




























### Annex A: Assessment Matrix of Portarlinton Joint LAP 2018-2024










Additional text recommended through the SEA process is presented in **bold blue font**










No likely interaction with /insignificant impact with SEOs	0	Potential conflict with SEOs – likely to be mitigated	↕
Likely to improve status of SEOs	↑		
Probable conflict with SEOs – unlikely to be mitigated	↓		










Portarlinton Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<p><b>Strategic Vision</b></p> <p>To develop Portarlinton as a sustainable low carbon settlement centred on a vibrant town centre, utilising the location strengths to attract employment and promote the unique settlement as an attractive town in which to work, live and play, while ensuring the protection of the unique built and natural heritage and managing flood risk.</p>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Key Plan Objectives:</b>									
1. To support and facilitate sustainable intensification and consolidation of the town centre and in established residential	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<p>areas.</p> <p><b>2.</b> To promote balanced economic development and employment ensuring a diverse range of economic sectors are developed and supported.</p> <p><b>3.</b> To support and facilitate development on zoned land based on the policies and objectives of the Laois County Development Plan 2017-2023.</p> <p><b>4.</b> To focus new residential development primarily into brownfield, infill and backland sites.</p> <p><b>5.</b> To protect, conserve and enhance the built, natural and cultural environment, through promoting awareness, utilising relevant heritage legislation and promoting good quality urban design.</p> <p><b>6.</b> To develop and improve flood alleviation measures throughout the town and rural hinterland.</p> <p><b>7. To require the preparation and assessment of all planning applications in the plan area to have regard to the information, data and requirements of the Appropriate Assessment Natura Impact Report, SEA Environmental Report and Strategic Flood Risk. Assessment Report that accompany this Draft Joint LAP.</b></p> <p><b>8.</b> To require projects to be fully informed by ecological and environmental constraints at the earliest stage of project planning and any necessary assessment to be undertaken, including assessments of disturbance to habitats and species , where required.</p>									
<p><b>Comment:</b> Objectives 7 and 8 in particular supports environmental assessments and measures arising from the SEA, AA and SFRA. Positive effects across</p>									










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
all SEOs									
<b>Key Plan Policies</b>									
1. Implement the development strategies for Portarlington in order to be consistent with, and in accordance with policies of higher tier plans.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
2. Support strategic enterprise and employment opportunities at other appropriate locations in Portarlington and environs, having regard to proper planning and sustainable development and relevant development control standards.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
3. Facilitate and promote Portarlington's role as a "Key Service Town" as designated in the MRPGs, the Laois County Development Plan 2017-2023 and the Offaly County Development Plan 2014-2020.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
4. Monitor and manage the delivery of population and housing in Portarlington, in line with national, regional and county level objectives, through the development strategy in this plan and also through the development management process.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
5. Facilitate and support the provision of new, and expansion of existing services, facilities and community infrastructure.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Comment:</b> Alignment with hierarchy of plans and policies, including core strategy and support key service Town Designation are all consistent with SEOs									
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Economic Development:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Strategic Aim:</p> <p>To promote, facilitate and enable economic development and employment generation activities in appropriate locations and in a sustainable manner.</p>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Objectives:</b> It is an objective of both Laois and Offaly County Council to:									
<b>EE O1:</b> Support the work of the Local Enterprise Offices in	0	↑	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
performing their functions of facilitating enterprise and economic development, delivering local and regional initiatives through the Laois Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021, Offaly Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021 and the Midland Action Plan for Jobs and working with key national, regional, local, public and private stakeholders to support employment opportunities in Portarlington.									
<b>EE 02:</b> Co-operate with Portarlington Community Development Association, IDA Ireland, Enterprise Ireland, the Laois Partnership Company and other agencies, organisation and individuals in promoting enterprise and employment in Portarlington.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>EE03:</b> Identify infrastructural and service deficits experienced by existing businesses, and work towards addressing these deficits.	0	↑	0	0	↑	0	0	0	↑
<b>EE04:</b> Promote existing space available in the town for the establishment of incubator units and start-ups.	0	↑	0	↑	↑	↑	0	0	↑
<b>EE05:</b> Facilitate the development of employment generating enterprises within existing employment areas such as the town centre, Botley Lane, Portarlington Enterprise Centre and vacant commercial premises such as Avon.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>EE06:</b> Promote and encourage cultural development and creative industries.	↑	↑	0	0	0	0	↑	↑	↑
<b>EE07:</b> Promote and market Portarlington as a strong and competitive alternative location for business by highlighting distinctive attributes and characteristics.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>EE08:</b> Ensure that buildings proposed in the Laois Business Park and Botley Lane in the future are of a high quality design.		↑				↑		↑	










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<b>EE09:</b> Facilitate the development of the Derryounce Experience and Trails.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>EE010:</b> Facilitate development of an historical trail through Derryounce Bog and a Heritage Museum documenting the history of the bog, turf production in the area and the former location of the town’s Power Station.	↕	↑	↕	↕	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>EE011:</b> Facilitate development of a green corridor connecting Derryounce Lakes and Trails, the River Barrow and The Peoples Park.	↕	↑	↕	↕	↑	↑	↕	↑	↑
<b>EO12:</b> Support the development of a cycleway from Derryounce Lakes and Trails to Mount Lucas.	↕	↑	↕	↕	↑	↑	↕	↑	↑
<b>EE013:</b> Support the provision of maps and signage for tourist facilities at locations at Portarlington Railway Station, Market Square, Main Street, Patrick Street, River Barrow, Peoples Park and Derryounce Lakes and Trails.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	↑	0	0
<b>EE014:</b> Support the continued operation and reasonable development of existing non-conforming uses provided that such uses do not: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Result in a loss of amenity to adjoining properties;</li> <li>• Cause an adverse impact on the environment;</li> <li>• Cause an adverse impact on the visual amenity or character of the area;</li> <li>• Inhibit the development of adjoining land in conformance with the land’s zoning objective.</li> </ul>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Policies:</b> It is the Policy of both Laois and Offaly County Council to:									
<b>EEP1:</b> Support sustainable employment and enterprise in Portarlington through the identification of appropriately located	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
and adequately serviced lands for business/employment, industrial and commercial developments, the promotion of investment in transportation and other support infrastructure and the creation of a high quality environment to encourage economic investment.									
<b>EEP2:</b> Protect employment zoned land from inappropriate development that would undermine future economic activity or the sustainable economic development and growth of the town.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>EEP3:</b> Facilitate employment and enterprise development in the context of the role of Portarlington as a Key Service Town consistent with objectives of the core strategy set out in the Laois County Development Plan 2017-23 and the Offaly County Development Plan 2014-2020.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>EEP4:</b> Encourage appropriate development, works and supporting infrastructure that would contribute to a high quality and attractive built and social environment in Portarlington to attract and sustain new business, residents and visitors.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>EEP5:</b> Encourage the establishment and expansion of services and facilities in the town at appropriate locations to facilitate the business needs of employment and enterprise developments and potential tourism needs like conference facilities, hotel, accommodation, eateries and other similar services.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>EEP6:</b> Work collaboratively and in partnership with other stakeholders in the pursuit of development that would	○	↑	○	○	↑	○	○	○	↑











Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
contribute positively to the economic development of the town.									
<b>EEP7:</b> Support and work with Bord Na Mona and other relevant agencies in the sustainable diversification of former industrial peatlands in the Garryhinch area to uses such as green energy, eco-tourism and water storage.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>EEP8:</b> Encourage the further development of the Portarlington third level institute as a centre of excellence for a range of education and research related uses.	0	↑	0	0	↑	0	0	0	0
<b>EEP9:</b> Work in conjunction with the town’s third level institution and neighbouring institutions including NUI Maynooth and Athlone and Carlow ITs in the creation and fostering of enterprise and research and development.	0	↑	0	0	↑	0	0	0	0
<b>EEP10:</b> Facilitate office development in commercial and employment centres.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>EEP11:</b> Continue to work with key stakeholders in the tourism industry including Waterways Ireland, Failte Ireland, Tourism Ireland, National Parks and Wildlife Service, in order to develop the overall tourist and economic potential of the town, with particular emphasis on the cultural heritage, River Barrow and Derrynuce Lakes and Trails.	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕
<b>EEP12:</b> Encourage and facilitate the sustainable development of the tourism potential of Portarlington in a manner that respects, builds on, protects and enhances the cultural, built and natural heritage of the town.	↑	↑	0	0	0	0	↑	↑	↑
<b>EEP13:</b> Secure connectivity between Portarlington with county, regional and national cycle networks via former Bord na Mona rail-lines and to capture positive economic, social and cultural	0↕	↑	0	0	↑	↑	0	0	0










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
benefits associated with this connection.									
<b>EEP14:</b> Where commercial and industrial enterprises exist as nonconforming but long-established uses, to support their continued operation and reasonable expansion, in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.	O	↑	O	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<p><b>Comment:</b> Promotion of Town Centre development and objectives to enhance existing employment are positive in relation to MA, CC and PH SEOs in particular. Direct, long term positives in terms of reducing commuting patterns through increased economic activity and direct population and human health effects also relating to reduced commuting patterns for population of the town. (EEP1 and EEP6 for example). EE04 and EE 05 are positive as they promote existing buildings in the town centre and contribute again to altering commuting patterns, and contribute to town centre viability. Reuse of older structures indirectly contributes to townscape quality and character and promotes soil and geology SEOs as it represents reuse of existing buildings/brown field sites. For other objectives such as EE P11, potential effects can be addressed through existing mitigation measures.</p>									
<p><b>Town Centre Revitalisation:</b> Strategy Aim: It is the Policy of the Council to support the sustainable long-term growth of Portarlington, in accordance with the Core and Retail Strategies of the Laois County Development Plan 2017 – 2023 and the Offaly County Development Plan 2014-2020.</p>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Objectives:</b> It is an objective of both Laois and Offaly County Council to									
<b>TCR 01:</b> Improve the quality, vitality and vibrancy of the town centre through the implementation of public realm improvements.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TCR 02:</b> Promote the town centre as a priority location for commercial, civic, social and cultural development and sustainable consolidation.	↕	↑	↕	↕	↑	↕↑	↕	↕	↑
<b>TCR 03:</b> Promote the consolidation of the town centre through	O	↑	O	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑























Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
the use of brownfield, infill and backland sites without compromising streetscapes.									
<b>TCR 04:</b> Encourage and facilitate the appropriate reuse and regeneration of derelict, disused and vacant sites and prominent buildings including the Market House, the old cinema and Arlington House.	O	↑	O	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TCR 05:</b> Facilitate the redevelopment of strategic opportunity sites within the town centre for a mixture of uses that will contribute to vitality of the central core area.	⇅	↑	⇅	⇅	↑	⇅	⇅	↑	↑
<b>TCR 06:</b> Renew, consolidate and develop the existing fabric of the town by achieving a high quality of design in new development and refurbishments.	O	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TCR 07:</b> Ensure the type, quantum and location of future retail floor space is consistent with the requirements and recommendations of the Laois County Development Plan 2017-2023 and the Offaly County Development Plan 2014 - 2020, relevant regional policy frameworks and national planning guidelines.	O	↑	O	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TCR 08:</b> Guide retail development, in accordance with the sequential approach to sustain and strengthen the town centre.	⇅	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TCR 09:</b> Promote an appropriate mix of day and night time uses.	O	↑		↑			↑	↑	↑
<b>TCR 010:</b> Create attractive and secure pedestrian and cycling links.	⇅	↑	O	↑	↑	↑		↑	
<b>Policy:</b> It is the Policy of both Laois and Offaly County Council to									
<b>TCR P1:</b> Encourage retail development within the existing town centre. Proposals which would undermine the vitality and	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
viability of the town centre will not be permitted. The sequential approach to retail development set out in the “Retail Planning – Guidelines for Planning Authorities, 2012” will be strictly enforced.									
<b>TCR P2:</b> Facilitate the revitalisation of and promote the appropriate reuse of existing town centre buildings, such as the Market Square and old cinema.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TCR P3:</b> Prohibit the proliferation of uses in the town centre which would detract from the amenities of the area or the vitality and viability of the town centre.	0	↑	0	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TCR P4:</b> Promote living over the shop and conversion of town centre buildings into housing units.	↑	↑	0	↑	0↑	0	↑	↑	↑
<b>TCR P5:</b> Encourage the maintenance of original shopfronts, or the reinstatement of traditional shopfronts where poor replacements have been installed.		↑	0	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TCR P6:</b> Ensure new shop fronts have regard to existing shop fronts and complement the existing character.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	↑	↑	↑
<b>TCR P7:</b> Prohibit internally illuminated fascias or projecting box signs. Concealed strip or flood lighting of fascias and traditional hand painted signs lit by spotlight may be an acceptable alternative.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	↑	↑	↑
<p><b>Comment:</b> Objectives cover a range of proposals which are broadly positive medium to long term, across all SEOS as they relate to town centre viability, public realm and walking and cycling. Town centre promotion supports Geology and Soil SEOs, as well as PHH, Landscape and modal shift to pedestrian/cycling.</p> <p>Polices promoting Town centre viability and support for appropriate uses, and design features provide together for positive long term effects on PHH, Soil and Geology (through promoting reuse), Landscape/townscape, Cultural Heritage and material assets as well as indirectly promoting modal shifts away from car dependency.</p>									











Portarlinton Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<p><b>Opportunity Sites:</b>            Opportunity Site 1: Former timber yard, junction of station Road / Canal road Zoning: Enterprise and Employment</p> 	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑

Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<p><b>Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategically located directly adjacent to Portarlington Railway Station and car park;</li> <li>• A 1.56ha. brown field site formerly used as timber and hardware retail outlet, the buildings have been cleared and the site is vacant;</li> <li>• Fully serviced site;</li> <li>• Outside of Flood Zones A and B;</li> <li>• Extant permission for office and retail development over five storeys;</li> <li>• Opportunity to intensify development to provide a key landmark or gateway building to signify the approach and entrance to the town from the south and railway station to create a sense of arrival;</li> <li>• The building should address the extensive street frontage and be designed to an exceptional standard;</li> <li>• A high quality public realm will be required in any development.</li> </ul>									











Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<p><b>Opportunity Site 2:</b> Land holding off Sandy Lane / Ballymorris Road Zoning: Neighbourhood Centre</p> 	↕	↑	↕	↕	↑	↑	↑	↕	↑
<p><b>Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prime location in close proximity to the town centre;</li> <li>• A 3.84ha. Greenfield site;</li> <li>• Fully serviced site;</li> <li>• Outside of Flood Zones A and B;</li> <li>• Extant permission for retail development of 7,000m<sup>2</sup>;</li> <li>• Suitable for a wide variety of uses subject to a Justification Test;</li> <li>• Mixed use developments compliant with the zoning objective will be encouraged;</li> </ul>									










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The building should address the extensive street frontage and be designed to an exceptional standard;</li> <li>A high quality public realm will be required in any development including pocket parks and green links between Sandy Lane and Ballymorris Road</li> </ul>									
<p><b>Opportunity Site 3: Avon Factory Site, Off Canal</b> Zoning: Enterprise and Employment</p> 	↕	↑	↕	↑	↑	↑	↕	↑	↑
<p><b>Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prime location in close proximity to the train station;</li> <li>A 5.18ha. brownfield site currently vacant;</li> <li>Fully serviced site;</li> <li>Environmental considerations following previous uses of the site;</li> </ul>									











Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outside of Flood Zones A and B;</li> <li>• Opportunity to provide a key landmark building/ enterprise campus;</li> <li>• Suitable for a wide variety of enterprise and employment uses including low input and emission manufacturing, campus style offices, storage, wholesale and distribution etc.;</li> <li>• A high quality public realm will be required in any development</li> </ul>									

















Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<p><b>Opportunity Site 4:</b> Landholding off Foxcroft Street Zoning: Town Centre</p> 	⇅	⇅	⇅	⇅	⇅	⇅	⇅	⇅	⇅
<p><b>Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prime location adjacent to the town centre with vehicular access from Foxcroft Street and potential pedestrian access from Main Street;</li> <li>• A 4.08ha. greenfield, backland and infill site;</li> <li>• Fully serviced site;</li> <li>• Portion of the site is located within Flood Zone B;</li> <li>• Opportunity to create a sustainable and compact urban quarter with a mix of uses;</li> </ul>									






















Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pedestrian and cycle links and pocket parks between Main Street, Sandy Lane and Foxcroft Street should form key features to any proposal;</li> <li>• Adjoining private amenity spaces of neighbouring residential properties should be protected through the design and layout of any proposal;</li> <li>• A high quality public realm will be required in any development</li> </ul>									
<p><b>Opportunity Site 5:</b> Arlington House, Foxcroft Street Zoning: Residential 1</p> 	⇅	⇅	0	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<p><b>Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prime location in close proximity to town centre;</li> <li>• A 0.08ha. brownfield site;</li> </ul>									










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully serviced site;</li> <li>• Protected Structure on site, architectural heritage impact assessment required;</li> <li>• Extant permission for a major redevelopment comprising a licensed premises/cafe;</li> <li>• Any proposal shall have cognisance to and incorporate the existing structure “Arlington House”;</li> <li>• A high quality public realm will be required in any development.</li> </ul>									










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<p><b>Opportunity Site 6:</b> Lands at Junction of Botley Lane and Patrick Steet Zoning: Town Centre</p> 	0	↑	↕	↑	↑	↕	↑	↑	↑
<p><b>Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prime location in close proximity to town centre;</li> <li>• A 0.63ha. brownfield site containing an industrial garage, storage and parking areas;</li> <li>• Fully serviced site;</li> <li>• Located within Flood Zones A and B;</li> <li>• Suitable for a wide variety of business and commercial uses subject to a Justification Test;</li> <li>• Opportunity to intensify development to provide a key landmark or gateway building;</li> </ul>									

Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any new building should address both street frontages and should be designed to an exceptional standard;</li> <li>A high quality public realm will be required in any development.</li> </ul>									
<p><b>Opportunity Site 7: Lands at Kilmalogue Cross Roads</b> Zoning: Neighbourhood Centre</p> 	0		0				0		
<p><b>Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prime location in close proximity to town centre;</li> <li>A 0.54ha. brownfield site containing a convenience retail space;</li> <li>Fully serviced site;</li> <li>Located outside of Flood Zones A and B;</li> </ul>									










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suitable for a wide variety of business, commercial and residential uses subject to a Justification Test;</li> <li>• Opportunity to intensify development to provide a key landmark or gateway building;</li> <li>• Development should comprise active frontages at ground floor level with commercial or residential uses above;</li> <li>• Any new building should address both street frontages and should be designed to an exceptional standard;</li> <li>• A high quality public realm will be required in any development.</li> </ul>									
<p><b>Opportunity Site 8:</b> Lands to North of Patrick Street Zoning: Residential</p> 									










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<p><b>Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prime location in close proximity to town centre;</li> <li>• A 4.73ha. brownfield site;</li> <li>• Located outside of Flood Zones A and B;</li> <li>• A masterplan will be required in any development;</li> <li>• Incorporation of access points as detailed on Map 9 Objectives;</li> <li>• Permeability which be an integral part of any development of site and should be provided for in detail in any masterplan for the site;</li> <li>• The provision of new green infrastructure shall be integrated into any new developments;</li> <li>• Any development must respect and be sensitive to existing character of the streetscape of St. Patricks Street and presence of Protected Structures on the street;</li> <li>• Specially designed housing for the elderly will be considered by the Planning Authority.</li> </ul>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<p><b>Comment:</b> These opportunity sites represent efficient use of existing, frequently brownfield / infill lands within and close to the town centre. Broadly positive and consistent with SEOs. Potential adverse effects on Biodiversity SEOs associated with greenfield sites of backlands –existing mitigation measures are identified as sufficient and appropriate to avoid adverse effects.</p>									
<p><b>Key Infrastructure:</b> Strategic Aim: To enable development in line with the capacity of supporting infrastructure and to require the timely provision of infrastructure needed for the planned development of lands.</p>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<p><b>Objectives:</b> It is an Objective of both Laois and Offaly County Council to:</p>									
<p><b>KI O1:</b> Facilitate economic and social development through the</p>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
provision of infrastructure and optimise the return of infrastructure investment.									
<b>KI 02:</b> Phase growth in line with the capacity of supporting infrastructure.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI 03:</b> Facilitate Irish Water in the maintenance, expansion and upgrading of wastewater disposal and water supply infrastructure.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI 04:</b> Seek compliance with the standards and requirements of Irish Water in relation to water and wastewater infrastructure.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI 05:</b> Maintain a development free buffer around the Portarlington wastewater treatment plant of a minimum of 100 metres.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI 06:</b> Require all developments in Portarlington to seek a connection to the public water supply and/or public wastewater sewer where it is practical to do so.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI 07:</b> Protect both ground and surface water resources and to work with Irish Water to develop and implement Water Safety Plans to protect sources of public water supply and their contributing catchments.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI 08:</b> Preserve free from development the wayleaves of all public sewers and all public water Mains.	0	0	↑	0	↑	0	0	0	0
<b>KI 09:</b> Require all new developments to include proposals for Sustainable Drainage Systems.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI 10:</b> Maintain, improve and enhance the environmental and ecological quality of surface waters and groundwater in accordance with the <del>South Eastern River Basin District River Basin Management Plan</del> <b>National River Basin Management</b>	↑↕	↑↕	↑↕	↑↕	↑↕	↑↕	↑↕	↑↕	↑↕










