

Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly

Proposed Material Amendments to the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031

March 2019



Introduction

The Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly are currently undergoing the process of formulating and adopting a Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Region.

What is an RSES?

A RSES is a strategic plan which identifies regional assets, opportunities and pressures and provides appropriate policy responses in the form of Regional Policy Objectives (RPOs). At this strategic level it provides a framework for investment to better manage regional planning and economic development throughout the Region.

The principal statutory purpose of the RSES is to support the implementation of Project Ireland 2040 - The National Planning Framework (NPF) and National Development Plan (NDP), and the economic policies and objectives of the Government by providing a long-term strategic planning and economic framework for the development of the Region.

The RSES is required under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to address Employment, Retail, Housing, Transport, Water services, Energy and communications, Waste management, Education, health, sports and community facilities, Environment and heritage, Landscape, Sustainable development and climate change.

Purpose of this report

This report is presenting the proposed material amendments to the draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy. The members of the Regional Assembly at the meeting of 1st March 2019 considered the submissions received during the public consultation of the draft RSES and decided to propose amendments to the draft RSES.

This report contains the proposed material amendments that were agreed by the members of the Regional Assembly.

How to read this report

The proposed material amendments to the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Eastern and Midland Region are numbered and set out in this document.

The proposed material amendments are set out in a sequential order following the layout and as they appear in the Draft RSES – it follows the same chapter and section numbering as the draft RSES, and should be read in conjunction with the draft RSES.

The proposed material amendments consist of amendments to existing policy, omissions of existing policy or new policy in the draft RSES. Where possible the amendments to existing Regional Policy Objectives (RPOs) are identified in green bold text, however in some cases the proposed amendment is so significant that this is not the case.

To assist in the interpretation of the proposed material amendment to the RPOs an appendix has been included with all the RPOs in the draft RSES and where there are proposed amendments to these RPOs.

For information purposes the Director's Report on submissions received on the public consultation for the draft RSES, and all the submissions received will be available on www.emra.ie for viewing.

To note only proposed material amendments are being placed on public display.

Process to date



Figure 1.1 RSES Process

The Assembly commenced the process with an Issues Paper that was made available for public comment between 20th November 2017 and 16th February 2018. It sought submissions on relevant strategic planning and economic development matters. 171 submissions were received during the consultation process and a Director's Report on the submissions was prepared.

The evidence gathered during this period, and the comments received, was assessed and incorporated into the making of the draft RSES.

A series of consultations were undertaken during the process including meetings with Local Authorities, State Agencies and other public bodies. Five Technical Working Groups were set up under the four themes and in relation to the Dublin Metropolitan Area (MASP) and a series of workshops were held with relevant stakeholders.

The Assembly is also arranged into three Strategic Planning Area (SPA) Committees consisting of elected members, which feed into the RSES process. There is also a Senior Officials Advisory Group, made up of representatives from Local Authorities, Government Departments and public agencies that provides a strategic advisory role during the process.

At the meeting of the 19th October 2018, the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) prepared a draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Eastern and Midland Region period 2019-2031, as required under section 24(4) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2018.

The Assembly gave notice that a draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy was available for Public Consultation, and that submissions are invited from interested parties from the 5th November 2018 to the 23rd January 2019 inclusive. 315 submissions were received during this public consultation process, as well as 2 late submissions.

A Director's report on the submissions was prepared for the members of the Assembly and was issued to the members on 13th February and presented at the Assembly meeting of the 15th February. The members then submitted 29 no. valid motions for proposed amendments to the draft RSES by the 25th February. A Director's report in response to these motions was issued on the 27th February. At the Assembly meeting of 1st March 2019, as required under section 24(8) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2018, the members considered the motions, then the Director's Report and recommendations, except where it was superseded by the agreed motions.

At this meeting the members of the Assembly agreed to make the regional spatial and economic strategy subject to the amendments agreed at the meeting. It was deemed that a number of these amendments were material and as such, would be subject to a further public display period in accordance with the requirements of section 24(8) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2018. To note it is only these proposed material amendments that are being placed on display and to which submissions can relate.

Public Consultation

The Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly have proposed material amendments to the draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the period 2019-2031, as required under section 24 (8) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2018.

The Environmental Report has been updated in accordance with the SEA Directive and the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations S.I. No. 436/2004 (as amended), accompanied by a Regional Flood Risk Appraisal Report. A Natura Impact Report (to inform the Appropriate Assessment) has also been updated in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive, the Planning and Development Act 2000-2018, and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations S.I. No. 477/2001 (as amended).

These documents are placed on public display and a copy may be inspected during normal office hours from 15th March 2019 to 12th April 2019 at the following locations:

- Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly,
3rd Floor North, Ballymun Civic Centre,
Main Street, Ballymun, Dublin, D09 C8P5
- The Planning Counter in all of the twelve constituent local authorities of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly, please check locally with your Council regarding opening hours

The documents may also be inspected online at www.emra.ie

Submissions or observations on the proposed material amendments only as set out in this report or the associated environmental report will be received between 15th March 2019 and 12th April 2019 (both dates inclusive) through one of the following media:

- Online: www.emra.ie/rses
- Email: rses@emra.ie
- Mail: Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly,
3rd Floor North, Ballymun Civic Centre,
Main Street, Ballymun, Dublin, D09 C8P5

The Regional Assembly will consider all relevant submissions made in writing within the stated period before adopting the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.

All submissions will be acknowledged but it will not be possible to issue individual responses.

Please include the proposed amendment reference number (blue text in this document) as shown in this document to demonstrate validity of the submission. Also state your name and address as part of your submission, and if you are representing another person, company or organisation, their full name and address.

Please note that public submissions may be published on our website and subject to Freedom of Information.

Next Stages

Following the public consultation of the proposed material amendments the members of the Regional Assembly shall make the regional spatial and economic strategy with or without the proposed material amendments.

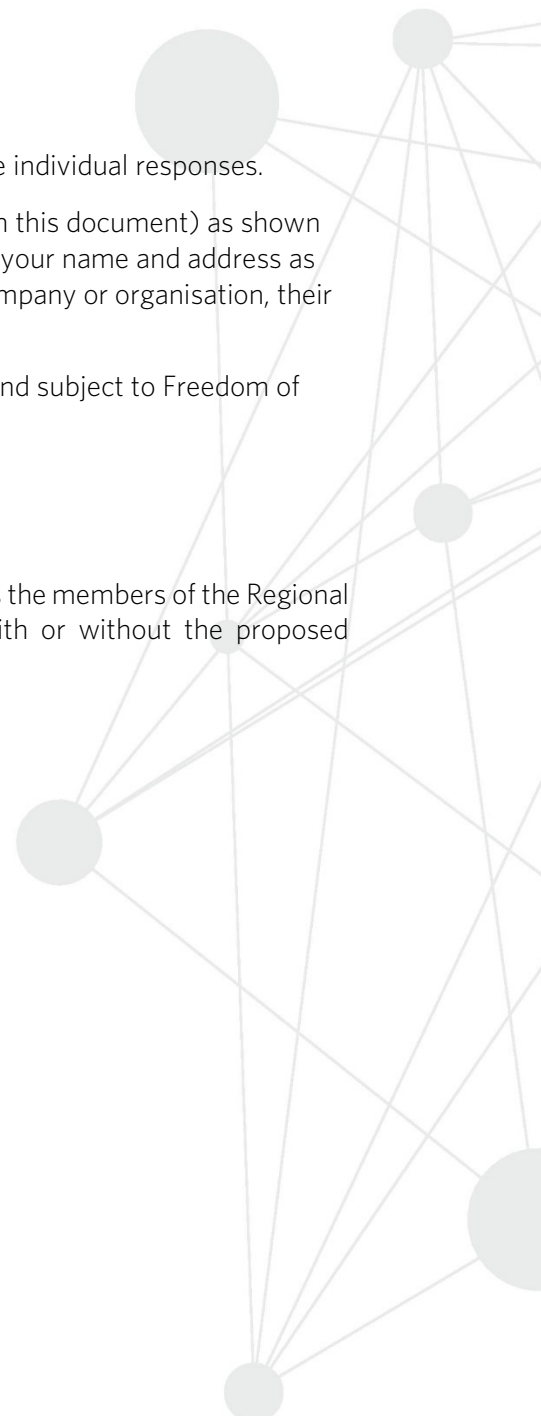


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Table of Amended/New / Omitted Regional Policy Objectives (RPOs)



Chapter 1 Introduction

No material amendments proposed

Chapter 2 Strategic Vision

Regional Strategic Outcomes, amend as follows;

1. **Amend RSO3 Rural Communities**, to read as follows;

- Support sustainable rural development and strengthen rural networks, economies and communities. Manage urban generated growth in areas under strong urban influence and encourage sustainable growth in areas that have experienced decline or stagnation.

2. **Amend RSO 4 Healthy Communities** to read as follows;

- Protect and enhance the quality of our built and natural environment to support active lifestyles including walking and cycling, ensure clean air and water for all and quality healthcare and services that support human health.

3. **Amend RSO 15 Enhance Strategic Connectivity** to read as follows;

- Protect and enhance international connectivity and regional accessibility to support economic development, build economic resilience and support strengthened rural communities and economies including the blue-green economy and tourism.

Chapter 3 Growth Strategy

Section 3.1 Developing a Growth Strategy

4. **Amend Overview of Growth Strategy**, to include additional bullet point;
 - Support the transition to low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable region.
5. **Amend Table 3.1 Asset Based Criteria Approach**. Amend 'Natural Capital' text under 'As expressed in Settlement Strategy' column, to read as follows;
 - Integration of recommendations and proposed mitigation measures, arising from SEA/AA/FRA underpinned by a regional Green Infrastructure and ecosystem services approach.

