South Dublin, Wicklow and Westmeath); and
- Southern.

### **2.5.13 Environmental Protection Objectives**

The Plan is subject to a number of high level environmental protection policies and objectives with which it must comply, including those which have been identified as Strategic Environmental Objectives in Section 5.

Examples of Environmental Protection Objectives include the aim of the EU Habitats Directive - which is to contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora in the European territory of Member States - and the purpose of the Water Framework Directive - which is to establish a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater which, among other things, prevents deterioration in the status of all water bodies and protects, enhances and restores all waters with the aim of achieving good status.