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<b>Plan for Ireland 2018-2021 (DHPLG) and associated Programme of Measures.</b>									
<b>KI O11:</b> Ensure developments will not adversely impact on the status of waterbodies in accordance with the Water Framework Directive and <del>South Eastern River Basin District River Basin Management Plan</del> ; <b>National River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021 (DHPLG).</b>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI O11:</b> Facilitate, promote and encourage the expansion and improvement of telecommunications, broadband, electricity and gas networks infrastructure <b>subject to proper planning and sustainable development.</b>	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕
<b>Policies:</b> It is the Policy of both Laois and Offaly County Council to:									
<b>KI P1:</b> Protect both ground and surface water resources and to work with Irish Water to develop and implement Water Safety Plans to protect sources of public water supply and their contributing catchment.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI P2:</b> Work with Irish Water on developing and upgrading the water supply schemes so as to ensure an adequate, resilient, sustainable and economic supply of piped water.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI P3:</b> Work with Irish Water on upgrading the wastewater treatment plant in line with the projected future growth of the settlement.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI P4:</b> Maintain and enhance, as appropriate, the existing surface water drainage system throughout the plan area and ensure that new developments are adequately serviced with surface water drainage infrastructure and promote the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems in new developments.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑





















Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<b>KI P5:</b> Promote and support the implementation of Irish Water's Eastern and Midlands Region Water Supply Project.	↕	↑	↕	↕	↑	↕	↕	↕	↕
<b>KI P6:</b> Protect surface and ground water quality in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive and Groundwater Directive.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI P7:</b> Ensure that specific relevant objectives and measures from individual water bodies set out in the South Eastern River Basin Management Plan and associated Programme of Measures are implemented as relevant.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	
<b>KI P8:</b> Promote public awareness and involvement in water conservation measures by households, businesses and industries and supports the implementation of Energy Efficiency solutions in Water and Waste Water Systems.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI P9:</b> Promote and encourage the harvesting of rainwater to meet non-potable water needs.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>KI P10:</b> Co-operate with and facilitate the work of national telecommunications, broadband, electricity and gas network providers in the improvement, expansion and provision of energy and communication infrastructure <b>subject to proper planning and sustainable development.</b>	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕
<b>KI P11:</b> Liaise with statutory bodies to investigate and encourage where possible the ducting and continued underground routing of overhead power lines in Portarlington in tandem with other work programs, such as road resurfacing and footpath construction works.	↕	↑	↕	↕	↑	↕	↑	↑	↑
<b>Comment:</b> Broadly consistent for a range of SEOS, a number of objectives are recommended for additional mitigation measures to align with the current draft National River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021 as highlighted in the Scoping Submission by the EPA.									










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
KIP 10 recommended for mitigation as well as KIP 5 on foot of EPA scoping submission.									
<b>Transport and Movement:</b> Strategic Aim: To promote and facilitate a sustainable transport system that prioritises and provides for walking, cycling and public transport facilities while ensuring sufficient traffic management.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Objectives:</b> It is an Objective of both Laois and Offaly County Council to:									
<b>TM 01:</b> Identify and agree on a route for a future outer relief road with a view to constructing a northern by pass of Portarlington.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TM 02:</b> Identify and agree a route for a southern relief road from the R420 at Shanderry to the local road at Ballymorris.	↑	↑	○	○	↑	↑	○	○	↑
<b>TM 03:</b> Reserve land for the delivery of an inner relief road connecting the R423 at Kilmalogue with the R419 at Cooltederry.	○	↑	○	○	↑	↑	○	○	↑
<b>TM 04:</b> Reserve land for the delivery of an inner relief road connecting the R420 at Shanderry to the local road at Kilmalogue.	○	↑	○	○	↑	↑	○	○	↑
<b>TM 05:</b> Improve junction/road realignment at Kilmalogue Junction.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TM 06:</b> Carry out necessary strengthening works to the Barrow Bridge.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TM 07:</b> Ensure that adequate and safe bicycle and walking facilities are provided as part of any future educational, recreational and commercial developments.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑










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<b>TM 08:</b> Develop a cycle network throughout the town linking population, town centre, schools, community facilities, green infrastructure and the town’s train station in accordance with the principles set out in Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (2013) and the NTA National Cycling Manual principles and standards.	0	↑			↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TM 09:</b> Provide a permeable pedestrian network within the plan area which links residential areas, town centre, schools, community facilities, green infrastructure and the town’s train station.	0	↑	0	0	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TM 010:</b> Provide a high quality pedestrian network in the town centre area through the appropriate refurbishment of existing and the construction of new footpaths, incorporating the provision of safe crossing points and public lighting as required.	0	↑	0	0	↑	↑	0	0	↑
<b>TM 011:</b> Seek funding through development contributions and/or the relevant bodies in order to finance the delivery of safe, high quality cycle and pedestrian routes and greenways throughout the town.	⇅	↑	⇅	↑	↑	↑	⇅	↑	↑
<b>TM 012:</b> Investigate the feasibility and promote the provision of a recreational pedestrian/ cycle route from the Peoples Park, along the River Barrow to Derrycastle Lakes and Trails.	⇅	↑⇅	⇅	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TM 013:</b> Facilitate the development of the Derrycastle Lakes and Trails as an integrated walking, cycling and recreational amenity trail.	⇅	↑	↑	⇅	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Policies:</b> It is the Policy of both Laois and Offaly County Council to:									
<b>TM P1:</b> Ensure that the planning, design and implementation of all road and street networks in Portarlington accord with the	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑

Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
principles set out in the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (2013) published by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport along with the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.									
<b>TM P2:</b> Monitor traffic movement within the town and to provide passive traffic calming measures at appropriate locations as the need arises.	0	↑	0	0	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TM P3:</b> Extend/upgrade public lighting throughout the town as the need arises.	0↕	↑	0	0	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TM P4:</b> Ensure insofar as possible that all transport facilities and car parking within the town are accessible to people with mobility needs	0	↑	0	0	↑	↑	0	↑	↑
<b>TM P5:</b> Ensure all footpaths provide access for disabled and mobility impaired persons.	0	↑	0	0	↑	↑	0	↑	↑
<b>TM P6:</b> Ensure that the design and layout of new developments enables, facilitates and encourages the use of sustainable travel modes.	↑	↑	0	0	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TM P7:</b> Work with all relevant public transport providers including Bus Eireann and Iarnrod Eireann to improve and expand public transport facilities and services in Portarlington and to link such facilities with the town centre and other nearby settlements.	0	↑	0	0	↑	↑	0	↑	↑
<b>TM P8:</b> Continue to maintain and improve as required the local roads network to ensure a high standard of road quality and safety.	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕
<b>TM P9:</b> Implement and support measures to alleviate traffic congestion within the town.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑










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<b>TM P10:</b> Ensure that land uses within Portarlington are compatible with the safe and efficient operation of roads and associated junctions serving.	↕	↑	↕	↕	↑	↕	↕	↑	↑
<b>TM P11:</b> Ensure that all new development contains an adequate level of vehicular and bicycle provision in accordance with the policies and standards outlined in the Development Management Standards of both the Laois and Offaly County Development Plans.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TM P12:</b> Ensure adequate access points are reserved and provided to open up areas (including backland areas) for development purposes.	0	↑	0	0	↑	0	0	0	0
<b>TMP13:</b> Provide an enhanced pedestrian and cycle network in Portarlington and secure full permeability in all new housing areas and in existing areas where possible.	0	↑	0	0	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>TMP 14:</b> Promote, develop and upgrade a series of cycle lanes throughout the town for amenity and transport purposes.	↕	↑	↕	↕	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<p><b>Comment:</b> A number of policies and objectives are broadly positive and consistent with SEOS relating to PHH, MA, CC and Air Quality. Certain objectives such as the strategic aim and TM02 provide for integrated landuse and transport planning, identified as given rise to a wider range of long term, direct and indirect effects across all SEOs. Other objectives will contribute also to a higher quality public realm as well as improved air quality (TM 07 and TM 08); this in turn positive effects Landscape and Cultural heritage SEOs. Increasing modal shift (TM 06) indirectly contributes to noise and air quality emissions reductions, positive effects for these SEOs also identified. Positive effects identified for all SEOs relating to TM 09 and TMP1 are positive in particular.</p> <p>Other measures such as bicycle spaces, and integrating pedestrian and cycling (TM09) will indirectly reduce emissions associated with traffic, with positive long term effects relating to climate change and air quality and noise.</p> <p>In relation to specific road objectives (TM01 to TM 06) specific mitigation measures particularly the following from the Laois CDP 2017-2023 will apply: TRANS6: Ensure that all proposed plans or projects relating to transportation (including walking, cycling, rail, bus and roads) and any associated improvement works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no</p>									










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<p>likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any Natura 2000 site(s) and that the requirements of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site, or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan or project will proceed only after it has been ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where in the absence of alternative solutions, the project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.</p> <p>It is assessed that for several of the SEOs above, sufficient and appropriate mitigation measures through development management and design measures exist to address potential adverse effects relating to policies such as TM 012.</p>									
<p><b>Housing:</b> Strategy Aim: To deliver new residential development, to support the existing community infrastructure, recreation and amenity facilities and provide new facilities in tandem with new housing.</p>	↕	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Objectives:</b> It is an objective of both Laois and Offaly County Council to:									
<b>H 01:</b> Ensure that sufficient zoned land is available at appropriate locations to cater for the envisaged population growth of the Core Strategy.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>H 02:</b> Promote and encourage the development of the critical mass of Portarlinton and to enhance its strategic location on the National and Regional road and rail network.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>H 03:</b> Facilitate the provision of housing in a range of locations to meet the needs of the population, with particular emphasis on facilitating access to housing to suit different household and tenure needs, in a sustainable manner.	0	↑	0	0	↑	0	0	0	0
<b>H 04:</b> To ensure compliance with the provisions of Part V of the Act (as amended) and to integrate such housing so as to prevent social segregation within residential developments.	0	↑	0	0	↑	0	0	0	0
<b>H 05:</b> To utilise the provisions of the Urban Regeneration and	↑	↑	0	↑	↑	0	↑	↑	↑