Section 3.2 Growth Enablers

6. **New Growth Enablers for the Region**, to read as follows;
 1. Promote **global connectivity and regional accessibility** as part of an integrated land use and transport strategy, with a focus on protecting national assets and enhanced inter-regional connectivity
 2. Support the future success of **Dublin as Ireland's leading global city of scale** by better managing strategic assets to increase opportunity and sustain national economic growth and competitiveness
 3. Deliver strategic development areas identified in the Dublin **Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan** (MASP) to ensure a steady supply of serviced development lands to support Dublin's sustainable growth
 4. Facilitate collaboration to support the development of the **Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor**, to drive synergy in the Drogheda-Dundalk-Newry cross border network and strengthen economic links with the South East extending to Rosslare Europort
 5. Target significant growth in the **Regional Growth Centres** of Athlone, Drogheda and Dundalk to enable them to act as regional drivers, with a focus on improving local economies and quality of life to attract investment and the preparation of Urban Area Plans (UAPs).
 6. Promote **compact urban growth** by targeting a greater proportion of future housing development, up to 50% of housing built in Dublin and up to 30% of housing built in other settlements, to be accommodated within and close to the existing built up footprints.
 7. Embed a **network of Key Towns** throughout the Region, which have the capacity to deliver sustainable compact growth and employment for their catchments in tandem with enabling public transport, infrastructure and services.
 8. Promote **balanced growth** in a limited number of economically active settlements which have the identified capacity and potential for moderate growth.
 9. Focus on **consolidation and targeted 'catch up' investment** to support self-sustaining local employment and in services and amenities in places that have experienced rapid commuter driven population growth.
 10. Promote regeneration and revitalisation of **small towns and villages** and support local enterprise and employment opportunities to ensure their viability as service centres for their surrounding rural areas

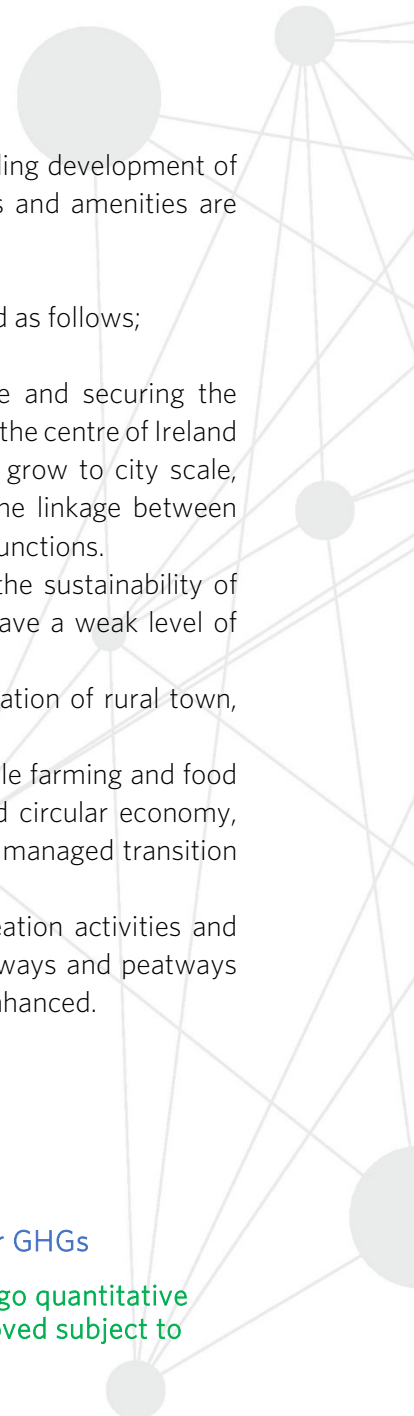
11. Support **rural areas** by harnessing natural resources to develop renewables, recreation and tourism opportunities including green infrastructure planning and the development of an integrated network of greenways, blueways and peatways.

7. **Amend Growth Enablers for Dublin City & Metropolitan Area**, expand enablers to read as follows;

1. To sustainably manage Dublin's growth as critical to Ireland's competitiveness, achieving growth of 1.4 million people in Dublin City and Suburbs and 1.65 million people in the Dublin Metropolitan Area by 2031.
2. To realise ambitious compact growth targets of at least 50% of all new homes to be built, to be within or contiguous to the existing built up area of Dublin and a target of 30% for other metropolitan settlements, with a focus on healthy placemaking and improved quality of life
3. To deliver strategic development areas identified in the MASP, located at key nodes along high-quality public transport corridors in tandem with the delivery of infrastructure and enabling services to ensure a steady supply of serviced sites for housing.
4. To increase employment in strategic locations, with a focus on re-intensification and regeneration of lands within the M50, and providing for people intensive employment at other sustainable locations near high quality public transport nodes, building on commercial and research synergies in proximity to large employers and activating strategic sites to strengthen the local employment base in commuter towns.
5. Enhance co-ordination across Local Authorities and relevant agencies to promote more active land management and achieve compact growth targets through the development of infill, brownfield and public lands, with a focus on social as well as physical regeneration and improved sustainability to include district heating and water conservation.
6. Protect and improve access to the global gateways of Dublin Airport and Dublin Port for the region and to serve the Nation, and safeguard and improve regional accessibility and service by rail, road and communication, with a key focus the Dublin-Belfast Corridor.

8. **Amend Growth Enablers for the Core Region**, expand enablers to read as follows;

1. To promote continued growth at more sustainable rates, while providing for increased employment and improved local economies, services and functions to allow towns become more self-sustaining and to create the quality of life to attract investment.
2. Drogheda to realise its potential to grow to city scale and secure investment to become a self-sustaining Regional Growth Centre on the Dublin-Belfast Corridor, driving synergies between the Drogheda - Dundalk - Newry cross border network.
3. Commensurate population and employment growth in Key towns, coupled with investment in enabling transport, infrastructure and services to facilitate the achievement of compact growth targets of at least 30% of all new homes to be built, within the existing built up area of settlements.
4. 'Catch up' investment to promote consolidation and improvement in the sustainability of those areas that have experienced significant population growth but have a weak level of services and employment for their residents.
5. Diversification and specialisation of local economies with a focus on place making and urban regeneration to create the quality of life to attract FDI and indigenous investment and increase high value knowledge-based employment including second site and relocation opportunities.

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6. Promote the region for tourism, leisure and recreational activities including development of an integrated greenway network while ensuring that high value assets and amenities are protected and enhanced.

9. Amend Growth Enablers for the Gateway Region, expand enablers to read as follows;

1. Support continued growth of Athlone, with a focus on quality of life and securing the investment to fulfil its role as a key regional centre and economic driver in the centre of Ireland
2. Support compact growth in the regional growth centre of Dundalk to grow to city scale, capitalising on its location on the Dublin – Belfast Corridor to drive the linkage between Dundalk and Newry to strengthen cross border synergy in services and functions.
3. 'Catch up' investment to promote consolidation and improvement in the sustainability of those areas that have experienced significant population growth but have a weak level of services and employment for their residents.
4. Regeneration of small towns and villages, with a focus on the identification of rural town, village and rural regeneration priorities to bring vibrancy to these areas.
5. Diversification and specialisation of local economies including sustainable farming and food production, tourism, marine, energy and renewables, bio economy and circular economy, with a focus on publicly owned peatlands in the midlands, to support a managed transition and realise the benefits of green technologies.
6. Promote the region as a key destination for tourism, leisure and recreation activities and support the development of an integrated network of greenways, blueways and peatways while ensuring that high value assets and amenities are protected and enhanced.

Chapter 3 - Regional Policy Objectives (RPOs);

Moved RPO: RPO 3.4 Ecosystems Services Approach move to Chapter 7

10. New Regional Policy Objective Quantitative assessment of proposals for GHGs

Proposals for land use designations and transport infrastructure shall undergo quantitative assessment of their impact on greenhouse gas emissions and shall be approved subject to their consistency with national and regional emissions reductions targets.

Chapter 4 People and Place

Section 4.2 Settlement Strategy

11. Amend Table 4.1, as follows;

New;

- Headings for 'Medium to Large Towns' to read
i) Moderate Growth Towns and ii) Consolidation Towns

Omit;

- Population thresholds for 'small towns and villages' and rural areas.

12. Amend Guiding Principles for Core Strategies. From Chapter 3 - to be relocated in Chapter 4 Expand existing principles no.1-5 and include new principles no. 6-9, to read as follows;

Local Authorities, in developing their Core Strategies and settlement hierarchies will consider the following growth enablers for every part of the Region to meet its potential including;

1. **Economic Growth** – Harness opportunities for economic growth by supporting synergies between talent and place, building on identified assets to strengthen enterprise ecosystems and provide quality jobs. Re-intensify employment within existing urban areas, complemented by strategic employment growth in the right locations and diversification of local and rural economies to better withstand economic shocks and sustain national growth.
2. **Align population, employment and housing growth** – Divergence between the places people live and work leads to long-distance commuting and congestion, which is having a negative impact on quality of life. To address this, promote sustainable growth in the right locations and 'catch up' investment and consolidation in local services, amenities and employment in areas that have experienced large scale commuter driven housing development.
3. **Compact sustainable growth** – Promote compact, sequential and sustainable development of urban areas from large to small to realise targets of at least 50% of all new homes to be built, to be within or contiguous to the existing built up area in Dublin city and suburbs and a target of at least 30% for other urban areas. Support co-ordination across Local Authorities and agencies to promote active land management and better use of under-utilised, brownfield and public lands.
4. **Regeneration and Development** – Identify significant ready-to-go regeneration projects in the existing built areas of our cities, towns, villages as well as rural regeneration opportunities, which could leverage private and public-sector support and investment, including NPF and European funding with a focus on social as well as physical regeneration.
5. **Strategic connectivity**–Protect and enhance global connectivity including the TEN-T network to ensure the best use of existing and planned transport infrastructure, safeguard national assets and improve sustainable mobility. Enhance regional accessibility as part of an integrated land use and transport strategy to enable the development of designated towns on strategic and public transport corridors and in tandem with enabling infrastructure.
6. **Dublin Belfast Corridor** - Safeguard and improve accessibility and service by rail, road and communication between Dublin and Belfast and drive cross border networks between

Drogheda, Dundalk and Newry. Post – Brexit, consideration should be given to a process that can establish protocols for environmental protection and movement of people and goods.

7. **Healthy Placemaking** - To realise sustained economic growth and employment including the integration of better urban design, public realm, amenities and heritage to create attractive places to live, work, visit and invest in. Focus on placemaking to create attractive and sustainable communities to support active lifestyles including walking and cycling.
8. **Climate Action** – to accelerate a transition to a greener, low carbon and climate resilient region with focus on energy transition, carbon sequestration and reduced travel demand through the promotion of sustainable settlement patterns. Support the Climate Action Regional Offices and Local Authorities in their implementation of climate strategies.
9. **Collaboration** – The Assembly will foster collaboration in the allocation of funds to maximise the value for money and delivery of RSES policy and to promote enhanced collaboration between local and regional stakeholders in relation to enterprise and employment, transport, education, retail and service delivery and in the preparation of Local Transport Plans and Urban Area Plans (UAP). There will be a need to co-ordinate the sources of funding of infrastructure, including community facilities that will be located within Joint Urban Plans.

Section 4.3 taking Account of Existing Plans.

13. Amend Section 4.3 to include additional guidance that reads as follows;

Core Strategies should apply prioritisation measures rather than de-zoning of land where a surplus of lands is identified in existing plans with regard to the NPF Implementation Roadmap up to 2031. In preparing Core Strategies account should also be given to the consideration of sequential lands which are suitable for the delivery of housing but may not be forthcoming in the Plan period having regard to 2031 Roadmap targets, subject to proper planning and sustainable development.

14. Amend RPO 4.1 Settlement Strategy

In preparing Core Strategies for development plans, Local Authorities shall determine the hierarchy of settlements in accordance with the hierarchy, Guiding Principles and typology of settlements in the draft RSES, within the population projections set out in the National Planning Framework to ensure that towns grow at a sustainable and appropriate level, by setting out a rationale for land proposed to be zoned for residential, employment and mixed-use development across the Region. **Core Strategies shall also be developed having regard to the infill/brownfield targets set out in National Planning Framework National Policy Objectives 3a-3c.**

15. Amend RPO 4.2 Settlement Strategy

Infrastructure investment and priorities shall be aligned with the spatial planning strategy of the draft RSES. All residential and employment developments should be planned on a phased basis in collaboration with infrastructure providers so as to ensure adequate capacity for services (e.g. water supply, wastewater, transport, broadband) is available **or planned** to match projected demand for services and that the assimilative capacity of the receiving environment is not exceeded.

