



**Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes**

**Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise SPC**

**17<sup>th</sup> October, 2018, Council Chamber, Co. Hall, Railway Street, Navan**

**Attendees - Councillors:** Cllrs. Joe Fox (presided), Noel French, Tom Kelly, Brian Fitzgerald

**Apologies:** Cllrs. Alan Tobin, Darren O'Rourke, Damien O'Reilly, Trevor Golden, Ronan McKenna,

**Attendees - Sectoral Representatives:** Kieran Cummins, Alan Watson, Frank Harrington, Seamus Miggin

**Apologies:** Alan Byrne, John V Farrelly

**Officials:** Jackie Maguire, Kevin Stewart, Pat Gallagher, Seán Clarke, Wendy Bagnall, Alan Rogers, Padraig Maguire

**Meath County Councillors:** Cllrs. Jim Holloway, Gerry O'Connor, Tommy Reilly, Maria Murphy, Sarah Reilly, Sinead Burke, Paddy Meade, Sharon Tolan

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p><b><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u></b></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 were approved on the proposal of Cllr. Noel French and seconded by Alan Watson.</p>
2	<p><b><u>To receive a briefing on the Director's Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy given to the Eastern &amp; Midland Regional Assembly Members on 5<sup>th</sup> October.</u></b></p> <p>The Members received a comprehensive presentation from Wendy Bagnall, Senior Executive Planner, on the Director's Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy given to the Assembly Member's on 5<sup>th</sup> October. She advised that the Members will be asked to resolved to place the Draft on public display at their meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issues raised within the presentation included;</li> <li>• What settlements are included in the Metropolitan Area figures?</li> <li>• Bray Maynooth and Swords are identified as key towns in Metropolitan Area. Dunboyne does not get a mention</li> <li>• Dunboyne's potential to deliver significant economic and residential growth should be identified particularly in the context of significant investment in under-utilized</li> </ul>



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public transport infrastructure.

### Navan

- More detailed reference to the regeneration of the town centre
- Link Roads
- Designation of an employment SDZ on lands on the Trim Road

### Dunboyne

- Table 5.1 of the document refers to sequential development in the town with priority to be given to the lands adjacent to the rail station *'followed by'* development at Dunboyne North and M3 Parkway. This could have significant impact on the future development potential of employment lands north of Dunboyne.

### Drogheda

- Addresses the town centre and north environs almost exclusively with little or no mention of South Drogheda.
- The population distribution has the potential to restrict population growth in South Drogheda

### Maynooth

- No reference to the potential for the lands in the Maynooth Environs to contribute to future growth in the town and to deliver essential infrastructure

### Ashbourne

- Reference to residential expansion without commensurate employment development is unhelpful for attracting future employment given its strategic location
- Film Industry

Members spoke of their frustration with the Department and stated that it was their firm belief that while other counties within the region were accommodated with regards to key areas within the RSES. They believed the document served to hinder any development within Meath. They commented that the imposition of the words 'followed by' in table 5.1 relating to Dunboyne, served to undo the positive work done on Variation 3 of the Meath County Development Plan.

They were angered at the lack of response from the Department in relation to key elements



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	<p>of the plan including, the anomaly between the RSES figures and those presented to the Regional Assembly on 5<sup>th</sup> October and the commitment given to the C.I.F. with regards to de-zoning of lands.</p> <p>Members called on the Executive to write to the Director of the Regional Assembly demanding that the publication of the RSES be placed on hold pending clarification and technical analysis of a number of outstanding issues. They stated that it was unfair to ask Assembly Members from Meath County Council to vote on a document that left so many questions answered.</p>
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The meeting concluded at 3.30pm

### **Recommendations to the Corporate Policy Group (CPG)**

None