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Housing Act 2015 (Vacant Site Levy) to facilitate the appropriate development of vacant sites (residential zoned) that are in need of renewal or regeneration.									
<b>H 06:</b> To encourage the sequential development of sustainable serviced residentially zoned lands in a sustainable manner subject to compliance with relevant Department Guidelines and Development Management Standards of the Laois County Development Plan 2017 – 2023 and Offaly County Development Plan 2014-2020.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>H 07:</b> To promote a higher density at appropriate locations, particularly close to the town centre and public transport facilities.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>H 08:</b> To encourage appropriate housing development on infill and brownfield sites subject to preservation of existing residential amenity, the provision of a high quality design respecting the established character, density and layout, compliance with all traffic safety, quantitative and qualitative standards of the Laois County Development Plan 2017-2023 and Offaly County Development Plan 2014-2020.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>H 09:</b> To promote the reoccupation of vacant residential stock within Portarlington Town Centre, including ‘Living Above the Shop’ units.	0	↑	0	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	0
<b>H 010:</b> To ensure an appropriate and sustainable mix of dwelling types, sizes and tenures to cater for all members of society, including homeless persons, the elderly, disabled and travellers.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>H 011:</b> To ensure provision of lifetime adaptable homes that	0	↑	0	0	0	0	0	0	0










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
can accommodate the changing needs of a household over time.									
<b>H O12:</b> To identify, acquire and provide suitable sites, accommodation and facilities for the housing and resettlement of travelling families.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>H O13:</b> To secure the provision of social infrastructure, community and recreational facilities in tandem with residential development.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Comment:</b> Objectives such as H06 and H009 are positive for a range of SEOs as they promote sequential development, and reinforce town centre development and landuse; reuse of existing buildings; this in turn reduces car based travel requirements and longer term positive effects related to higher density development in serviced town centres, with accompanying benefits for climate change, air quality and noise; reuse of existing buildings contributes to cultural heritage and enhanced streetscapes. Others such as HO05 promote use of vacant sites; these policies contribute to more efficient use of material assets through higher density development –with indirect long term positive effects on MA and W SEOs.									
<b>Policies:</b> It is the Policy of the both Laois and Offaly County Council to:									
<b>H P1:</b> Ensure that sufficient zoned land is available at appropriate locations to cater for the envisaged population growth of the Core Strategy.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>H P2:</b> Require all new residential developments to be consistent with the Core Strategies of the Laois County Development Plan 2017-2023 and the Offaly County Development Plan 2014-2020.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>H P3:</b> Promote and encourage the development of Portarlington and to enhance its strategic location on the National and Regional road and rail network.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>H P4:</b> Facilitate the provision of housing in a range of locations to meet the needs of the population, with particular emphasis on facilitating access to housing to suit different household and tenure needs, in a sustainable manner.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑





















Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<p><b>H P5:</b> To require the creation of sustainable communities and high quality residential areas at appropriate locations with a mix tenure and adequate amenities and facilities and to meet the standards and guidance of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable Residential Development In Urban Areas, Guidelines for Planning Authorities, DEHG (2009);</li> <li>• Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments, Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2015);</li> <li>• The Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets, DTTS and DECLG (2013);</li> <li>• The development management standards of the Laois County Development Plan 2017-2023;</li> <li>• Technical Guidance Document L – Conservation of Fuel and Energy – Dwellings.</li> </ul>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<p><b>Comment:</b> Positive effects across SEOs relating to housing provision and variety due to adherence to Core Strategy, Opportunity Sites and Town Centre promotion incentives, allocation of residential zoning lands, service led infrastructure and national guidance and guidelines.</p>									
<p><b>Community Services &amp; Culture:</b> Strategic Aim: To deliver, facilitate and support the provision of a broad range of high quality community, educational and cultural facilities and infrastructure to meet the needs of the population.</p>	0	↑	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<p><b>Objectives:</b> It is an Objective of both Laois and Offaly County Council to:</p>									
<p><b>CSC O1:</b> Facilitate the provision of social infrastructure and to provide access to new and existing community and social facilities.</p>	0	↑	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<p><b>CSC O2:</b> Facilitate the improvement and provision of community facilities, library and emergency services in appropriate</p>	0	↑	0	0	0	0	0	0	0










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
locations.									
<b>CSC O3:</b> Facilitate the improvement and provision of educational, childcare and healthcare facilities in appropriate and accessible locations.	0	↑	0	0	0	↑	0	0	0
<b>CSC O4:</b> Facilitate implementation of the Laois Age Friendly County Strategy 2016-2021.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CSC O5:</b> Promote the amenities and ensure the accessibility of arts and cultural facilities within the ownership of Laois and Offaly County Councils.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	↑	0	0
<b>CSC O6:</b> Facilitate the roll out of community policing and neighbourhood watch schemes.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Comment:</b> Positive effects for PHH SEOs in particular; indirect positive effects can be identified for objectives around community policing in relation to sense of place and potential antisocial behaviour, littering etc. where facilities are provided within walking distance of communities, increased opportunities for modal shift away from car based journeys therefore indirect, positive long term effects for Material Assets and climate change.									
<b>Policies:</b> It is the Policy of both Laois and Offaly County Councils to:									
<b>CSC P1:</b> Ensure provision of sufficient zoned lands to allow for expansion of existing and provision of community facilities.	0	↑	0	0	↑	0	0	0	0
<b>CSC P2:</b> Facilitate the development of and expansion of services, amenities and facilities to cater for all society members, ages and community groups.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CSC P3:</b> Facilitate the development of primary, second-level, third-level outreach, vocational and lifelong learning facilities and digital capacity for distance learning including fourth level education, lifelong learning and up-skilling.	0	↑	0	↑	0	0	0	0	↑
<b>CSC P4:</b> Ensure the provision and implementation of primary and secondary education facilities in concert with the planning and sustainable development of residential areas in order to	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
maximise the opportunities for use of walking, cycling and public transport.									
<b>Comment:</b> CSP P1 promotes integrated landuse and planning which creates positive, long term effects and consistency with a range of SEOS including PHH, and MA. CSC P4 is also positive as it supports integrating educational facilities and opportunities for sustainable transport options longer term indirect positive effects across a number of SEO relating to this provision.									
<b>Built Heritage:</b> Strategic Aim: To protect, conserve and manage the built heritage of the town and to encourage sensitive and sustainable development to ensure its preservation for future generations.	O	↑	O	↑	O	O	↑	↑	O
<b>Objectives:</b> It is an Objective of both Laois and Offaly County Council to:									
<b>BH O1:</b> Protect, conserve and enhance the built environment, through promoting awareness, utilising relevant heritage legislation and promoting good quality urban design.	O	↑	O	↑	O	O	↑	↑	↑
<b>BH O2:</b> Conserve, protect and enhance the built heritage of Portarlington, including all Protected Structures and attendant grounds, Recorded Monuments and Places in accordance with best conservation practice.	O	↑	O	↑	O	O	↑	↑	↑
<b>BH O3:</b> Positively consider proposals to improve, alter, extend or change the use of protected structures so as to render them viable for modern use, subject to consultation with suitably qualified Conservation Architects and / or other relevant experts, suitable design, materials and construction methods.	O	↑	O	↑	O	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>BH O4:</b> Ensure all development works on or at the sites of protected structures, including any site works necessary, shall be carried out using best heritage practice for the protection and preservation of those aspects or features of the structures /	O	↑	O	↑	O	O	↑	↑	↑

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site that render it worthy of protection.									
<b>BH O5:</b> Support the re-introduction of traditional features on protected structures where there is evidence that such features (e.g. window styles, finishes etc.) previously existed.	O	↑	O	O	O	O	↑	↑	↑
<b>BH O6:</b> Strongly resist the demolition of protected structures, unless it can be demonstrated that exceptional circumstances exist.	O	↑	O	O	O	O	↑	↑	↑
<b>BH O7:</b> Consider the change of use of protected structures, provided that it can be shown that the structure, character, appearance and setting will not be adversely affected or where it can be shown it is necessary to have an economic use to enable its upkeep.	O	↑	O	O	O	O	↑	↑	↑
<b>BH O8:</b> Designate an Architectural Conservation Area in Portarlington to ensure the protection within the traditional core of the town, of all those buildings, spaces, archaeological sites, trees, street furniture, views and other aspects of the environment which form an essential part of their character, as set out in their character appraisals.	O	↑	O	O	O	O	↑	↑	↑
<b>BH O9:</b> Ensure the design of any development in the traditional core of the town, including any changes of use of an existing building, should preserve and / or enhance the character and appearance of the Architectural Conservation Area as a whole.	O	↑	O	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>BH O10:</b> Promote schemes for the conservation and enhancement of the character and appearance of the traditional core of the town.	O	↑	O	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>BH O11:</b> No development in the vicinity of a feature included in the Record of Monuments & Places (RMP) will be permitted	O	↑	O	O	O	O	↑	↑	↑










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
which seriously detracts from the setting of the feature or which is seriously injurious to its cultural or educational value.									
<b>BH O12:</b> Ensure archaeological assessment is carried out as required and promote ‘preservation in situ’ of archaeological remains and settings in developments that would impact upon archaeological sites and/or features.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	↑	↑	↑
<b>BH O13:</b> Protect previously unknown archaeological sites and features, including underwater sites, where they are discovered during development works.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	↑	↑	↑
<b>BH O14:</b> Facilitate public access to National Monuments in State or Local Authority care.		↑	0	0	0	0	↑	↑	↑
<b>Policies:</b> It is the Policy of both Laois and Offaly County Councils to:									
<b>BH P1:</b> Ensure heritage assets that are the focus for tourism development are appropriately managed and their special interest conserved from potential adverse effects from visitors or development in general and that best practice standards in relation for the environmental management of tourism enterprises are adhered to.	0	↑	0	↑	0	0	↑	↑	↑
<b>BH P2:</b> Support and promote, with the co-operation of landowners, public access to heritage sites and features at appropriate locations whilst ensuring heritage related development does not result in negative impacts on the fabric or setting of Laois’s and Offalys heritage assets.	0	↑	0	0	0	0	↑	↑	↑
<b>BH P3:</b> Support the implementation of Ireland’s Ancient East by facilitating the provision of visitor information – in line with the policies and objectives with respect to heritage sites; and integrating the objectives of Ireland’s Ancient East with	0	↑	0	0	0	0	↑	↑	↑