Section 4.5 Regional Growth Centres

16. Amend Guiding Principles for Athlone Joint Urban Area Plan (UAP). Decouple from RPO 4.4

to include as standalone Guiding Principles, expanded to read as follows;

The RSES envisages a population target of 30,000 is for the entire settlement of Athlone up to 2031. This includes lands within the combined functional area of the two Local Authorities of Westmeath and Roscommon. The preparation and adoption of a Joint Urban Area Plan (UAP) shall be a priority for Westmeath and Roscommon County Council. The joint UAP under agreement of both local authorities is the appropriate mechanism to determine the functional urban area and plan boundary along with the distribution of population which should be generally in proportion to existing population levels in each local authority area. The Joint UAP should also support and provide for the following:

1. A strategic vision for the future development of Athlone as a Regional Growth Centre including the development of critical mass and reflect its role as a regional driver
2. A boundary for the plan area to support the achievement of compact growth targets with a minimum of 30% of new homes to be built within the existing built up area, supported by the large scale delivery of existing Local Area Plan (LAP) lands at Curragh Lissywollen, Cornamagh, Cornamaddy and Monksland / Bellanamullia
3. Preparation of a joint Economic Strategy to promote increased employment and enterprise opportunities in Athlone, and to facilitate enhanced co-ordination between local authorities, enterprise agencies and regional stakeholders to support the phased delivery of serviced employment lands at Garrycastle IDA, Blyry, Creggan and Monksland.
4. The regeneration of underused, vacant or derelict town centre lands and the consolidation of retail and commercial functions in line with a joint Retail Strategy to be prepared by the local authorities.
5. Identify infrastructural investment priorities and promote a joined-up approach to the delivery of key enabling infrastructure to facilitate the sequential delivery of strategic residential, employment and regeneration development areas
6. Support the upgrading of the Water Supply and Treatment System to meet the growth targets set in this strategy.
7. Promote Athlone as a sustainable transport hub, of national and regional importance and support the preparation of a joint Local Transport Plan between Westmeath and Roscommon County Councils in collaboration with transport agencies and key stakeholders to improve sustainable mobility in the town.
8. Support the proposal to make AIT a Technological University and for the development of a 'smart cities' approach to drive research, innovation and EU funding opportunities in Athlone.
9. Support the development of a cross sectoral approach to maximise the tourism potential of the River Shannon and Lough Ree, involving Westmeath, Roscommon and Longford County Council and relevant stakeholders.
10. Support the implementation of the Athlone Waterfront Strategy Support to provide for public realm and amenity enhancements and tourist related developments along the waterfront
11. Support ongoing implementation of flood risk management and flood alleviation measures to facilitate the growth of Athlone subject to the outcome of appropriate environmental assessment and taking account of the proximity of sites of international nature conservation interest
12. Support the development of an Open Space Strategy with provision for a public park in Monksland and the provision of sustainable transport, recreation and amenity spaces to support existing and future populations.

17. Amend RPO 4.4 – Athlone

A cross-boundary Joint Urban Area Plan (UAP) shall be prepared by Westmeath County Council and Roscommon County Council **in collaboration with the two Regional Assemblies** to provide a coordinated planning framework for the future physical, economic and social development of Athlone. **The Joint UAP shall identify Athlone’s functional urban area and adopt a boundary for the plan area in addition to the identification of strategic housing and employment development areas and infrastructure and investment requirements to promote greater co-ordination and sequential delivery of serviced lands for development, in order to realise Athlone’s status as a Regional Growth Centre.**

18. Amend RPO 4.5 – Athlone

Promote Athlone as a key location for regional economic development supporting the provision of increased employment through the expansion of the existing enterprise ecosystem in Athlone and creation or expansion of distinct industrial specialisms that have developed through collaboration with the relevant enterprise agencies including the IDA, Athlone Institute of Technology and the Midlands Innovation and Research Centre and support the provision of physical infrastructure and zoned lands to realise the phased delivery of strategic employment lands in central accessible locations.

19. Amend RPO 4.7 – Athlone

Support the development of a cross sectoral approach to promote Athlone as a key tourism destination in the Midlands, building on Fáilte Ireland’s Hidden Heartlands brand and the forthcoming Shannon Tourism Masterplan to develop the recreation and amenity potential of waterways including the River Shannon and Lough Ree and the development of a greenway network including the Galway to Dublin Cycleway.

20. New RPO – Athlone

Support the regeneration of underused town centre and brownfield / infill lands along with the delivery of existing zoned and serviced lands to facilitate significant population growth and achieve sustainable compact growth target of 30% of all new homes to be built within the existing built up urban area.

21. New RPO – Athlone

Support ongoing implementation of flood risk management and flood alleviation measures to facilitate the growth of Athlone subject to the outcome of appropriate environmental assessment and taking account of the proximity of sites of international nature conservation interest.

22. New RPO – Athlone

Support the development of joint Economic, Transport and Retail plans by Westmeath County Council and Roscommon County Council in collaboration with the relevant agencies to facilitate the growth of Athlone as a regional economic driver and to realise its status as a Regional Growth Centre.

23. Amend RPO 4.8 – Drogheda

A cross-boundary Joint Urban Area Plan (UAP) shall be prepared by Louth County Council and Meath County Council to provide a coordinated planning framework to identify and deliver strategic sites

and regeneration areas for the future physical, economic and social development of Drogheda to ensure it achieves targeted compact brownfield / infill growth of a minimum of 30% and ensure a co-ordinated approach is taken to the future growth and development of the town to ensure that it has the capacity to grow sustainably and secure investment as a Regional Growth Centre on the Dublin – Belfast Corridor. The Joint UAP shall identify a boundary for the plan area and strategic housing and employment development areas and infrastructure investment requirements to promote greater co-ordination and sequential delivery of serviced lands for development. Future development required to achieve the growth vision for Drogheda included in the Joint UAP shall:

- i. Provide for the sustainable, compact, sequential growth and urban regeneration in the town core by promoting the regeneration of underused, vacant or derelict town centre lands for residential development to facilitate population growth.
- ii. Support the regeneration of the Westgate area of Drogheda's historic town centre to address vacancy and dereliction in the town core and as an alternative to new development on green field sites.
- iii. Facilitate the regeneration of lands at McBride Station and environs as an employment hub to capitalise on existing and planned public transport infrastructure, including the DART Expansion Programme whilst avoiding development that detracts from the town centre.
- iv. Provide for redevelopment or renewal of obsolete areas on lands at Mell / North Road.
- v. Support the sustainable development of existing zoned lands in the Southern Environs of the town with a particular emphasis on the promotion of the IDA Business Park as an employment hub and the creation of compact, residential communities in key locations in proximity to established residential areas and transport hubs
- vi. Support the implementation of the Urban Design Framework Plan for the Heritage Quarter.

24. New RPO – Drogheda

Enhance Drogheda's role as a strategic employment centre on the Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor and provide for employment opportunities through identification of suitable sites for new industry including FDI.

25. Amend RPO 4.15 – Dundalk

An Urban Area Plan (UAP) shall be prepared by Louth County Council for Dundalk to provide a coordinated planning framework to identify and deliver strategic sites and regeneration areas for the future physical, economic and social development of the town to ensure targeted compact growth of a minimum of 30% is achieved. The UAP shall facilitate the sustainable, compact, sequential growth and urban regeneration in the town core by consolidating the built footprint of Dundalk through regeneration of the town centre Core Character Area with a focus on rejuvenation of Clanbrassil Street / St. Nicholas Quarter and development of key town centre infill / brownfield sites in this area. A significant proportion of future urban development shall be accommodated on infill/brownfield sites by encouraging development, including renewal and regeneration of underused, vacant or derelict town centre lands for residential development to facilitate population growth. The UAP shall:

- i. Support development on key town centre infill/brownfield sites include Long Walk Shopping Centre, Carroll's Village Shopping Centre, Williamson's Mall, and Dunne's Park Street
- ii. Improve accessibility and sustainable mobility in the town centre by enhancing modal choice through integration of rail, bus and taxi services
- iii. Promote the Seatown / Port Harbour Area for regeneration and repurpose of a water based urban quarter
- iv. Facilitate Urban Expansion through development of the Mount Avenue masterplan lands.
- v. Support the implementation of the Dundalk Urban Design Framework Plan (2008) or any update thereof.

Section 4.6 Key Towns

26. Amend RPO 4.24 – Swords

Support the continued development of Swords as a vibrant Key Town with a thriving economy; an integrated public transport network; an attractive and highly accessible built environment with the highest standards of housing, employment, services, recreational amenities and community facilities.

27. Amend RPO 4.25- Swords

Support the regeneration of underused town centre lands along with the planned and sequential infill opportunities to provide for high density and people intensive uses in accessible locations that are accessible to high quality transport, existing and planned, and to support the preparation of a Local Area Plan for the strategic landbank at Lissenhall for the longer-term development of Swords.

28. Amend RPO 4.26 – Swords

Facilitate the strategic regeneration of Swords to build on the resilience of the local economy and provide for an enhanced urban environment with a particular focus on the development of Swords Civic Centre and Cultural Centre, the delivery of the conservation plan for Swords Castle, and the delivery of an enhanced public realm in the town centre and to promote recreational and amenity uses in accordance with a healthy placemaking strategy.

29. New RPO – Swords

Support Swords-Dublin Airport as a key location for airport related economic development and employment provision linked to the protection and enhancement of access to Dublin Airport lands including the delivery of Metrolink.

30. New RPO – Swords

Encourage transition towards sustainable and low carbon transport modes in Swords through the provision of high quality walking and cycling permeability offering direct routes to local destination and public transportation hubs.

31. Amend RPO 4.27 – Maynooth

Support the continued development of Maynooth, co-ordinated with the delivery of strategic infrastructure including pedestrian and cycle linkages within the town and to the Royal Canal Greenway, DART expansion and road linkages forming part of the Maynooth Outer Orbital Route in a manner which supports future development and population growth and builds on synergies with Maynooth University promoting a knowledge-based economy.

32. New RPO – Maynooth

Support Maynooth as a key town to act as an economic driver for north Kildare and provide for strategic employment at key locations to improve the economic base of the town and provide for an increased number of local jobs.

33. New RPO – Maynooth

A cross boundary Joint Local Area Plan (LAP) shall be prepared by Kildare County Council and Meath County Council to provide a co-ordinated planning framework for the Maynooth area. The Joint LAP shall identify a boundary for the plan area, strategic housing and employment development areas and infrastructure investment requirements and promote greater co-ordination and sequential delivery of serviced lands for development.

34. New RPO – Maynooth

To promote the consolidation of the town centre with a focus on the regeneration of underused buildings and strategic sites and the establishment of residential uses to encourage greater vibrancy outside of business hours and the enhancement of the public realm.

