

Manager's Report

on submissions and observations
received in relation to the

Proposed Amendment to Enniscrone Local Area Plan

to extend the life of the Plan
by three years to 2013

20 August 2010

Sligo County Council
Development
PlanningUnit

1. Introduction

Enniscrone Local Area Plan (LAP) 2004-2010, adopted on the 1st of March 2004. The Local Area Plan was designed to facilitate and encourage planned, co-ordinated and sustainable development in Enniscrone while protecting its sensitive setting and heritage. Section 19(1)(c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) requires that an existing local area plan be amended (or revoked) at least every six years after the making of the previous plan. The procedure for amending (or revoking) a LAP – which is the same as for making it – is set out in Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended in 2002).

2. LAP Progress Report

In January 2010 a Progress Report on the Enniscrone LAP was prepared and submitted to the Members. The report examined the progress achieved in securing the objectives of the plan and the extent of development that had occurred up to January 2010. The conclusion of this report was that, given the level of development that had taken place within the Enniscrone Local Area Plan limit from 2004 until January 2010, the key development proposals had not been achieved in full. Some of the objectives had been only partially realised, with much land yet to be developed.

Many proposed developments on key sites, which would go some way in achieving the LAP's goals, had obtained planning permission but had remained undeveloped. Also, there were many key sites for which no development proposals had been submitted.

The report recommended that Enniscrone should continue to develop within the agreed framework of the LAP, the LAP should be re-examined after the County Development Plan review, to ensure consistency with the new CDP, and that the Enniscrone Local Area Plan remain as adopted in 2004 and its life extended by a further three years to 2013.

3. Proposed amendment of the LAP

Having considered the Progress Report on the Enniscrone LAP, at the ordinary meeting of 1 February 2010, the members of Sligo County Council resolved that

“all objectives of the Enniscrone Local Area Plan, including zoning objectives, be maintained unchanged and that the only amendment of the LAP relate to the extension of its life by three years to 2013.”

4. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening

The proposed amendment was screened for potential environmental impacts in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 436/04) and a corresponding Screening Report was prepared. The Report indicated that the proposed amendment was not considered likely to have a significant effect on the environment. It was, therefore, the opinion of the Planning Authority that a full strategic environmental assessment (SEA) was not required.

Formal notification, accompanied by the Screening Report, was issued to the prescribed environmental authorities on 26 February 2010, giving them an opportunity to comment on the likely environmental effects of implementing the proposed amendment of Enniscrone Local Area Plan. The deadline for receiving comments was 29 March 2010. Responses were received from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Coordination Unit of the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources.

The EPA noted the conclusion of the Screening Report and indicated that

“it is a matter for Sligo County Council to determine whether or not any proposed amendments to the LAP would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.”

The Coordination Unit of the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources indicated that it had no comments/observations to make.

No submission was received from the Development Applications Unit of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Based on the conclusion of the Screening Report and the response of the prescribed environmental authorities, the Planning Authority determined that full SEA was not required for the proposed amendment of Enniscrone LAP, which was unlikely to give rise to any environmental effects, significant or otherwise.

5. Public consultation on the proposed amendment

A notice was published in the Sligo Champion on 9 June 2010, inviting the public to inspect the proposed amendment, the associated documents and make submissions or observations.

The statutory public consultation period ran from Friday 11 June to Friday 23 July, both dates inclusive. All relevant documentation was made available for inspection or purchase from the Planning Section of Sligo County Council, and for free download from the Council’s website.

No written submissions were received during the public consultation period.

Recommendation

Following public consultation, it is considered that the proposed amendment should be adopted without any modifications.

It is hereby recommended that the Enniscrone Local Area Plan remain as adopted in 2004, and that its life is extended by a further three years to 2013.