



Castlebar Town Council



Mayo County Council

Planning & Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 S.I. No. 436 of 2004

Determination for Strategic Environmental Assessment for Variation No. 3 Castlebar and Environs Development Plan 2008 – 2014.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan / programme before a decision is made to adopt the plan/programme; the procedures for which are set out in the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004 S.I. No. 436 of 2004 as amended by the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2011 S.I. No. 201 of 2011.

The preparation of a full SEA is not mandatory for a Variation of a Development Plan. Nonetheless, in accordance with the above SEA regulations, the Planning Authority must determine whether or not the implementation of such a variation to the plan would be likely to have significant effects on the environment and hence required a SEA. In making this determination, the planning authority is required to consult with the prescribed Environmental Authorities.

Having complied with the requirements as set out in the Planning and Development Regulations 2004 S.I. No. 436 of 2004 as amended by the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2011 S.I. No. 201 of 2011, Mayo County Council and Castlebar Town Council have determined that the proposed variation to the Castlebar Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 will not require an environmental report for the following reasons:

1. The proposed Variation No. 3 or the Castlebar Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 will consist of realigning the proposed road corridor south and east of Castlebar Town and amend the land use zoning accordingly. The proposed amendments to land use zoning arising from the proposed variation are located in areas that have no significant planning or environmental constraints.
2. Proposed Variation No. 3 of the Castlebar Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 is compliant with the national and regional policy and planning guidelines.
3. A Habitats Directive Assessment for Appropriate Assessment as required under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive has been carried out and concluded that there will be no significant impact on the Natura 2000 network as a result of the variation of the

plan and that it was not necessary to proceed to Stage 2 (Natura Impact Report) Appropriate Assessment.

Any amendments to proposed Variation No 3 of the Castlebar Town & Environs Development Plan 2008 – 2014 arising from the variation process will be screened for the need for an environmental assessment.



Padraig Flanagan
Acting Director of Services
for the Castlebar Area

24th October 2012