



03 June 2022

Thomas McEvoy,
A/Director of Services,
Town Hall,
Crowe Street,
Dundalk,
Co. Louth
A91

Re: Proposed Variation No. 1 of the Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027

Dear Thomas,

I refer to the above. The Department of Education acknowledges receipt of Proposed Variation No. 1 of the Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027.

The Department notes that the purpose of this variation is to update the County Development Plan to take account of the methodology and housing projections as set out in the Section 28 Guidelines 'Housing Supply Target Methodology for Development Planning' and the 'Projected Housing Demand by Local Authority Area 2020-2031 – ESRI NPF Scenario Housing Supply Target' provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in December 2020 and to ensure that the housing provision in the Development Plan is consistent with, and aligned with, national and regional policy.

The Department notes that the variation proposes to apply a number of amendments to Chapter 2 Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy, Chapter 3 Housing Strategy and Volume 2 Settlement Statements of the CDP.

In particular, the Department notes the proposed amendments to Core Strategy table 2.17 of the CDP. It is acknowledged that there are no proposed changes to projected population growth as outlined in the table. However, it is noted that apart from the settlements of Carlingford and Termonfeckin, the 2021-2027 housing allocations for all other settlements in the table are being reduced. It is possible that the reconfiguration of housing allocations could impact school provision requirements in the various settlements. However, the Department considers that this potential impact is not of a significant nature to reassess its school place requirements for County Louth at this time and in this regard, the Department re-confirms the projected school requirements outlined in its submission to the draft Louth CDP 2021-2027 on 22nd December 2020.



The Department thanks Louth County Council for ongoing assistance in relation to school planning matters and looks forward to continuing to work together to deliver educational requirements for County Louth.

Alan Hanlon
Statutory Plans
Forward Planning Section