

Planning Department Cloonavin 66 Portstewart Road COLERAINE BT52 1EY

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Date: 8th April 2025

Dear Proinsias,

RE: Local Development Plan - Plan Strategy: Pre-Adoption Consultation on Assessment Documents.

Thank you for your letter dated 19th March 2025 inviting comment on the above.

The Council acknowledges that, following receipt of a formal Direction from the Department for Infrastructure (Dfl) to proceed to adopt its Plan Strategy for its District, Derry City and Strabane District Council (DC&SDC) has prepared a suite of assessment documents which are being published for public consultation. In response to this the Council wishes to comment as follows:

Habitats Regulations Assessment (Draft):

The Council notes that DC&SDC, on the basis of the analysis set out in the draft HRA, concludes that its Plan Strategy (with the modifications set out in the Direction made by Dfl) will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects.

Sustainability Appraisal Report (SA, incorporating a Strategic Environmental Assessment, SEA - Further Addendum):

The Council notes that the conclusions of this report highlight that implementing the recommended modifications within the Plan Strategy would not result in any new significant effects. All the recommended modifications can be made without impacting or changing in a significant manner how the Plan would perform against the Sustainability Objectives. The Council also notes the finding that the overall impact of the Plan Strategy will have no likely significant effects on the environment.

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Equality Impact Assessment Report (Further Addendum):

The Council notes that the assessment determined that the modifications do not materially alter the conclusions of the original EQIA or its first Addendum. It concluded that the PS is unlikely to have an adverse impact on Section 75 groups, either directly or indirectly.

Rural Needs Impact Assessment (Further Addendum):

The Council notes the conclusion that those modifications assessed do not alter the outcomes of the RNIA of the dPS or the first Addendum to it. Therefore, it is anticipated that the PS is not likely to have an adverse impact with regard to rural needs, either directly or indirectly.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Denise Dickson Head of Planning

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