35. Amend RPO 4.28 – Bray

Support the continued development of Bray including the enhancement of town centre functions, development of major schemes at the former Bray golf course and Bray harbour along with increased employment opportunities and co-ordination between Wicklow County Council and transport agencies to facilitate the delivery of key infrastructure required for the westward extension of the town, including Bray-Fassaroe public transport links.

36. New RPO – Bray

Support the development of Bray as a strategic employment location with a particular focus on attracting high value investment in ‘people’ based industries at accessible locations, in order to increase the number of local jobs.

37. New RPO – Bray

To promote the consolidation of the town centre with a focus on placemaking and the regeneration of strategic sites to provide for enhanced town centre functions and public realm, in order to increase Bray’s attractiveness as a place to live, work, visit and invest in.

38. New RPO – Bray

To support ongoing investment in public transport infrastructure, including the appraisal, planning and design of the LUAS extension to Bray, to ensure its continued renewal, maintenance and improvement to a high level to ensure high quality of frequency, safety, service, accessibility and connectivity. The development of Bray-Fassaroe should be undertaken in collaboration between Wicklow County Council and the transport agencies to ensure the delivery of enabling transportation infrastructure.

39. New RPO – Bray

Encourage transition towards sustainable and low carbon transport modes through the promotion of alternative modes of transport and ‘walkable communities’ whereby a range of facilities and services will be accessible within short walking or cycling distance.

40. Amend RPO 4.29 – Navan

Support the delivery of a network of distributor roads and bridges to release strategic residential and employment lands for development and improve connectivity and the efficient movement of people and services in the town.

41. New RPO – Navan



Support the development of strategic employment lands on the Trim Rd in Navan.

42. Amend RPO 4.34 – Naas

Support the development of the Grand Canal for amenity, recreation and sustainable transport purposes including the Naas to Sallins and Naas to Corbally harbour greenways and linking these to the national Grand Canal Greenway.

43. New RPO – Naas

Regeneration and consolidation of the historic centre to improve the retail and commercial functions of the town core, with enhanced permeability and sustainable mobility within the town centre and improve links between the core and surrounding residential and employment areas through the further development of walking and cycling routes and improved public transport.

44. New RPO – Naas

Strengthen the local employment base through the development of MERITS, Millennium Park in the North West Quadrant and the regeneration of underutilised lands including industrial lands in the north east of the town.

45. New RPO – Naas

Support the delivery of a dedicated public transport interchange in Naas with associated Park and Ride.

46. New RPO – Naas

Support an enhanced role and function of Naas as the County town of Kildare, particularly as a hub for high quality employment, residential and amenities.

47. Amend RPO 4.36 – Wicklow-Rathnew

Support Wickow-Rathnew's role in the provision of third level education at the Wicklow County Campus Rathnew (in association with Institute of Technology Carlow) and in particular, to support the development of the campus as a hub for the Film Industry and Screen Content Creation Sector.

48. New RPO – Wicklow-Rathnew

To support ongoing investment in rail infrastructure to ensure its continued renewal, maintenance and improvement to a high level to ensure high quality of frequency, safety, service, accessibility and connectivity.

49. New RPO – Longford

Support the plan-led development and regeneration of publicly owned land banks in the town for residential, employment, education, community, cultural and recreational opportunities and the consolidation of the town centre and the enhancement and linking of Brownfield and outlying sites to the town centre, with a focus on the regeneration of underused buildings and strategic site.

50. New RPO – Longford

Support Longford Town as a strategic portal to the northwest and south in recognition of its location at the junction of the N55; 'M4 /N4 Dublin/Sligo' and N5; and due to its proximity to the regional growth centre of Athlone.

51. New RPO – Longford

To ensure that the future strategic development of Longford takes account of the close proximity of sites of international nature conservation interest.

52. Amend RPO 4.44 – Mullingar

Promote the plan led development and regeneration of publicly owned land banks in the town for employment, education, community, cultural and recreational opportunities and to support the economic development and regeneration of the town centre.

53. Amend RPO 4.45 - Mullingar

Support the development and expansion of the Midlands Regional Hospital including any necessary supporting infrastructure.

54. New RPO - Mullingar

Support Mullingar's role as an important employment hub by promoting economic development and clustering of related enterprises.

55. New RPO – Mullingar

To ensure that the future strategic development of Mullingar takes account of the close proximity of sites of international nature conservation interest.

56. Amend RPO 4.46 – Tullamore

Support Tullamore's role as a tourism hub and development as a Tourism Destination Town having particular regard to its distilling heritage and industry, accessibility to key tourist destinations including proximity and accessibility to key tourist destinations, natural amenities and recreational opportunities including the Grand Canal Greenways and , Lough Boora Discovery Park, Slieve Bloom Mountains. Also to support Tullamore as a hub for the 'Midlands Cycle destination – Offaly'. Further, to recognise Tullamore's potential as a conferencing and event hub, given the town's central location, accessibility and experience.

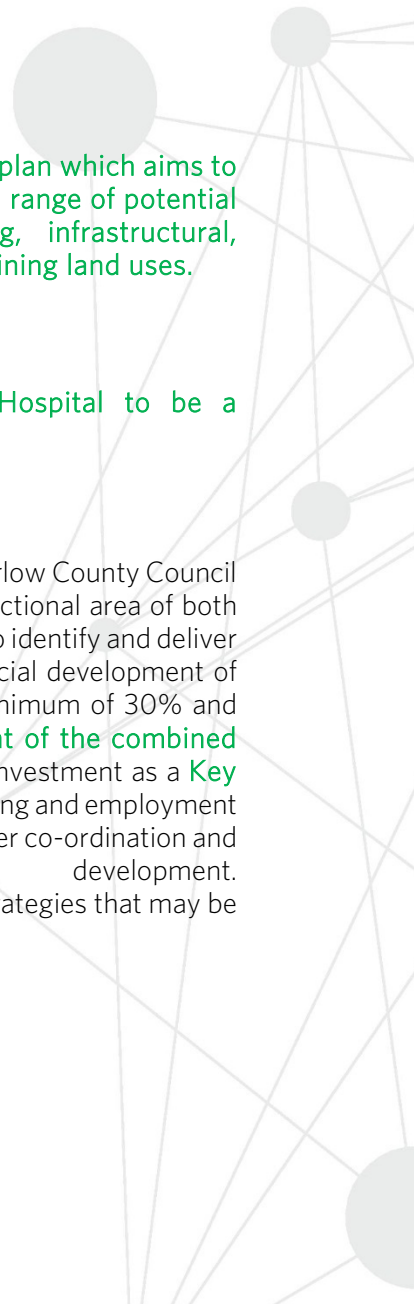
57. New RPO – Tullamore

Support the role of Tullamore as a major employment centre with key assets being its existing positive jobs to resident employees ratio, excellent quality of life and future strategic development sites. Also to support infrastructural development to facilitate this role.

58. New RPO – Tullamore

To support the examination of a University in the Midlands and in particular Tullamore's and Co. Offaly's role in its provision.

59. New RPO – Portlaoise



Support the vision and objectives of the J17 National Enterprise Park Masterplan which aims to deliver a viable economic zone within Portlaoise which will accommodate a range of potential businesses and industries whilst having regard to spatial planning, infrastructural, environmental and transportation requirements and compatibility with adjoining land uses.

60. New RPO – Portlaoise

Support the development and expansion of the Midlands Regional Hospital to be a centre of excellence for Portlaoise and its catchment area.

61. Amend RPO 4.49 – Graiguecullen-Carlow

A cross-boundary Joint Local Area Plan (LAP) shall be prepared for Carlow by Carlow County Council and Laois County Council having regard to its location within the combined functional area of both local authorities. The Joint UAP shall provide a coordinated planning framework to identify and deliver strategic sites and regeneration areas for the future physical, economic and social development of Carlow/**Craiguecullen** to ensure it achieves targeted compact growth of a minimum of 30% and ensure a co-ordinated approach is taken to the future growth and **development of the combined urban area** to ensure that it has the capacity to grow sustainably and secure investment as a **Key Town**. The Joint LAP shall identify a boundary for the plan area and strategic housing and employment development areas and infrastructure investment requirements to promote greater co-ordination and sequential delivery of serviced lands for development. Regard shall be had to the respective housing, retail and other Local Authority strategies that may be in place.

62. New RPO – Graiguecullen-Carlow

Support development of underused lands along the River Barrow.

Section 4.8 Rural Areas

63. Amend RPO 4.50 – Rural Areas

In Development Plan policy Local Authorities shall prioritise the regeneration of rural towns and villages through identification of significant regeneration projects for rural villages and rural areas which could harness untapped assets with community and wider private and public sector support and investment including the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund.

64. Amend RPO 4.51 – Rural Areas

Development Plans should support the development of a “New Homes in Small Towns and Villages” initiative which would augment the delivery of actions by Local Authorities, Irish Water, communities and other stakeholders in the provision of services and serviced sites to create “build your own home” opportunities within the existing footprint of rural settlements to provide new homes to meet housing demand.

65. Amend RPO 4.52 – Rural areas

Local Authorities shall identify and provide policies to support and protect existing rural economies such as valuable agricultural lands to ensure sustainable food supply, and to protect the value and character of the open countryside **and to support the diversification of rural economies to create**

additional jobs and maximise opportunities in emerging sectors, such as agri-business, energy, tourism, forestry enterprise.

66. New RPO – Rural Areas

Support the consolidation of the town and village network to ensure that development proceeds sustainably and at an appropriate scale, level and pace in line with the Core Strategies of the County Development Plans.

67. New RPO – Rural Areas

Support the rural economy and initiatives in relation to diversification, agri business, rural tourism and renewable energy so as to sustain the employment opportunities in rural areas.



Chapter 5 Dublin MASP

Section 5.3 Guiding Principles for the growth of the Dublin Metropolitan Area

68. Amend Guiding Principles. Further summarised to read as follows:

1. **Dublin as a Global Gateway** – In recognition of the international role of Dublin, to support and facilitate the continued growth of Dublin Airport and Dublin Port, to protect and improve existing access and support related access improvements.
2. **Compact sustainable growth with accelerated housing delivery** – To promote sustainable consolidated growth of the Metropolitan Area, including brownfield and infill development, to achieve a target to 50% of all new homes within or contiguous to the built-up area in Dublin, and at least 30% in other settlements. To support a steady supply of sites to accelerate housing supply and to achieve higher densities in urban built up areas, supported by improved services and public transport.
3. **Integrated Transport and Land use** – To focus growth along existing and proposed high quality public transport corridors and nodes on the expanding public transport network and to support the delivery and integration of 'BusConnects', DART expansion and LUAS extension programmes, and Metro Link, while maintaining the capacity and safety of strategic transport networks.
4. **Increased employment density in the right places** – To plan for increased employment densities within Dublin city and suburbs and at other sustainable locations near high quality public transport nodes, near third level institutes and existing employment hubs, and to relocate less intensive employment uses outside the M50 ring and existing built-up areas.
5. **Alignment of growth with enabling infrastructure** – To promote quality infrastructure provision and capacity improvement, in tandem with new development and aligned with national projects and improvements in water and waste water, sustainable energy, waste management and resource efficiency, including district heating and water conservation measures.
6. **Social Regeneration** – To realise opportunities for social as well as physical regeneration, particularly in those areas of the metropolitan area which have been identified as having high relative deprivation
7. **Identify Future Development Areas** – To identify future development area that may be delivered beyond the lifetime of the draft RSES, but within the longer-term 2040 horizon set out by the NPF.
8. **Metropolitan Scale Amenities** – To enhance provision of regional parks and strategic Green Infrastructure to develop an integrated network of metropolitan scale amenities, and to develop greenways/blueways along the canals, rivers and coast as part of the implementation of the National Transport Authorities' Cycle Network Plan for the Greater Dublin Area.
9. **Co-ordination and active land management** – To enhance co-ordination across Local Authorities and relevant agencies to promote more active urban development and land management policies that help develop underutilised, brownfield, vacant and public lands.

