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Planning Section Sligo County Council City Hall Quay Street Sligo F91 PP44

14 March 2023

## RE: PROPOSAL TO EXTEND THE DURATION OF SLIGO COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2017-2023 BY UP TO ONE YEAR, TO END OF JULY 2024.

A Chara,

I refer to your notification on 20 February 2023 of Sligo County Council's intention to extend the duration of the existing Sligo County Development Plan 2017 – 2023, up to the end of July 2024, pursuant to Section 11D of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

It is noted that the Sligo County Development Plan 2017-2023 was adopted in July 2017 and became operational four weeks later, in August 2017. Thereafter a Variation was made to the plan to secure consistency with the NPF and RSES. Subsequently, Sligo County Council initiated a statutory pre-draft consultation from July to September 2021.

However, the Planning Authority advise that exceptional events, such as the Covid-19 pandemic, have caused unprecedented disruption in society, resulting in negative impacts on their review of the development plan and the preparation of the new Draft Sligo CDP. The Regional Assembly submitted a detailed report on the Pre-Draft Consultation (Issues Papers) of the Sligo CDP 2023 – 2029 in September 2021.

It is acknowledged that the planning authority consider it necessary to extend the life of the current CDP by up to 12 months, until July 2024, to allow for the preparation of the new County Development Plan to be completed in 2024 - such extension being necessary to ensure that the zoning and development objectives of the CDP remain in force until the new plan is adopted.

Northern & Western Regional Assembly The Square, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon

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The proposed plan extension is accompanied by a SEA Screening Report, AA Screening Report, as well as SEA Screening and AA Screening determinations. The Assembly note the conclusion of same, which state the 1 year extension will not have adverse impacts on either European sites or the environment in general, whereby an SEA is not required.

The intention to extend the duration of the current plan is in compliance with Section 11D(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. The Northern and Western Regional Assembly wish to advise that having considered same, it has no objection to the proposed extension of duration as proposed.

I trust this clarifies the position.

Is mise le meas,

Devil Minh

David Minton Director

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