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Consultation:

Material Amendments to Draft Mayo County Development Plan
2021-2027

Proposed Amendment CH 6.16 & 6.17

Chapter: Volume One - Written Statement» 06. Movement &
Transport

It is noted that Proposed Amendment CH 6.16 seeks to amend Policy MTP 16 of the Draft Plan. TII is of the opinion that Policy MTP 16 of the Draft Plan reflected the provisions of Section 2.5 of the Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (DoECLG, 2012).

The alteration proposed in Amendment CH 6.16, including allowing exceptions to access national roads for 'economic or social reasons' is not considered to adhere to the provisions of foregoing official policy. The Council will be aware that Section 2.5 of the DoECLG Guidelines require the policy of the planning authority to avoid the creation of any additional access point from new development or the generation of increased traffic from existing accesses to national roads to which speed limits greater than 60 kmh apply. This provision applies to all categories of development.

The proposed amendment conflicts with the foregoing Government policy and TII does not support its adoption.

Recommendation

■ TII does not support the proposed amendment to Policy MTP 16. TII considers the proposed amendment conflicts with the provisions of Section 2.5 of the Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (DoECLG, 2012). TII does not support the proposed amendment.

Proposed Amendment CH 6.17

TII notes that Proposed Amendment CH 6.17 addresses the provision of 'exceptional circumstances'. TII supports the proposed amendment whereby it reflects that 'exceptional circumstances' cases are required to be identified for incorporation into the Development Plan, i.e. plan-led. TII welcomes that the Proposed Amendment confirms that the Council will undertake a survey to identify such sites and agree cases in consultation with TII, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.6 of the DoECLG Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines.

Nevertheless, TII notes that Proposed Amendment CH 6.17 includes that a site has been identified at the IDA Site, Quignashee, Ballina (off the N59).

TII's records indicate that a 100kph speed limit applies to the N59, national secondary road, at the location of the proposed access. The N59 is a strategic national road and provides important strategic linkages within the North Mayo region. In accordance with official Government policy objectives, it is critical that the safety, capacity and strategic function of the existing national road is safeguarded.

TII advises that no consultation has been undertaken in relation to this proposed 'exceptional circumstances' case for inclusion in the Development Plan. TII is also unaware of any evidence base developed in support of the proposal to address the requirements of Section 2.6 of the DoECLG Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines.

TII is of the opinion that including the proposed 'exceptional circumstances' in the Development Plan in the form currently presented and in advance of undertaking an evidence-based analysis is inappropriate and in conflict with the provisions of Section 2.6 of the Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (DoECLG, 2012).

Recommendation

TII would welcome consideration by the Council of the following:

- TII supports the proposed amendment whereby it reflects that 'exceptional circumstances' cases are required to be identified for incorporation into the Development Plan, i.e. plan-led. TII welcomes that the Proposed Amendment confirms that the Council will undertake a survey to identify such sites and agree cases in consultation with TII, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.6 of the DoECLG Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines.
- However TII does not support the inclusion of the IDA Site, Quignashee, Ballina in its current form as part of this amendment. In TII's opinion the proposal is premature pending and should be omitted until the proposal outlined by the Council to undertake a survey to identify 'exceptional circumstances' sites and agree cases in consultation with TII, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.6 of the DoECLG Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities.
- TII is available to assist the Council in the development of proposals for consideration as 'exceptional circumstances' cases in accordance with the provisions of the DoECLG Guidelines.

Documents Attached: No