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
transport programmes in the Counties.									
<p><b>Comment:</b> The objectives above are positive for PHH, Cultural Heritage and landscape in particular. In addition, they complement the promotion and support of the town centre by encouraging reuse of existing buildings and the fabric of the streetscape. Indirect positive effects relating to soil and geology (reuse rather than new build) and Climate change (reuse above new build); making the town centre attractive through enhancing access and existing heritage can indirectly enhance greater residential and economic activity within the town centre.</p>									
<p><b>Natural Heritage:</b> Strategic Aim: To protect, enhance, create and connect natural heritage, green spaces and high quality amenity areas throughout Portarlington for biodiversity and recreation.</p>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<p><b>Objectives:</b> It is the Objective of both Laois and Offaly County Council to:</p>									
<p><b>NH 01:</b> Ensure an Appropriate Assessment, in accordance with Article 6(3) and Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive and with DEHLG guidance (2009), is carried out in respect of any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a Natura 2000 site to determine the likelihood of the plan or project having a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects and to ensure that projects which may give rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on Natura 2000 sites will not be permitted (either individually or in combination with other plans or projects) unless for reasons of overriding public interest.</p>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<p><b>NH 02:</b> Identify, protect and conserve natural heritage sites, nationally designated conservation sites and non designated sites in co-operation and consultation with the relevant statutory authorities.</p>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑










Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
<b>NH 03:</b> Seek integration of all elements of existing green infrastructure into new developments, prevent fragmentation and mitigate potential impacts on the existing green infrastructure network.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH 04:</b> Identify, protect, conserve and enhance wherever possible, wildlife habitats, stepping stones, corridors and features.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH 05:</b> Seek to preserve, protect and maintain trees of special amenity, conservation or landscape value.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH 06:</b> Carry out and require the planting of <b>native</b> trees, hedgerows and vegetation in all new developments.	⇅	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH 07:</b> Promote a network of paths and cycle tracks to enhance accessibility to the Green Infrastructure network, while ensuring that the design and operation of the routes responds to the ecological protection needs of each site.	↑⇅	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH 08:</b> Support the upgrading of walking and cycling trails along the River Barrow and around Derrycastle Bog and existing lakes.	⇅	↑	⇅	⇅	↑	↑	⇅	↑	
<b>NH 09:</b> Support the development of an historical trail through Derrycastle Bog and the creation of a Heritage Museum to document the history of the bog and turf production in the area.	⇅	↑	⇅	⇅	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH 010:</b> Provide a riparian corridor of between 30 and 50 metres along the bank of the River Barrow for its ecological value and potential and to maintain it free from inappropriate Development.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH 011:</b> Provide recreational amenities such as playgrounds	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑

Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
and outdoor gym equipment.									
<b>NH O12:</b> Protect environmental quality and implement site appropriate mitigation measures with respect to air quality, greenhouse gases, climate change, light pollution, noise pollution and waste management.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH O13:</b> Facilitate the work of agencies redressing the issue of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Policies:</b> It is a Policy of both Laois and Offaly County Council to:									
<b>NH P1:</b> Prohibit any development that would be harmful to or that would result in a significant deterioration of habitats and/or disturbance of species in any Special Protection Area (SPA), Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC), Natural Heritage Area (NHA) and Proposed Natural Heritage.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH P2:</b> Support and co-operate with statutory authorities and others in support of measures taken to manage proposed or designated sites in order to achieve their conservation objectives.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH P3:</b> Protect, enhance and further develop the Green Infrastructure network in Portarlington and to strengthen links to the wider regional network.	↕	↑	↕	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH P4:</b> Support the development of a green corridor connecting the recreation areas of Derrycastle Lakes and Trails, the River Barrow and the Peoples Park.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH P5:</b> Ensure heritage assets that are the focus for tourism development are appropriately managed and their special interest conserved from potential adverse effects from visitors	0	↑	0	0	0	0	↑	0	0



Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
or development in general and that best practice standards in relation for the environmental management of tourism enterprises are adhered.									
<b>NH P6:</b> Support and promote, with the co-operation of landowners, public access to heritage sites and features at appropriate locations whilst ensuring heritage related development does not result in negative impacts on the fabric or setting of the town’s heritage assets.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH P7:</b> Support the implementation of Ireland’s Ancient East by facilitating the provision of visitor information in line with the policies and objectives with respect to heritage sites; and integrating the objectives of Ireland’s Ancient East with transport programmes in the County.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>NH P8:</b> Protect environmental quality in Portarlington through the implementation of European, National and Regional policy and legislation relating to air quality, greenhouse gases, climate change, light pollution, noise pollution and waste management.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Comment:</b> Overall positive effects for SEOs identified relating to natural heritage and also multifunctional aspects of ecological enhancement including landscape, health and air quality. Mitigation measures recommended for NH06 to further strengthen and enhance natural heritage considerations.									
<b>Flood Management:</b> Strategic Aim: To develop and improve flood alleviation measures throughout the town and rural hinterland so as to complement the overall strategy for economic and population growth and to achieve improved physical and environmental protection.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Objectives:</b> It is an Objective of both Laois and Offaly County Council to:									
<b>FM O1:</b> Manage flood risk in accordance with the requirements	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑

Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
of The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities, DECLG and OPW (2009) and Circular PL02/2014 (August 2014).									
<b>FM 02:</b> Support and co-operate with the OPW in delivering the South Eastern CFRAM Programme.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>FM 03:</b> To carry out infrastructural works in the Bog Road and Botley Lane areas of the town to alleviate flooding from the Blackstick Drain, a tributary of the River Barrow: (i) Raise public road levels and improve road drainage infrastructure; (ii) Improve drainage channels in Blackstick Drain and contributing drains; (iii) Refurbish all culverts to the Blackstick Drain and contributing.	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕
<b>FM 04:</b> To carry out a programme of dredging surface water drains and to continue to ensure that the drains are regularly maintained to minimise the risk of flooding.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Policies:</b> It is the Policy of both Laois and Offaly County Council to:									
<b>FM P1:</b> In conjunction with the OPW implement a program of flood defence works for the town.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>FM P2:</b> Comply with DoEHLG Guidelines “The Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009)” and any future Guidelines in relation to flood risk.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>FM P3:</b> Ensure development proposals within the areas outlined on Flood Risk Map are the subject of Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment as outlined in “The Planning System and Flood Risk	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑

Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives									
Management Guidelines” 2009.									
<b>FM P4:</b> Ensure all development on lands identified as being at risk of flooding must demonstrate, through the carrying out of a Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment flood impact assessment and the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, that any flood risk can be adequately managed and the use or development of the lands will not cause unacceptable adverse impacts elsewhere.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>FM P5:</b> Co-operate with the OPW in relation to the development of the Catchment Flood Risk Assessment (CFRAM) South Eastern River Basin and for the River Triogue and its tributaries in particular and to comply with any guidance and recommendations of this flood risk management plan.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>FM P6:</b> Incorporate the recommendations of the South Eastern CFRAM into any site specific flood risk assessment undertaken for individual sites/areas.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>FM P7:</b> Provide an appropriate set back from the edge of the watercourse and proposed developments to allow access for channel clearing/maintenance.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>FM 08:</b> Adhere to the requirements of the Inland Fisheries and National Parks and Wildlife Service in the construction of any flood alleviation measures.	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>FM 09:</b> Comply with relevant provisions of the Arterial Drainage Action, 1945 and the Arterial Drainage (Amendment) Act 1995.	↕	↑	↕	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<p><b>Comment:</b> Application of guidelines is consistent with SEOs and avoids potential adverse effects arising from in appropriate development and landuse activities.</p> <p>FM 08 in particular is positive and provide for input and recommendations from statutory bodies such as NPWS to be fully applied in flood risk</p>									

**Portarlington Joint LAP Policies and Objectives**



management which is a very important consideration.

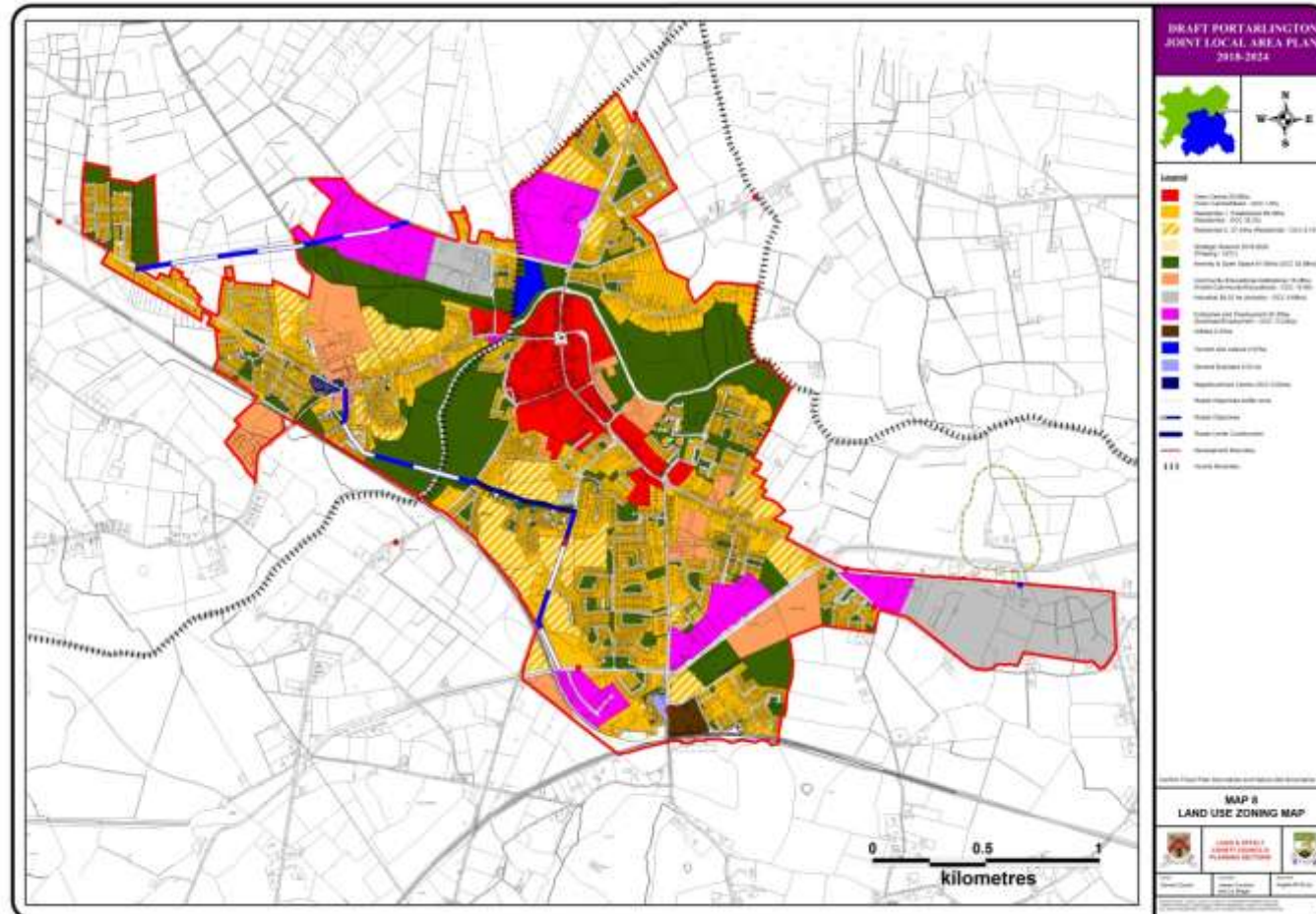
## Land Use Zoning Assessment

The Table below presents the landuse zonings and amount of lands zoned, Lands zoned under the Offaly Plan area are listed in brackets.