Section 5.6 Integrated Land use and Transportation

69. Amend Rail projects, to include new amendments to DART, LUAS and Metrolink projects (See also proposed amendment no.74 and 108) List of rail projects to read as follows;

- DART Expansion Programme - new infrastructure and electrification of existing lines, including provision of electrified services to Drogheda and further north on the Northern Line, Celbridge-Hazelhatch or further south on the Kildare Line, Maynooth and M3 Parkway on the Maynooth/Sligo Line, while continuing to provide DART services on the South-Eastern Line as far south as Greystones
- New stations to provide interchanges with bus, LUAS and Metro network including at Kishoge, Heuston West, Cabra, Glasnevin, Pelletstown and Woodbrook
- Implement the extension of the Dunboyne/M3 Parkway line to Navan during the Mid Term Review of the GDA Transport Strategy
- Complete construction of Metrolink from Swords to Sandymount, including underground extensions to UCD and Knocklyon from Charlemont.
- LUAS Green Line Capacity Enhancement in advance of Metrolink; and
- Appraisal, planning and design of LUAS network expansion to Bray, Finglas, Lucan, Poolbeg, Hazelhatch, Booterstown and Blessington.
- In principle there is a need to carry out an evaluation of underground metro routes within the M50

70. Amend Road Projects, to reflect national road projects. List to read as follows;

- M4 Maynooth to Leixlip
- M11 from Jn 4 M50 to Kilmacanogue
- N3 Clonee to M50
- N81 Tallaght to Hollywood

Omit;

- Dublin Port Southern Access Route

71. Amend Park and Ride. To be renamed;

'New and Enhanced Park and Ride';

Table 5.1 Strategic Development Corridors, Capacity Infrastructure and Phasing

72. Amend Table 5.1 Phasing/Enabling Infrastructure for MASP as follows;

City Centre within the M50

- City Centre: Short to Medium term; No requirement for infrastructure, Long term; capacity supported by DART Underground
- Naas Road/Ballymount (significant brownfield lands in South Dublin and Dublin City Council areas, with potential for residential development and more intensive employment/mixed uses) Medium to Long Term; include new Luas stop

North-South DART Corridor

- Bray Fassaroe*: Short-medium term; High capacity bus between Bray and Fassaroe

North-West Corridor

- Dublin 15 lands**: Short term; Improved Bus connections to Dublin Enterprise Zone

- Maynooth; Short to medium term; DART expansion, road upgrades, bridge, sewer connection and Maynooth Outer Orbital Route.
- Dunboyne; Amend to “Sequential development prioritising zoned and serviced lands near the railway station and town centre and at Dunboyne North at M3 Parkway station”

Metrolink/LUAS Green line

- DunLaoghaire Rathdown; Short to medium term- Omit Metrolink
- Swords-Lissenhall;** Medium to Long Term; Improved bus connections

*Development at Fassaroe will be undertaken in collaboration between Wicklow County Council and transport agencies

**Dublin Enterprise Zone and Lissenhall are not directly served by existing or planned rail and will require improve bus connections and demand management measures

73. Amend Core Strategy, to include additional guidance that reads as follows;

The determination of population targets for local authorities within the MASP including the population targets for the city and the Metropolitan Key towns is a matter for the agreement in consultation with the MASP Implementation Group after the adoption of the RSES to inform the preparation of core strategies of the relevant city and county development plans.

Section 5.7 Housing Delivery

74. Amend RPO 5.4 – Housing and Regeneration

Future development of strategic residential development areas within the Dublin Metropolitan area shall provide for higher densities and qualitative standards as set out in the ‘Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas’[1], ‘Sustainable Urban Housing; Design Standards for New Apartments’ Guidelines[2], and ‘Urban Development and Building Heights Guidelines for Planning Authorities’.

75. Amend RPO 5.5 – Housing and Regeneration

Future residential development in the Dublin Metropolitan Area shall follow a clear sequential approach, with a primary focus on the consolidation of Dublin and suburbs, *and* the development of Key Metropolitan Towns as set out in the Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP) and in line with the overall Settlement Strategy for the RSES. Identification of suitable residential development sites shall be supported by a quality site selection process that addresses environmental concerns.

Section 5.8 Employment generation

76. New Guiding Principles for the location of strategic employment. Include a high-level summary of Section 6.3 Guiding Principles, to read as follows:

The Economic Strategy sets out Guiding Principles for the location of strategic employment areas that include access to;

- **suitable locations** (depending on the extent to which an enterprise is people or space intensive);

- **serviced sites** (based on whether an industry is dependent on a particular infrastructure such as energy, water, transport or communications networks);
- **connectivity** (including access to international markets that requires proximity to an airport/port);
- **skilled labour force** (proximity to third level education and lifelong learning) and
- **local strengths** (a diverse sectoral mix, emerging clusters or cross industry value chains),

See Section 6.3 for full list of Guiding Principles.”

77. Amend Table 5.2 Strategic employment development areas, to include UCD & Knocklyon (see also proposed amendment no.68 and 108) as follows:

- Metrolink/LUAS Greenline; South County Dublin (Cherrywood, Ballyogan, Sandyford, UCD & Knocklyon)

Chapter 5 - Regional Policy Objectives (RPOs); Amended RPOs

78. Amend RPO 5.7- Green infrastructure

Coordinate across Local Authority boundaries to identify manage, develop **and protect** regional green infrastructure to enhance strategic connections and develop a **Green Infrastructure** policy in the Dublin Metropolitan Area.

Chapter 6 Economy and Employment

Section 6.3 Economic Strategy

79. Amend RPO 6.1 – Competitive and Resilient Economic Base

Support the national economic agencies, Local Enterprises Offices, **Regional Enterprise Plan Steering Committees, Local Authorities and other relevant stakeholders, with their plans for job creation and enterprise development** with an emphasis on:

- a) an enterprise base with increased productivity and more diversification –including diversification of their markets - with high levels of innovation, skills adaptability, and relatively low costs of doing businesses
- b) maintaining full-employment with unemployment rates of each Strategic Planning Area not exceeding the State average by more than one percentage point
- c) applying the Guiding Principles for strategic employment and investment prioritisation in placemaking for enterprise development presented in this draft RSES.

Section 6.4 Economic Engines

80. Amend RPO 6.8 – Rural Economy

Support Local Authorities to develop sustainable and economically efficient rural economies through initiatives to enhance sectors such as agricultural and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy, **tourism, quarrying and mining** and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities, while at the same time noting the importance of maintaining and protecting the natural landscape and built heritage.

81. New RPO – Regional Enterprise Strategies

The Regional Assembly supports the Regional Enterprise Strategies to focus on;

- Position and support the growth of the Midlands as an advanced manufacturing centre of excellence.
- Leverage opportunities in big data and data analytics from iLOFAR.
- Ensure that the Midlands is well positioned to address the challenges posed by the transition to a low carbon economy and renewable energy Increase enterprise engagement in innovation, research and development to ensure Dublin's continued competitiveness and productivity.
- Build a pipeline of sustainable and scalable start-ups in Dublin and provide quality support
- Develop the Mid-East as a hub for the Screen Content Creation Sector
- Build an ecosystem framework to support the Agri-food sector in the Mid-East
- Develop a network of innovative co-working spaces in the region to mitigate long commuting times, promote remote working opportunities and life-style benefits.

82. New RPO – Rural Economy

To support the sustainable development of tourism in the Midlands in line with the strategic objectives of both the Ireland's Ancient East and Ireland's Hidden Heartlands experience brand propositions.

Section 6.5 Specific Sectors

83. Amend RPO 6.15 – Access to natural assets

Support working with relevant landowners and recreational/ tourism agencies to increase access to the countryside and coastal areas to ensure maintenance of the existing network **and to seek to develop and add to the offer where appropriate.**

84. Amend RPO 6.16 – Natural and Cultural Tourism Assets

Support the maintenance of, and enhanced access to state lands such as National Parks, Forest Parks, Waterways, etc., **together with Monuments and Historic Properties**, for recreation and tourism purposes. **Access should be planned and managed in a manner that protects environmental sensitivities, ecological corridors, and the ability of local infrastructure to support increased tourism.**

85. Amend RPO 6.18 – Tourism

EMRA will work with Local Authorities and Fáilte Ireland to identify a network of destination towns within the Region for the prioritisation of investment and supports to drive tourism growth in the Region, **to spread the benefit of tourism throughout the region and to encourage the increase of tourism product development.**

86. New RPO – Tourism

Support the local strategies which are already in place to link the River Shannon Blueway, the Royal and Grand Canal Greenways and the proposed Barrow Blueway right across the Midlands, incorporating the towns of Longford, Athlone, Mullingar, Tullamore and Portarlington.

87. New RPO – Tourism

Support Offaly County Council, Bord na Mona and Coillte in the development of the 'Midlands Cycling Destination – Offaly'.

88. New RPO – Agriculture

Support the Departments of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, and Communications Climate Action and Environment to enhance the competitiveness of the agriculture sector with an urgent need for mitigation as well as adaptation measures.

Section 6.6 Drivers for growth

89. New RPO -Skills and Innovation

Support community and adult education providers who are already providing formal and non-formal education to targeted disadvantaged groups and who have already identified the barriers to participation in lifelong learning, such as childcare, transport and rural isolation to increase participation rates and support progression into further education and employment.

90. New RPO – Social Enterprise

Support Local Authorities in the design, development and roll-out of social enterprise practices, with a strong emphasis on collaboration.

Section 6.7 Capacity Building

91. Amend RPO 6.32 – Anticipating Economic Structural Changes

Support enterprise agencies, RAPJs, LECs, Regional Skill fora and local stakeholders on their introduction of contingency plans and pilot projects based on the strengths of the Region to counteract the effects from industrial decline and potential external shocks in the Region. This may include lifelong learning programmes, appropriate business supports and upskilling to facilitate moving to alternative sectors in the locality or region, **include reference and support for the Bord na Mona Regional Transition Team.**



Chapter 7 Environment and Climate

Section 7.2 Integrated Land and Marine Planning

92. Amend RPO 7.5 – Fisheries and aquaculture

EMRA shall work with coastal stakeholders to support the sustainable development of the national Fishery Harbour Centre in Howth and the sustainable growth of the seafood **and on-shore aquaculture** sector in the Region, **and** to ensure that marine resources are sustainably managed and that planned activities on land do not adversely affect the marine economy and environment.

