

Heather Cooke

From: andrew.hay@nmandd.org
Sent: 18 January 2019 12:19
To: RSES
Cc: Liam.Hannaway@nmandd.org; Marie.Ward@nmandd.org
Subject: EMRA: Draft RSES - Submission of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Attachments: NMDCC submission re EMRA Draft RSES.pdf

Dear Sir/Madam

Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly: Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy

Submission of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

The Council thanks you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft RSES.

On behalf of Chief Executive: Liam Hannaway, please find attached the response letter of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council which represents this Council's submission. Hard copy to follow in the post.

Regards,

Andrew Hay
Principal Planning Officer

Comhairle Ceantair an Iúir, Mhúrn agus an Dúin
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Downpatrick Office, Downshire Civic Centre
Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road
Downpatrick, BT30 6GQ

Council: 0300 013 2233
Planning: 0300 200 7830
Ext: 4421

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Posted

Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin
**Newry, Mourne
and Down**
District Council

Date: 17th January 2019

Your Ref: EMRA/RSES

Our Ref:

Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly
3rd Floor North
Ballymun Civic Centre
Main Street
Dublin 9
D09 C8P5

EASTERN & MIDLAND

22 JAN 2019

REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re. Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly: Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy

Response of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

The Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA).

Newry, Mourne and Down District shares a border with County Louth which forms part of EMRA.

The Council refers to its submission response to the 'RSES Issues Paper' in January 2018, whereby it emphasised the need for the RSES to recognise and take account of the issues which are important to the District from an economic infrastructure and planning context. It requested that, through cross border co-operation and collaboration, the economic, social, and environmental interests of Newry, Mourne and Down District are fully taken in to account in the in the strategic planning and economic development of the Eastern & Midland Region. In guiding future development and sustainable growth, and in the co-ordinated delivery of strategic development, infrastructure and services, it requested that the RSES recognise, acknowledge and be ever mindful of the role and position of Newry, Mourne and Down District as it borders the Eastern & Midland Region, in particular its placement on the Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor and the contribution it makes to the whole of the island of Ireland. Specific reference was made to the strategic positioning of Newry, together with the neighbouring port of Warrenpoint, and the role they serve as a regional and international gateway.

In reference to growth strategy, the economy, connectivity and all island cohesion, the Draft RSES makes a positive and strong reference to the Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor and through growth enablers and regional policy objectives promotes economic growth and improved connections between Dublin and Belfast and supports cross border networks. In particular the Council welcomes

Oifig an Iúir
Newry Office
O'Hagan House
Monaghan Row
Newry BT35 8DJ

Oifig Dhún Pádraig
Downpatrick Office
Downshire Civic Centre
Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road
Downpatrick BT30 6GQ

0300 013 2233 (Council)
0300 200 7830 (Planning)
council@nmandd.org
www.newrymouredown.org

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the references to Newry, and to Warrenpoint as a port of regional significance. The Council considers its interests and issues previously expressed, as reference above, have been addressed and taken in to account in the Draft RSES.

The only minor change, the Council would request is in reference to 'Connectivity' on p.151, where, in reference to the Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor, it states that it comprises a "nationally" important spine connecting the two largest settlements on the island of Ireland via the growth centres of Drogheda, Dundalk and Newry. In terms of its strategic context to both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, and to add further weight to its importance, it is considered that reference to this transport spine being "nationally" important be more appropriately rephrased as "internationally"

Overall, the Council welcomes the Draft RSES, which it considers to be positive towards the interests of Newry, Mourne and Down District.

I trust all is satisfactory. Should you require any further information or wish to discuss this response please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive

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Comhairle Ceantair
**an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin**
**Newry, Mourne
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Your Ref: EMRA/RSES
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Yours sincerely,


Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive

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