**Table 1: Land Use Zonings and Amounts**










Landuse Zoning	Amount
Town Centre	25.95
(Town Centre/mixed Offaly CDP)	(1.63)
Residential R1 –Established	99.49
(Residential OCC)	(35.43)
Residential 2	27.44
(Residential OCC)	(8.157)
Strategic Reserve 2018-2024	
(Phasing –OCC)	
Amenity and Open Space	61.65
(OCC)	(32.88)
Community-Educational-Institutional	16.26
(Public/Community/Educational)	(14.80)
Industrial	28.32
(Industry-OCC)	(5.69)
Utilities	2.23
Tourism and Leisure	2.07
General Business	0.53

Figure 1: Landuse Zonings in the Portarlington LAP 2018-2024










### Assessment Matrix

Land Use Zoning									
<b>Town Centre</b> <b>(Primary / Core Retail Area)</b> <b>Amount: 25.9 ha.</b> <b>Objective:</b> <i>To protect and enhance the special physical and social character of the existing Town Centre and to provide for and improve retailing and commercial activities.</i>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Comment:</b> Positive and consistent with all SEOs, reflects national policy, core strategy and promotes consolidation of town centre. Subject to adherence and implementation of relevant policies and measures including NH01, FM07 and FM08 positive long term impacts are identified in particular for population and human health, material assets, Landscape, Cultural Heritage and Soil and Geology SEOs.									
<b>Residential 1</b> <b>Existing Residential 99.49 ha.</b> <b>Objective:</b> <i>To protect and improve the amenity of developed residential communities.</i>	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
<b>Comment:</b> Confirms existing land use									
<b>Residential 2</b> <b>New Proposed Residential 27.44 ha.</b> <b>Objective:</b> <i>To provide for new residential development, residential services and community facilities.</i>	↕	↑	↕	↕	↑	↕	↕	↕	↑
<b>Comment:</b> Most of the impacts identified for residential development zones are identified as being mitigated at project level through									

Land Use Zoning									
development management. Positive impacts were identified for population and human health, plus a number of material assets such as flood risk and sustainable transport.									
<b>Strategic Residential Reserve</b> <b>1.45 ha.</b> <b>Objective:</b> To provide lands for future development in line with national and regional targets.	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↑
<b>Open Space &amp; Amenity</b> <b>61.65 ha.</b> <b>Objective:</b> To preserve, provide for and improve active and passive recreational open space.	↕↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
<b>Comment:</b> Generally, impacts are positive for a range of parameters including soil and geology, population and human health, flood risk, water quality and landscape. The opportunity to enhance these areas through public realm improvements and/or green and blue infrastructure measures contribute positively longer term to biodiversity, water and climate change adaptation SEOs also.									
<b>Community, Educational &amp; Institutional Services/Facilities</b> <b>16.26 ha.</b> <b>Objective:</b> To protect and provide for local neighbourhood, community, ecclesiastical, recreational and educational facilities.	↕	↑	↑	↕	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑



<b>Comment:</b> Again on undeveloped lands, negative impacts are identified for biodiversity and soil due to development on greenfield sites, but for many SEOs these can be mitigated through development management and relevant policies and objectives in the draft Plan. Positive impacts are identified for population and human health, transport and air quality for these zonings.									
<b>Industrial &amp; Warehousing</b> 28.32 ha. <b>Objective:</b> To provide for and improve industrial and warehousing development.	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕
<b>Comment:</b> The range of impacts will vary according to the potential use; however for most of the SEOs, the impacts are considered to be addressed through mitigation at development management level.									
<b>Tourism and Leisure</b> 2.07 ha. <b>Objective:</b> To provide for and improve tourist amenities.	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕
<b>Comment:</b> In the absence of mitigation, this zoning could give rise to adverse effects on the River Barrow and Nore SAC; however, existing policy provision in the LAP including Key Plan Objectives (numbers 7 and 8), as well as other measures including NH01 are identified as providing sufficient protection. Moreover, green and blue infrastructure measures may also be integrated within this landuse zonings and offer longer term positive effects on Biodiversity, and Water SEOs in relation to potential ecological connectivity to the Derryoune lakes.									
<b>Enterprise &amp; Employment</b> <b>Objective:</b> To provide for enterprise and employment activities.	↕	↑	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕
<b>Comment:</b> Subject to implementation of appropriate mitigation measures, no significant adverse effects are identified for this zoning.									
<b>Transport &amp; Utilities</b> 2.23 <b>Objective:</b> To provide for the needs of all transport users and other utility providers.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Comment:</b> Confirms existing land use no impacts on SEOs									

 1	 2	 3	
 4	 5	 6	

<sup>1</sup><https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/media-and-resources/publications/the-vichealth-framework-for-health-equity>

<sup>2</sup><http://www.hoofddorp-pioniers.nl/verslag-alv-2017/>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.shareicon.net/mountain-rural-peaks-geology-nature-738122>

<sup>4</sup><http://www.pvhc.net/img80/edivpmrvqoyefzdgxerf.jpg>

<sup>5</sup><https://icons8.com/icon/5170/palace>

<sup>6</sup><https://m.veryicon.com/icons/system/line/landscape-2.html>

## Annex: B Review of Plans, Policies and Programmes

Title	Summary
<b>Sustainable Development</b>	
<b>EU Environmental Action Programme to 2020</b>	<p>The 7<sup>th</sup> EU Environmental Action Programme is more strategic in nature and identifies three main areas to guide EU environmental policy and research. The three thematic priority objectives are intended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect nature and strengthen ecological resilience;</li> <li>• Boost sustainable resource-efficient low-carbon growth;</li> <li>• Effectively address environment-related threats to health.</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental Assessment</b>	
<b>SEA Directive - Assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the Environment, (2001/42/EC) 2001</b>	<p>This Directive requires plan-makers to carry out an assessment of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme before the plan or programme is adopted.</p>
<b>Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (85/337/EEC)</b>	<p>The EIA Directive (85/337/EEC) came into force in 1985 and applies to a wide range of defined public and private projects, which are defined in Annexes I and II of the Directive. This has been amended with Directive 2011/92/EU and the 2014 Directive (see below).</p>
<b>Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2014/52/EC)</b>	<p>It is necessary to amend Directive 2011/92/EU in order to strengthen the quality of the environmental impact assessment procedure, align that procedure with the principles of smart regulation and enhance coherence and synergies with other Union legislation and policies, as well as strategies and policies developed by Member States in areas of national competence. The Directive now applies from May 2017.</p>
<b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b>	
<b>UN Convention of Biological</b>	<p>The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) entered into force in December 1993. It has 3 main</p>

Title	Summary
<b>Diversity, 1992</b>	<p>objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The conservation of biological diversity;</li> <li>2. The sustainable use of the components of biological diversity;</li> <li>3. The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources.</li> </ol>
<b>The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (The Ramsar Convention) 1971 and subsequent amendments</b>	Protection and conservation of wetlands and habitats of importance to water fowl
<b>EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020</b>	<p>In 2011 the European Commission adopted a new strategy to halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU by 2020. There are six main targets, and 20 actions to help Europe reach its goal. The six targets cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity.</li> <li>• Better protection for ecosystems, and more use of green infrastructure;</li> <li>• More sustainable agriculture and forestry;</li> <li>• Better management of fish stocks;</li> <li>• Tighter controls on invasive alien species;</li> <li>• A bigger EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.</li> </ul>
<b>EU Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds, (2009/147/EC) 1979. Known as the Birds Directive</b>	<p>This Directive ensures far-reaching protection for all of Europe's wild birds, identifying 194 species and sub-species among them as particularly threatened and in need of special conservation measures. Member States are required to designate Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for 194 particularly threatened species and all migratory bird species. SPAs are scientifically identified areas critical for the survival of the targeted species, such as wetlands. They are part of the Natura 2000 ecological network established under the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.</p>
<b>EU Directive on the Conservation of</b>	The main goal of the Directive is to promote the maintenance of biodiversity by requiring Member

Title	Summary
<b>Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna, (92/43/EEC), 1992 known as the Habitats Directive</b>	<p>States to take measures to maintain, protect or restore natural habitats, animal and plant species to a favourable conservation status, introducing robust protection for those habitats and species of European importance. For Ireland, these habitats include raised bogs, active blanket bogs, turloughs, sand dunes, machair (flat sandy plains on the north and west coasts), heaths, lakes, rivers, woodlands, estuaries and sea inlets. The Directive provides for a network of protected sites known as The Natura 2000 network, which limits the extent and nature of development which may have a detrimental effect on the flora or fauna identified therein.</p>
<b>European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011</b>	<p>These regulations consolidate the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 to 2005 and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats)(Control of Recreational Activities) Regulations 2010, as well as addressing transposition failures identified in the CJEU judgements. Articles 6(1) and (2) of the Regulations require Member States to take appropriate conservation measures to maintain and restore habitats and species, for which a site has been designated, to a favourable conservation status. Furthermore the Regulations require Member States to avoid damaging activities that could significantly disturb these species or deteriorate the habitats of the protected species or habitat types. Under these regulations any plan or project likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall undergo an Appropriate Assessment to determine its implications for the site. The competent authorities can only agree to the plan or project after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned. In exceptional circumstances, a plan or project may still be allowed to go ahead, in spite of a negative assessment, provided there are no alternative solutions and the plan or project is considered to be of overriding public interest.</p>