Section 7.3 A Clean and Healthy Environment

93. Amend RPO 7.10 – Water Quality

Support the implementation of the Water Framework Directive in achieving and maintaining at least good environmental status for all water bodies in the Region and to ensure alignment between the core objectives of the Water Framework Directive and other relevant Directives, River Basin Management plans and Local Authority **land use** Plans.

94. Amend RPO 7.11 – Water Quality

For water bodies with 'high ecological status' objectives in the Region, Local Authorities shall incorporate measures for both their continued protection and to restore those water bodies that have fallen below high ecological status and are 'At Risk' into the development of local planning policy and decision making any measures for the continued protection of areas with high ecological status in the Region and for mitigation of threats to water bodies identified as 'At Risk' as part of a catchment-based approach in consultation with the relevant agencies. This shall include recognition of the need to deliver efficient wastewater facilities with sufficient capacity and thus contribute to improved water quality in the Region.

Section 7.5 Biodiversity and Natural Heritage

95. Amend RPO 7.18 – Biodiversity and Natural Heritage

Work with local authorities and state agencies to promote the development of **all aspects of park management** in the Wicklow National Park **and the Slieve Bloom Mountains**.

96. Amend RPO 7.20 – Biodiversity and Natural Heritage

Promote the development of improved visitor experiences, nature conservation and sustainable development activities within the Dublin Bay Biosphere **in cooperation with the Dublin Bay UNESCO Biosphere Partnership**.

Section 7.6 Green and Blue Infrastructure

97. Amend Table 7.1 Strategic Natural, Cultural and Heritage Assets to include additional assets under the following headings;

- **Maritime towns and beaches** - Wicklow town
- **Lakes, Rivers and Canals** - Lough Tay – Lough Dan on the Cloghoge River, Vartry Reservoir, River Slaney and tributary Derry River.

- **Greenways / Blueways:** Liffey Valley, Dodder, Lakelands Greenway, Newgrange to Newbridge Greenway, Blessington Greenway, Coastal Greenway from Wicklow to Greystones, Arklow – Shillelagh recreational trail. Refer to the Green & Silver triangular navigation route encompassing Dublin, Royal Canal, River Shannon and Grand Canal.
- **Bogs and peatlands;** Abbeyleix Bog
- **National and Regional parks;** Avondale and Kilmacurragh. Lough Ree and Mid-Shannon Wilderness Park and Lanesborough Commons North Park, Curragh Plains
- **Medieval, Historic and Walled towns;** Kildare, Naas
- **Heritage sites;** Curragh Plains, Balltinglass Hilfort Structure.

98. Amend Guiding Principles for Green Infrastructure to include additional bullet point as follows;

- **Carbon Sequestration** - Local Authorities should consider the potential for carbon sequestration in GI Strategies, whereby certain areas can be considered as strategic and integral mechanism for the long-term storage of carbon to mitigate the contribution of fossil fuels emissions and combat climate change.

99. New RPO – to develop guidance for riparian setbacks

Develop guidance for assessment of proposed land zonings in order to achieve appropriate riparian setback distances that support the attainment of high ecological status for water bodies, the conservation of biodiversity and good ecosystem health, and buffer zones from flood plains.

100. Amend RPO 7.23 – Greenways, Blueways and Peatways

Promote the development of a sustainable Strategic Greenway Network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and/or linked with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure, **notwithstanding that capacity of a greenway is limited to what is ecologically sustainable.**

Section 7.7 Landscape

101. Amend RPO 7.27 – Landscape

Support collaboration between Local Authorities, **the Transition Team and** relevant stakeholders and the development of partnership approaches to integrated peatland management that incorporate any relevant policies and strategies such as the Bord na Mona Biodiversity Plan 2016-2021 and the national Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Plans. This shall include support for the rehabilitation and/or re-wetting of suitable peatland habitats.

Section 7.8 Climate Change

102. Omit RPO 7.29– Climate Change

~~Within one year of the publication of the RSES, the Climate Action Regional Office's shall compile a greenhouse gas emissions inventory for the Region to allow for planning of strategic mitigation action~~

through a Regional Decarbonisation Plan. The Climate Action Regional Office's shall track the success of the Plan through annual inventories completed each year. Annual reporting of the inventories and critical analysis of the proposed measures will be undertaken to track progress within the Region and to track progress with national targets on a regional basis.

103. Amend RPO 7.30 – Climate Change

On publication of the first regional emission inventory, the EMRA in conjunction with appropriate stakeholders shall identify the sectoral emissions and assign a series of sectoral emissions reductions targets for each sector within the Regional Decarbonisation Plan. These emissions reductions targets will be based on an aggregate 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 in line with the EU 2030 Framework.

104. Amend RPO 7.31 - Climate change

With the assistance and support of the Climate Action Regional Offices, Local Authorities shall develop, adopt and implement local climate **adaptation and mitigation** strategies which **shall address issues including** local vulnerability to climate risks **and identify and prioritise actions**, in accordance with the Guiding Principles of the National Adaptation Framework, **National Mitigation Plan**.

105. Amend RPO 7.32 – Climate change

Climate regional action offices shall provide support to the Local Authorities on the development, adoption and implementation of local climate action strategies (**which can address** both **adaptation and mitigation**). **Ongoing support should relate to** the specific actions, and obligations and timescales for same that must be undertaken by the Local Authorities **in accordance with local climate change adaptation strategies and compliance with** national policy.

106. Amend RPO 7.34 –Decarbonising Electricity Generation

EMRA shall, in conjunction with Local Authorities in the Region, identify Strategic Energy Zones as areas suitable for larger energy generating projects, the role of community and micro energy production in urban and rural settings and the potential for renewable energy within industrial areas. The Strategic Energy Zones for the Region will ensure all environmental constraints are addressed in the analysis. A regional landscape strategy **should** be developed to support delivery of projects within the Strategic Energy Zones.

107. New RPO – identification of projected climate impact areas

That the RSES prepare policies/ objectives that anticipate the identification of "Projected Climate Impact Areas".

Chapter 8 Connectivity

Section 8.3 Framework for Integration of Transport planning with Spatial Planning

108. Amend Section 8.3 Guiding Principles for Integration of Land Use and Transport, as follows;

New; Include reference to DMURS

Amend second bullet point as follows;

- The predicted impact of the potential land use and transport infrastructure on modal split and transport greenhouse gas emissions should be assessed to deliver on national and regional targets using the assessment approaches identified or developed in accordance with RPO 7.28.

Omit the following Guiding Principles:

- 'support reverse commuting for those living in urban centres and commuting to work elsewhere'
- 'The predicted impact of the potential land use and transport infrastructure on modal split and transport greenhouse gas emissions should be assessed to deliver on national and regional targets'

109. Amend RPO 8.1 - Integrated Transport and Land use

The integration of transport and land use planning in the Region shall be **consistent with** the Guiding Principles expressed in the transport strategy of the draft RSES.

110. Amend RPO 8.4 – Integrated Transport and Land use

Land use plans within the GDA shall demonstrate a consistency with the NTA's Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area and plans **with or** outside of the GDA shall be **consistent with** the Guiding Principles expressed in the draft RSES.

111. New RPO – Mobility management and travel plans

To promote the use of mobility management and travel plans to bring about behaviour change and more sustainable transport use.

112. New RPO – Regional strategy for freight transport

To prepare a regional strategy for freight transport in collaboration with the relevant transport agencies and the other Assemblies.

Section 8.4 Transport Investment Priorities

113. Amend Table 8.2 Rail Projects for the Region. to include new amendments to DART, LUAS and Metrolink projects (See also proposed amendment no.68 and 74) List of rail projects to read as follows;

- DART Expansion Programme - new infrastructure and electrification of existing lines, including provision of electrified services to Drogheda and further north on the Northern

Line, Celbridge-Hazelhatch or further south on the Kildare Line, Maynooth and M3 Parkway on the Maynooth/Sligo Line, while continuing to provide DART services on the South-Eastern Line as far south as Greystones

- Provide for an appropriate level of commuter rail service in the Midlands and South-East
- Complete the construction of the National Train Control Centre
- New stations to provide interchange with bus, LUAS and Metro network at including Kishoge, Heuston West, Cabra, Glasnevin, Pelletstown and Woodbrook
- A feasibility study of high-speed rail between Dublin Belfast, Dublin Limerick Junction/Cork will be carried out
- Implement the extension of the Dunboyne/M3 Parkway line to Navan during the Mid Term Review of the GDA Transport Strategy
- Complete construction of Metrolink from Swords to Sandyford, including underground extensions to UCD and Knocklyon from Charlemont.
- LUAS Green Line Capacity Enhancement in advance of Metrolink
- Undertake appraisal, planning and design of LUAS network expansion to Bray, Finglas, Lucan, Poolbeg, Hazelhatch, Booterstown and Blessington.
- In principle there is a need to carry out an evaluation of underground metro routes within the M50

114. Amend Table 8.4 Road Projects for the Region, to reflect national projects. List of road projects to read as follows;

- M7 Naas to Newbridge bypass widening, Osberstown Interchange and Sallins Bypass
- N2 Slane Bypass
- N2 Rath Roundabout to Kilmoon Cross
- N2 Ardee to south of Castleblaney
- M4 Maynooth to Leixlip
- N4 Mullingar to Longford (and Sligo)
- M11 from Jn 4 M50 to Kilmacanogue
- N3 Clonee to M50
- N52 Ardee Bypass
- N52 Tullamore to Kilbeggan
- N80 Improvements including inter regional and intra regional accessibility.
- N81 Tallaght to Hollywood scheme including linkage roads from Baltinglass and Dunlavin to N9 from N81.