Title	Summary
<b>Green Infrastructure Strategy</b>	The European Commission in May 2013 adopted a Green Infrastructure Strategy, ' <i>to promote the deployment of green infrastructure in the EU in urban and rural areas</i> '. This is a key step in implementing the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy and specifically Target 2 that requires that 'by 2020, ecosystems and their services are maintained and enhanced by establishing green infrastructure and restoring at least 15% of degraded ecosystems'. Green Infrastructure (GI) is contributing to all other targets of the EU Biodiversity strategy – in particular the full implementation of the Birds and Habitats Directive (target 1) – and to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the wider countryside and the marine environment (targets 3 and 4).
<b>Population and Human Health</b>	
<b>The Stockholm Convention</b>	The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from chemicals that remain intact in the environment for long periods, become widely distributed geographically, accumulate in the fatty tissue of humans and wildlife, and have adverse effects to human health or to the environment.
<b>Several environmental parameters interact and impact on human health including water quality, infrastructure, air quality, soil, cultural heritage and landscape; the plans, policies and programmes associated with these are presented under thematic headings as appropriate.</b>	
<b>Geology and Soil</b>	
<b>EU Soil Thematic Strategy</b>	In September 2006, the European Commission published the final Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection (COM(2006)231 final) and a proposal for a Directive establishing a framework for the protection of soil across the EU (COM(2006)232). The objective of the strategy is to protect and ensure the sustainable use of soil, based on the guiding principles of preserving soil functions, preventing further degradation and restoring degraded soils to a level of functionality consistent with current and intended use. Once adopted the European Soil Thematic Strategy will guide and frame Ireland's approach to developing its own soil protection strategy.
<b>Water Resources</b>	

Title	Summary
<b>Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) as amended</b>	<p>The Water Framework Directive (WFD) was adopted in 2000 in an effort to establish a framework for the protection of waterbodies within the EU including: inland surface waters; groundwater; transitional waters; and coastal waters.</p> <p>The key aims of the WFD are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanding the scope of water protection to all waters, surface waters and groundwater;</li> <li>• Achieving "good status" for all waters by a set deadline water management based on river basins;</li> <li>• "Combined approach" of emission limit values and quality standards;</li> <li>• Getting the prices right;</li> <li>• Getting the citizen involved more closely;</li> <li>• Streamlining legislation.</li> </ul> <p>Its ultimate objective is to achieve "good ecological and chemical status" for all Community waters by 2015.</p>
<b>Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)</b>	<p>The Directive aims to establish a common framework for assessing and reducing the risk that floods within the European Union pose to human health, the environment, property and economic activity.</p>
<b>The Drinking Water Directive (DWD), (98/83/EC) 1998</b>	<p>This Directive is intended to protect human health by laying down healthiness and purity requirements which must be met by drinking water within the Community.</p>
<b>Groundwater Directive, (2006/118/EC) 2006</b>	<p>This directive establishes a regime which sets underground water quality standards and introduces measures to prevent or limit inputs of pollutants into groundwater.</p>
<b>EC Bathing Water Quality Directive, (2006/7/EC) 2006</b>	<p>This Directive strengthens the rules guaranteeing bathing water quality It supplements Directive 2000/60/EC on water protection and management. Each year, the Member States are required to identify the bathing waters in their territory and define the length of the bathing season. They shall establish monitoring at the location most used by bathers or where the risk of pollution is greatest.</p>
<b>Climate and Air Quality</b>	
<b>Kyoto Protocol</b>	<p>The Protocol was initially adopted on 11 December 1997 in Kyoto, Japan, and entered into force on 16</p>

Title	Summary
	February 2005. To date 191 states have signed and ratified the protocol. Following the Conference of Parties to the Climate Change Convention (COP) meeting in Copenhagen 2009, the EU revised its commitment to reducing greenhouse gases by increasing the target to 20% reduction on 1990 levels by 2020.
<b>The Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (CAFE) Directive</b>	The EU objective in relation to air quality is ‘to achieve levels of air quality that do not result in unacceptable impacts on, and risks to, human health and the environment’.
<b>Material Assets</b>	
<b>EU Directive on Waste, (2006/12/EC), 2006</b>	This Directive requires EU States to publish waste management plans. It requires a system of permits and registrations to be put in place to authorise all waste management infrastructure, as well as setting down the basic requirements that need to be satisfied for these statutory authorisations to be issued.
<b>EU Directive on Waste (2008/98/EC), 2008</b>	<p>This Directive establishes a legal framework for the treatment of waste within the Community. It aims at protecting the environment and human health through the prevention of the harmful effects of waste generation and waste management.</p> <p>The Directive requires Member States to take measures for the treatment of their waste in line with the following hierarchy which is listed in order of priority: prevention, preparing for reuse, recycling, other recovery, notably energy recovery, disposal.</p>
<b>EU Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC), 1991</b>	The aim of the Urban Waste Water Directive is to protect inland surface waters from the adverse effects of discharges of urban wastewater and discharge of certain biodegradable industrial waste water (particularly from the agro-food industry).
<b>Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources</b>	Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources establishes the basis for the achievement of the EU’s 20% renewable energy target by 2020. Under the terms of the Directive, each Member State is set an individually binding renewable energy target, which will contribute to the achievement of the overall EU goal. Each Member State is required to adopt a national renewable energy action plan.



Title	Summary
<b>Cultural Heritage Archaeology and Built Heritage</b>	
<b>The World Heritage Convention</b>	The World Heritage Convention was adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in November 1972. The World Heritage Convention aims to promote cooperation among nations to protect heritage around the world that is of such outstanding universal value that its conservation is important for current and future generations.
<b>European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, 1992 (The Valletta Convention)</b>	This Convention was ratified by Ireland in 1997 and as such the Planning Authority is legally bound by it. The aim of the Convention is to ‘protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study’. It requires that appropriate consideration be given to archaeological issues at all stages of the planning and development process.
<b>Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe, 1985 (Granada Convention)</b>	Ratified by Ireland in 1997, the 1985 Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe is intended to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe’s heritage. The Convention is dual purpose, involving the promotion of architectural heritage policies while fostering European-wide co-operation measures. Covering monuments, groups of buildings and sites of importance, the Convention requires a national inventory of architectural heritage to be developed. Legal protection measures must be established, with a system of formal authorisation required for works affecting protected sites and structures. Architectural heritage conservation considerations are required to feature in the Convention signatories’ town and Regional planning processes.
<b>Landscape</b>	
<b>The European Landscape Convention 2000</b>	The 2000 European Landscape Convention, adopted in Florence (and was ratified by Ireland in 2002), requires a commitment to introduce policies on landscape protection and management. It promotes the protection, management and planning of EU landscapes as a response to European-wide concerns that the quality and diversity of landscapes were deteriorating. The underlying purpose of the Convention is to encourage public authorities to adopt policies and measures at local, Regional,

Title	Summary
	National and International level to protect and manage landscapes throughout Europe.
<b>Other relevant conventions, plans, policies and programmes</b>	
<b>The Aarhus Convention</b>	The Aarhus Convention establishes a number of rights of the public (individuals and their associations) with regard to the environment. The Parties to the Convention are required to make the necessary provisions so that public authorities (at national, regional or local level) will contribute to these rights to become effective.
<b>Environmental Liability Directive 2004/35/EC</b>	<p>The overall objective of the Directive and the Regulations is to prevent and remedy environmental damage by holding operators whose activities have caused environmental damage financially liable for remedying the damage. The Environmental Liability Regulations 2008 define environmental damage under three categories:</p> <p>Damage to natural habitats and protected species - any damage that has significant adverse effects on reaching or maintaining the favourable conservation status of European designated habitats or species (i.e. those covered by the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and Birds Directive (79/409/EEC)).</p> <p>Water damage - damage which significantly adversely affects the ecological, chemical and/or quantitative status and/or ecological potential of waters covered in the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC).</p> <p>Land damage - any contamination that creates a significant risk of human health being adversely affected as a result of the direct or indirect introduction in or under the land of substances, preparations, organisms or micro-organisms.</p>

Title	Summary
<b>Sustainable Development</b>	
<b>Our Sustainable Future A framework for sustainable development in Ireland</b>	Our Sustainable Future timeframe is to 2020 to tie in with other national and international frameworks, but a longer-term horizon to 2050 is also taken where appropriate, to provide a framework for guiding and reporting on long-term broad development trends such as on climate change.
<b>National Planning Framework 2040</b>	<p>Is a national document that will guide at a high-level strategic planning and development for the country over the next 20+ years, so that as the population grows, that growth is sustainable (in economic, social and environmental terms).</p> <p>Finalisation of the NPF alongside the ten-year National Development Plan will put together one plan to guide strategic development and infrastructure investment at national level.</p> <p>The NPF with the National Development Plan will also set the context for each of Ireland’s three regional assemblies to develop their Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies taking account of and co-ordinating local authority County and City Development Plans in a manner that will ensure national, regional and local plans align.</p>
<b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b>	
<b>Actions for Biodiversity 2011 – 2016, Ireland’s 2nd National Biodiversity Plan</b>	The National Biodiversity Plan is intended to play a central part in Ireland’s efforts to halt biodiversity loss and was developed as in line with the EU and International Biodiversity strategies and policies. It sets out the strategic objectives of the government in relation to biodiversity.
<b>Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000</b>	The Wildlife Act is Ireland’s primary national legislation for the protection of wildlife. It covers a broad range of issues, from the designation of nature reserves, the protection of species, regulation of hunting and controls in wildlife trading. It is implemented by a series of regulations. The Act provides strict protection for nearly all birds, 22 other animal species, and 86 plant species. These species are protected from injury, or from disturbance / damage to their breeding or resting place wherever these occur. The 2000 Act was amended in 2010.
<b>National Heritage Plan (2002)</b>	The Department of Arts Heritage Gaeltacht and the Islands published the National Heritage Plan in

Title	Summary
	April 2002. The plan sets out a vision for the management of the heritage of Ireland. A key element of the process of formulating the National Heritage Plan is the requirement to prepare Local Heritage Plans at County and City level.
<b>Population and Human Health</b>	
<b>Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas (Cities, Towns &amp; Villages) (2009)</b>	The aim of these guidelines is to set out the key planning principles which should be reflected in development plans and local area plans, and which should guide the preparation and assessment of planning applications for residential development in urban areas.
<b>Geology and Soil</b>	
<b>Geological Heritage Sites Designation (under the Wildlife Amendment Act 2000)</b>	The Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 provides for designation of Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) which will include geological sites. Until actually designated, there is no real protection for any important sites identified by GSI and recommended for NHA status. However, a number of geological features are protected because they are the underlying reason for a biological or ecological site protected as a National Nature Reserve, National Park or as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC). In addition many local authorities have scheduled County Geological Sites within their County Development Plans.
<b>Water Resources</b>	
<b>National River Basin District Management Plan 2018</b>	The National River Basin District Management Plan is now published (2018). The second cycle River Basin Management Plan aims to build on the progress made during the first cycle with a greater emphasis on ensuring the evidence base is available and the administration supports are fully in place to support key measures. The approach to the plan development involves characterisation of Ireland's water bodies in order to develop a tailored programme of measures to allow for the protection of good status or the restoration of good status for all water bodies. The outcomes are then monitored in order to feed into further characterisation and measures setting as the cycle moves forward. The plan was subject to SEA and Appropriate Assessment.

Title	Summary
<b>Water Services Act (2007)</b>	The Act sets down a comprehensive modern legislative code governing functions, standards, obligations and practice in relation to the planning, management, and delivery of water supply and waste water collection and treatment services. The Act focuses on management of water "in the pipe", as distinct from broader water resources issues such as river water quality, etc.
<b>Water Services (Amendment) Act (2012)</b>	The 2012 Act amends the 2007 Water Services Act in order to comply with a European Court of Justice ruling against Ireland in October 2009. The Court found that Ireland had failed to fulfil its obligations under the Waste Directive (75/442/EEC) regarding domestic waste waters disposed of through septic tanks and other individual waste water treatment systems. The new Part 4A requires each water services authority to establish and maintain a register of domestic waste water treatment systems situated within their functional area.
<b>Irish Water Services Strategic Plan SEA and AA</b>	The 25 year plan for strategic delivery of water services is currently being prepared and the SEA Scoping report was issued for consultation with a deadline in September 2014.
<b>The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines (and Technical Appendices) for Planning Authorities (DoEHLG, OPW), 2009</b>	<p>In relation to planning at the County level the guidelines require planning authorities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce flood risk assessment as an integral and leading element of their development planning functions at the earliest practicable opportunity;</li> <li>• Align strategic flood risk assessment (SFRA) with the SEA process;</li> <li>• Establish flood risk assessment requirements as part of the preparation of the County Development Plan;</li> <li>• Assess planning applications against the guidance set out in the Guidelines;</li> <li>• Ensure development is not permitted in areas of flood risk except where there are no suitable alternative sites.</li> </ul>
<b>Climate and Air Quality</b>	
<b>National Climate Change Strategy (2007-2012)</b>	The National Climate Change Strategy 2007 - 2012 sets out a range of measures, building on those already in place under the first National Climate Change Strategy (2000) to ensure Ireland reaches its

Title	Summary
	target under the Kyoto Protocol. The Strategy provides a framework for action to reduce Ireland's greenhouse gas emissions.
<b>Review of Ireland's climate change policy and Climate Action and Low Carbon Bill 2013</b>	The National Economic and Social Council submitted a review of Ireland's climate change policy to the Minister of Environment in late 2012. The review includes the development of potential policies and measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in agriculture, transport, heat in buildings and renewable energy supply and a basis for a national transition to a low-carbon future by 2050.
<b>Material Assets</b>	
<b>Smarter Travel, A Sustainable Transport Future, A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009-2020</b>	Smarter Travel is the transport policy for Ireland that sets out how the vision of a sustainable travel and transport system can be achieved.
<b>Cultural Heritage Archaeology and Built Heritage</b>	
<b>National Monuments Act 1930 with subsequent amendments</b>	This is the primary legal protection to archaeology in Ireland and has been amended a number of times, most recently in 2004.
<b>Architectural Heritage Protection - Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011)</b>	The 2004 guidelines were reissued in 2011 following the transfer of architectural heritage protection functions to the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Part IV of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 – 2011 sets out the legislative provisions for the protection and conservation of our architectural heritage.
<b>National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)</b>	The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) is a state initiative under the administration of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The purpose of the NIAH is to identify, record, and evaluate the post-1700 architectural heritage of Ireland, uniformly and consistently as an aid in the protection and conservation of the built heritage. NIAH surveys provide the basis for the recommendations of the Minister to the planning authorities for the inclusion of particular structures in their Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

Title	Summary
<b>Landscape</b>	
<b>A National Landscape Strategy for Ireland –2015</b>	The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht has issued A National Landscape Strategy for Ireland which sets out objectives and principles in the context of a proposed National Landscape Strategy for Ireland.
<b>Draft Landscape and Landscape Assessment Guidelines, (2000)</b>	These Guidelines attempt to approach landscape appraisal in a systematic manner and recommend Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) as the method for assessment. LCA involves the characterisation of landscape based primarily on landcover (trees, vegetation, water etc.) and secondly on the value (i.e. historical, cultural, etc.). LCA is intended to aid the development management process as it gives indicators of development types which would be suited to certain locations using certain design criteria and consequently the character of the landscape remains intact.
<p><b>Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended):</b></p> <p>This Act consolidated all planning legislation from 1963 to 1999 and remains the basis for the Irish planning code, setting out the detail of regional planning guidelines, development plans and local area plans as well as the basic framework of the development management and consent system. Among other things, it provides the statutory basis for protecting our natural and architectural heritage, the carrying out of Environmental Impact Statements and the provision of social and affordable housing. There have been a number of changes to the legislation since 2000, the most significant of which are set out in The Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2002 and the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2004, which made substantial changes to Part V of the Act.</p> <p>In addition, a suite of new planning policies are being prepared most notably the National Planning Framework due to be finalised first quarter of 2017 which will replace the National Spatial Strategy. Prior to this a non-statutory Planning Policy Statement was issued in 2015 establishing then key principles including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No. 8. Planning will conserve and enhance the rich qualities of natural and cultural heritage of Ireland –</li> <li>- No. 9. Planning will support the protection and enhancement of environmental quality .</li> </ul>	

Title	Summary
<b>Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2020- to be replaced by Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies</b>	<p>The aim of the Regional Planning Guidelines (RPGs) is to provide a framework for long term strategic development of the Eastern and Midland Region for the period 2010 – 2022 which is consistent with the National Spatial Strategy (NSS) 2002 – 2020 and which ensures the successful implementation of the NSS at regional, county and local level. This NSS is being replaced by the National Planning Framework and the Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies for the Eastern and Midland Region are replacing the existing RPGs.</p> <p>The accompanying SEA ERs and NIRs for the above will be used in this SEA as appropriate and relevant.</p>
<b>Laois County Development Plan 2017-2023</b>	<p>This plan sets out on a statutory basis the development framework for Laois County. The main sections relate to core strategy, housing, social, community and recreation, infrastructure, heritage and economic development.</p>
<b>Laois Local Economic and Community Plan 2016</b>	<p>The socio-economic framework centres around a number of themes key themes and goals which underpin the LECP. These themes and goals contribute to realising the overall vision. They include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objectives and Actions to Diversify and Strengthen a Sustainable Laois Economy (Goal 2);</li> <li>• Objectives and Actions to Support Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Goal 3);</li> <li>• Objectives and Actions to Enrich Civic Participation and Empower Communities (Goal 4);</li> <li>• Objectives and Actions to Promote Equality and Inclusiveness across all Sectors (Goal 5);</li> <li>• Objectives and Actions to Recognize and Support the Diverse Needs of People (Goal 6);</li> <li>• Objectives and Actions to Cultivate a Strong Laois Identity and an Excellent Quality of Life (Goal 7);</li> <li>• Objectives and Actions to Create an Integrated and Holistic Approach to Education, Training and Employment (Goal 8);</li> <li>• Objectives and Actions to Develop and Promote Ways of Living and Doing business that Support a Sustainable Environment and Resilient Communities (Goal 9);</li> <li>• Objectives and Actions to Enhance and Sustain our Town and Village Centres and their Function as Focal Points for their Rural Hinterlands (Goal 10).</li> </ul>



<b>Laois Heritage Plan 2014-2019</b>	<p>The heritage plan is under pinned by a number of objectives and supporting actions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objective 1: Increase understanding of the heritage of Laois;</li> <li>• Objective 2: Record the heritage of Laois;</li> <li>• Objective 3: Protect and promote active conservation of the heritage of Laois;</li> <li>• Objective 4: Promote community participation in heritage plans and projects;</li> <li>• Objective 5: Promote enjoyment and accessibility of heritage sites.</li> </ul>
<b>Offaly County Development Plan 2014-2020</b>	<p>The Offaly CDP 2014-2020 is of particular relevance and this Joint LAP has been prepared in conjunction with Offaly County Council</p>
<b>Offaly Local Economic and Community Plan 2016</b>	<p>Strategic goals are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment, Enterprise and Innovation;</li> <li>• Education, Training and Skills;</li> <li>• Tourism and Promoting Place;</li> <li>• Local and Community Development;</li> <li>• Green Energy and Sustainable Living;</li> <li>• Empowering Communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Offaly County Heritage Plan 2017-2021</b>	<p>Eight Action Areas for 2017 -2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offaly County Council Heritage related projects such as 1916/2016 Centenary Commemorations and the follow on programme Creative Ireland; management of key county sites such as Durrow and Clonmacnoise, public realm plans and ongoing projects as they arise;</li> <li>• Partnering with local communities and societies working on heritage projects, ranging from the Tidy Towns network to Historical Societies;</li> <li>• Heritage and Tourism – making sites accessible and improving signage and information including inputs to <a href="http://www.visitoffaly.ie">www.visitoffaly.ie</a>;</li> <li>• Developing a County Archive Service in partnership with Offaly History, the Library Service and private owners;</li> <li>• Medieval churches/Monastic Site conservation of the structures, management plans and access (these sites are predominantly in Offaly County Council ownership);</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Publications – commissioning of and assisting with publications, specifically Offaly Castles and demesne landscapes which are currently in preparation;</li><li>• Biodiversity - promotion of the National Pollinator Plan, submitting records to the National Biodiversity Data Centre and control of invasive species with particular focus on Japanese and Himalayan knotweed and Himalayan Balsam;</li><li>• Access to heritage - coordinating and management of events such as Heritage Week, Offaly Naturalists' Field Club, Annual Offaly Heritage Seminar and awareness of Offaly's heritage through all appropriate means.</li></ul> |
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