Omit;


- Dublin Port Southern Access Route

115. Amend Park and Ride. To be renamed;

'New and Enhanced Park and Ride

Section 8.5 International Connectivity

116. Amend RPO 8.15 – Dublin Airport



Support the National Aviation **Policy for Ireland** and the growth of **movements and passengers at Dublin Airport** to include its status as a secondary hub airport. In particular, **support the provision of a second runway, improved terminal facilities and other infrastructure.**

117.Amend RPO 8.16 – Dublin Airport

Improved access to Dublin Airport **is supported, including Metrolink and improved bus services as part of BusConnects, connections from the road network from the west and north and in the longer term, consideration of heavy rail access to facilitate direct services from the national rail network in the context of potential future electrification. Improve cycle access to Dublin Airport and surrounding employment locations. Support appropriate levels of car parking and car hire parking.**

118.Amend RPO 8.17 – Dublin Airport

Spatial planning policies in the vicinity of the airport shall recognise and reflect the airport noise zones associated with Dublin Airport. In particular within the Inner Airport Noise Zone provision of new residential and/or other noise sensitive development shall be actively resisted. Within the outer noise zone provision of new residential and/or other noise sensitive development shall be strictly controlled **and require appropriate levels of noise insulation in all cases.**

Chapter 9 Quality of Life

Section 9.4 Placemaking

119. New Guiding principles for Healthy Placemaking. Guiding Principles to read as follows;

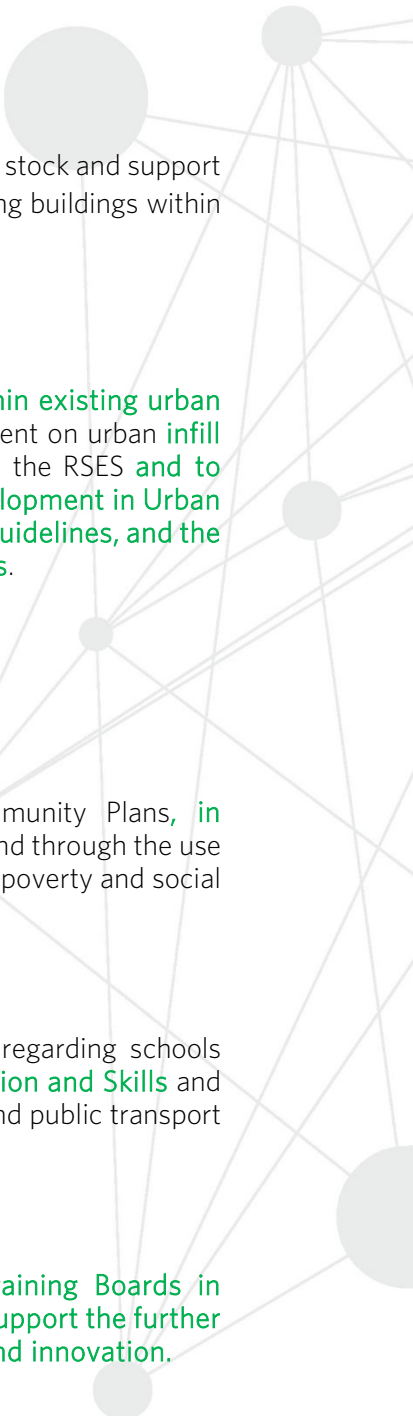
- Future development prioritises the need for people to be physically active in their daily live and promote walking and cycling in the design of streets and public spaces
- New schools and workplaces are linked to walking and cycling networks
- Exposure of children to the promotion of unhealthy foods is reduced such as the careful consideration of the location of fast food outlets in the vicinity of schools and parks
- Provision of open space should consider types of recreation and amenity uses required
- Public open spaces to have good connectivity and be accessible by safe, secure walking cycling routes
- Open space to be planned for on a multi-functional basis incorporating ecosystem services, climate change measures, green infrastructure and key landscape features in their design.

Section 9.5 Regeneration – Compact Growth (Move to Chapter 3)

120. Amend Guiding Principles for Urban Infill and Brownfield Regeneration. Expanded Guiding Principles to read as follows:

Local authorities, in the preparation of the Core Strategies of their Development Plans, shall consider the following Guiding Principles to deal with the complexities of brownfield and infill sites;

1. The establishment of a database of strategic brownfield and infill sites as part of the active land management process, that identifies the development capacity and any constraints on sites that are zoned for development including potential contamination and incorporating other relevant databases such as the Derelict Sites Register and the Vacant Sites Register. The database should be spatially referenced and searchable to allow for regular updating and monitoring and so that brownfield re-use can be managed and co-ordinated across multiple stakeholders.
2. Proposals for strategic brownfield and infill sites should be accompanied by a site brief and/or masterplan that sets out a phased programme for the regeneration of the site and demonstrates how the proposal will comply with National Guidelines that seek to achieve sustainable compact development and to integrate principles of good urban design and placemaking.
3. Local authorities should liaise with the Regional Waste Management Office when considering proposals for the development of brownfield sites that require the offsite disposal of contaminated waste, so that a programme for site remediation can be identified early and considered by all stakeholders. Proposals for brownfield regeneration in strategic locations should be accompanied by a site risk statement and waste plan and for the disposal of any wastes arising including any hazardous or contaminated material.
4. Encourage pilot projects for the re-use of brownfield sites and encourage active temporary uses where feasible and as far as practicable to encourage activation of vacant sites that require longer lead in time regeneration processes.

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5. Set out measures to reduce vacancy and the underuse of existing building stock and support initiatives that promote the reuse, refurbishment and retrofitting of existing buildings within urban centres

121. Amend RPO 9.12 – Regeneration

Local Authorities shall, in their Core Strategies, **identify regeneration areas within existing urban settlements and** set out specific objectives relating to the delivery of development on urban **infill and** brownfield regeneration sites in line with the Guiding Principles set out in the RSES **and to provide for increased densities as set out in the 'Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas', 'Sustainable Urban Housing; Design Standards for New Apartment's Guidelines, and the 'Urban Development and Building Heights Guidelines for Planning Authorities.**

Section 9.6 Social and Economic opportunity

122. Amend RPO 9.14 – Social Inclusion

Support the implementation of Local Authority Local Economic and Community Plans, **in collaboration with Local and Economic Development Committees (LDCs)** and through the use of spatial planning policies, to seek to reduce the number of people in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion in the Region.

123. Amend RPO 9.16 – Childcare, Education and life long learning.

In areas where significant new housing is proposed, an assessment of need regarding schools provision should be carried out **in collaboration with the Department of Education and Skills** and statutory plans shall designate new school sites at accessible, pedestrian, cycle and public transport friendly locations.

124. New RPO – Childcare, Education and life long learning

To support the role of Higher Education Institutions and Educational Training Boards in addressing skills shortages and life-long learning needs in the region, and to support the further development of multi-campus Technological Universities to drive research and innovation.

Section 9.8 Healthy Communities (Combine with Section 9.4 Placemaking)

125. New RPO – Healthy Placemaking

In planning for the creation of healthy and attractive places, there is a need to provide alternatives to the car and to prioritise and promote cycling and walking in the design of streets and public spaces. Local authorities shall have regard to the Guiding Principles for 'Healthy Placemaking' and 'Integration of Land Use and Transport' as set out in the RSES and to national policy as set out in 'Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas' and the 'Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS).

126. New RPO – Open Space and Recreational facilities.

To support Local Authorities in the development of regional scale Open Space and Recreational facilities particularly those close to large or growing population centres in the region.

Section 9.9 Arts, Culture, Language and Heritage

127. [New RPO – Protected structures](#)

Support the sensitive reuse of protected structures.



Chapter 10 Infrastructure

Section 10.2 Water Supply

128. **Amend Table 10.1 Strategic Water Services Projects** Amend 1st bullet point to read as follows;

The Water Supply project for the Eastern and Midlands Region to supply water to the Greater Dublin Area (GDA) and other communities including Athlone.

129. **New RPO - Water Supply**

Work closely with Irish Water to revise the Draft Investment Plan (2020- 2024) and subsequent investment plans to align the supply of water services with the settlement strategy and objectives of the EMRA Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.

130. **New RPO - Water Supply**

Delivery and phasing of services shall be subject to the required appraisal, planning and environmental assessment processes and shall avoid adverse impacts on the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.

131. **New RPO - Water Supply**

Local Authority Core Strategies shall demonstrate compliance with DHPLG Water Services Guidelines for Planning Authorities and demonstrate phased infrastructure led growth to meet demands on the water supply, suitability of new and/or existing drinking water sources (for example hydromorphological pressures) and prevent adverse impacts the integrity of water dependent habitats and species within the Natura 2000 network.

132. **New RPO - Water Supply**

Encourage the development of a new rural settlement investment approach, coordinating Irish Water, Local Authority, developer and community led solutions to ensuring that sustainable water services solutions are progressively implemented.

133. **New RPO - Water Supply**

Local Authorities and Irish Water should work together to examine significant raw water sources which may be made redundant by the Water Supply Project for the Eastern and Midlands Region with a view to reserving and protecting them for future back up or 'windfall' type economic development opportunities where high water use is required.

134. **Amend RPO 10.9 – Waste Water Treatment**

EMRA supports the servicing of rural villages (serviced sites) to provide an alternative to one-off housing in the countryside **in line with RPO 4.51**.

135. **Amend Guiding Principles relating to Surface Water.** Include new bullet point under existing Guiding Principle to read as follows;

- EMRA supports the development of Drinking Water Protection Plans in line with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and the current and future cycles of River Basin Management Plans. In this regard, EMRA supports the inclusion of objectives in County Development Plans relating to the provision of mitigation and protection measures for all protected areas, including Drinking Water Protected Areas and associated Source Protection Plans.

Section 10.3 Energy

136. **Amend Guiding Principles relating to the provision of energy network** Include new bullet point under existing Guiding Principles to read as follows;

- Regard for any National or Regional Landscape/Seascape Character Assessment

Include addition to text in existing second bullet point:

- “and address issues of climate resilience, biodiversity, impact on soils and water quality.”

137. **Amend RPO 10.15 – Energy Infrastructure – rewording to include ‘gas’**

Support and facilitate the development of enhanced electricity and gas supplies, and associated networks, to serve the existing and future needs of the Region and facilitate new transmission infrastructure projects that might be brought forward in the lifetime of this Strategy including the delivery of the necessary integration of transmission network requirements to facilitate linkages of renewable energy proposals to the electricity **and gas** transmission grid in a sustainable and timely manner subject to appropriate environmental assessment and the planning process.

Section 10.4 Waste

138. **Amend RPO 10.20 – Waste Management –retain use of materials at their highest value.**

Development Plans shall identify how waste will be reduced, in line with the principles of the circular economy, **facilitating the use of materials at their highest value for as long as possible** and how remaining quantum of waste will be managed and shall promote the inclusion in developments of adequate and easily accessible storage space that supports the separate collection of dry recyclables and food **and shall take account of the requirements of the Eastern and Midlands Region Waste Management Plan.**

Chapter 11 All Island Cohesion

Chapter 11 - Regional Policy Objectives (RPOs);

Amended RPOs

139. Amend RPO 11.1 – All Ireland Approach – extend RPO to include ‘economic growth’.

In co-operation with relevant departments in Northern Ireland, the Eastern and Midlands Regional Assembly will support mutually beneficial policy development and activity in the areas of spatial and infrastructure planning, **economic growth** and related spheres.

Chapter 12 Implementation and Monitoring

No material amendments proposed.



EMRA RSES Regional Policy Objectives - Amended (270 RPOs)

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
Chapter 3 -Growth Strategy (5 RPOs)						
3.1	Key stakeholders including Local Authorities in the Region shall, through their policies and objectives including development plans, commit to the delivery of the Growth Strategy as detailed in the RSES.	1				
3.2	Ensure that all plans, projects and activities requiring consent arising from the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy are subject to the relevant environmental assessment requirements including SEA, EIA and AA as appropriate.	1				
3.3	Identification of suitable employment and residential lands and suitable sites for infrastructure should be supported by a quality site selection process that addresses environmental concerns such as landscape, cultural heritage, ensuring the protection of water quality, flood risks and biodiversity as a minimum .	1				
3.4	Local Authorities shall promote an Ecosystem Services Approach in the preparation of statutory land use plans		1			Move to Chapter 7
				1		Proposals for land use designations and transport infrastructure shall undergo quantitative assessment of their impact on greenhouse gas emissions and shall be approved subject to their consistency with national and regional emissions reductions targets.
SUBTOTAL		3	1	1	0	
Chapter 4 - People and Place (86 RPOs)						
4.1	In preparing Core Strategies for development plans, Local Authorities shall determine the hierarchy of settlements in accordance with the hierarchy, guiding principles and typology of settlements in the draft RSES, within the population projections set out in the National Planning Framework to ensure that towns grow at a sustainable and appropriate level, by setting out a rationale for land proposed to be zoned for residential, employment and mixed-use development across the Region.		1			In preparing Core Strategies for development plans, Local Authorities shall determine the hierarchy of settlements in accordance with the hierarchy, guiding principles and typology of settlements in the draft RSES, within the population projections set out in the National Planning Framework to ensure that towns grow at a sustainable and appropriate level, by setting out a rationale for land proposed to be zoned for residential, employment and mixed-use development across the Region. <i>Core Strategies shall also be developed having regard to the infill/brownfield targets set out in National Planning Framework National Policy Objectives 3a-3c .</i>
4.2	Infrastructure investment and priorities shall be aligned with the spatial planning strategy of the draft RSES. All residential and employment developments should be planned on a phased basis in collaboration with infrastructure providers so as to ensure adequate capacity for services (e.g. water supply, wastewater, transport, broadband) is available to match projected demand for services and that the assimilative capacity of the receiving environment is not exceeded.		1			Infrastructure investment and priorities shall be aligned with the spatial planning strategy of the draft RSES. All residential and employment developments should be planned on a phased basis in collaboration with infrastructure providers so as to ensure adequate capacity for services (e.g. water supply, wastewater, transport, broadband) is available <i>or planned</i> to match projected demand for services and that the assimilative capacity of the receiving environment is not exceeded.
4.3	Support the consolidation and re-intensification of infill/brownfield sites to provide high density and people intensive uses within the existing built up area of Dublin city and suburbs and ensure that the development of future development areas is co-ordinated with the delivery of key water infrastructure and public transport projects.	1				
4.4	A cross-boundary Joint Urban Area Plan (UAP) shall be prepared by Westmeath County Council and Roscommon County Council to provide a coordinated planning framework to identify and deliver strategic sites and regeneration areas for the future physical, economic and social development of Athlone and the Monksland/Bealnamulla area. The Joint UAP shall ensure that Athlone achieves targeted compact brownfield / infill growth of a minimum of 30%. The Joint UAP shall identify a boundary for the plan area and strategic housing and employment development areas and infrastructure investment requirements to promote greater co-ordination and sequential delivery of serviced lands for development. Future development required to achieve the growth vision for Athlone included in the Joint UAP shall: i. Support the regeneration of underused, vacant or derelict town centre lands for residential development to facilitate population growth. ii. Support the renewal of lands at St. Mels and Loughanaskin to optimise the potential of this town centre opportunity to facilitate a mixed residential scheme with supporting services and facilities which will support the commercial core of the town, reinforce neighbourhood identity and enhance the physical character of the area. iii. Support residential development within the Lissywollen South Framework Plan area to develop this strategically located land bank as a highly sustainable and integrated new urban		1			A cross-boundary Joint Urban Area Plan (UAP) shall be prepared by Westmeath County Council and Roscommon County Council <i>in collaboration with the two Regional Assemblies</i> to provide a coordinated planning framework for the future physical, economic and social development of Athlone. <i>The Joint UAP shall identify Athlone's functional urban area and adopt a boundary for the plan area in addition to the identification of strategic housing and employment development areas and infrastructure and investment requirements to promote greater co-ordination and sequential delivery of serviced lands for development, in order to realise Athlone's status as a Regional Growth Centre.</i>

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
				1		<i>Support the regeneration of underused town centre and brownfield / infill lands along with the delivery of existing zoned and serviced lands to facilitate significant population growth and achieve sustainable compact growth target of 30% of all new homes to be built within the existing built up urban area.</i>
4.5	Promote the expansion of the existing enterprise ecosystem in Athlone and creation or expansion of distinct industrial specialisms that have developed through collaboration with the relevant enterprise agencies including AIT, IDA and the Midlands Innovation and Research Centre and support the provision of physical infrastructure and zoned lands to realise this objective. In this regard, recognise the following strategic economic areas: i. Garrycastle IDA as a centre of excellence for education, research, enterprise and innovation with potential for clustering with Athlone Institute of Technology ii. Blyry – incorporating indigenous and existing industries iii. Creggan – greenfield site identified for future development of an innovative business park iv. Monksland – support the continued development of the existing industrial sectors at this location.		1			Promote Athlone as a key location for regional economic development supporting the provision of increased employment through the expansion of the existing enterprise ecosystem in Athlone and creation or expansion of distinct industrial specialisms that have developed through collaboration with the relevant enterprise agencies including the IDA, Athlone Institute of Technology and the Midlands Innovation and Research Centre and support the provision of physical infrastructure and zoned lands to realise the phased delivery of strategic employment lands in central accessible locations.
4.6	Support the role of Athlone Institute of Technology as a centre of excellence for education and in achieving its status as a Technological University.	1				
4.7	Promote Athlone as an urban tourism destination while protecting the natural resources on which it relies with a particular focus on capitalising on the following assets: i. Amenity potential of the waterways including the River Shannon and Lough Ree ii. Athlone's attractive built and cultural heritage including the Western bank of the river as a cultural and tourism quarter iii. Fáilte Ireland Lakelands and Ireland's Hidden Heartlands designations iv. Existing and planned Greenways and Blueways including the Galway to Dublin Cycleway.		1			Support the development of a cross sectoral approach to promote Athlone as a key tourism destination in the Midlands, building on Fáilte Ireland's Hidden Heartlands brand and the forthcoming Shannon Tourism Masterplan to develop the recreation and amenity potential of waterways including the River Shannon and Lough Ree and the development of a greenway network including the Galway to Dublin Cycleway.
				1		<i>Support ongoing implementation of flood risk management and flood alleviation measures to facilitate the growth of Athlone subject to the outcome of appropriate environmental assessment and taking account of the proximity of sites of international nature conservation interest.</i>
				1		<i>Support the development of joint Economic, Transport and Retail plans by Westmeath County Council and Roscommon County Council in collaboration with the relevant agencies to facilitate the growth of Athlone as a regional economic driver and to realise its status as a Regional Growth Centre.</i>

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
4.8	<p>A cross-boundary Joint Urban Area Plan (UAP) shall be prepared by Louth County Council and Meath County Council to provide a coordinated planning framework to identify and deliver strategic sites and regeneration areas for the future physical, economic and social development of Drogheda to ensure it achieves targeted compact brownfield / infill growth of a minimum of 30% and ensure a co-ordinated approach is taken to the future growth and development of the town to ensure that it has the capacity to grow sustainably and secure investment as a Regional Growth Centre on the Dublin – Belfast Corridor. The Joint UAP shall identify a boundary for the plan area and strategic housing and employment development areas and infrastructure investment requirements to promote greater co-ordination and sequential delivery of serviced lands for development. Future development required to achieve the growth vision for Drogheda included in the Joint UAP shall:</p> <p>i. Provide for the sustainable, compact, sequential growth and urban regeneration in the town core by promoting the regeneration of underused, vacant or derelict town centre lands for residential development to facilitate population growth.</p> <p>ii. Support the regeneration of the Westgate area of Drogheda's historic town centre to address vacancy and dereliction in the town core and as an alternative to new development on green field sites.</p> <p>iii. Facilitate the regeneration of lands at McBride Station and environs as an employment hub to capitalise on existing and planned public transport infrastructure, including the DART Expansion Programme whilst avoiding development that detracts from the town centre.</p> <p>iv. Provide for redevelopment or renewal of obsolete areas on lands at Mell / North Road.</p>		1			<p>A cross-boundary Joint Urban Area Plan (UAP) shall be prepared by Louth County Council and Meath County Council to provide a coordinated planning framework to identify and deliver strategic sites and regeneration areas for the future physical, economic and social development of Drogheda to ensure it achieves targeted compact brownfield / infill growth of a minimum of 30% and ensure a co-ordinated approach is taken to the future growth and development of the town to ensure that it has the capacity to grow sustainably and secure investment as a Regional Growth Centre on the Dublin – Belfast Corridor. The Joint UAP shall identify a boundary for the plan area and strategic housing and employment development areas and infrastructure investment requirements to promote greater co-ordination and sequential delivery of serviced lands for development. Future development required to achieve the growth vision for Drogheda included in the Joint UAP shall:</p> <p>i. Provide for the sustainable, compact, sequential growth and urban regeneration in the town core by promoting the regeneration of underused, vacant or derelict town centre lands for residential development to facilitate population growth.</p> <p>ii. Support the regeneration of the Westgate area of Drogheda's historic town centre to address vacancy and dereliction in the town core and as an alternative to new development on green field sites.</p> <p>iii. Facilitate the regeneration of lands at McBride Station and environs as an employment hub to capitalise on existing and planned public transport infrastructure, including the DART Expansion Programme whilst avoiding development that detracts from the town centre.</p> <p>iv. Provide for redevelopment or renewal of obsolete areas on lands at Mell / North Road.</p> <p>v. <i>Support the sustainable development of existing zoned lands in the Southern Environs of the town with a particular emphasis on the promotion of the IDA Business Park as an employment hub and the creation of compact, residential communities in key locations in proximity to established residential areas and transport hubs</i></p> <p>vi. <i>Support the implementation of the Urban Design Framework Plan for the Heritage Quarter</i></p>
4.9	<p>Support the role of Drogheda Docklands and Port in particular by:</p> <p>i. Supporting and protecting the role of Drogheda Port as a port of regional significance</p> <p>ii. Facilitate relocation of Drogheda Port subject to a feasibility study and appropriate coastal zone management.</p> <p>iii. Supporting the future development of the Port Access Northern Cross Route (PANCR).</p>	1				
4.10	Promote and enhance cross-border interactions to realise the growth potential of Drogheda Dundalk-Newry as an important cross-border network for regional development	1				
4.11	Promote self-sustaining economic and employment based development opportunities to match and catch-up on rapid phases of housing delivery in recent years to provide for employment growth and reverse commuting patterns.	1				
				1		<i>Enhance Drogheda's role as a strategic employment centre on the Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor and provide for employment opportunities through identification of suitable sites for new industry including FDI.</i>
4.12	Promote Drogheda as an urban tourism destination while protecting its natural and built heritage resources with a particular focus on capitalising on the following assets: i. The towns role as a gateway to the Boyne Valley heritage sites and World Heritage site at Brú Na Bóinne ii. Amenity potential of the River Boyne including the Boyne Greenway iii. Fáilte Ireland Ireland's Ancient East designation	1				
4.13	Support social inclusion measures including the revitalisation of areas by physical regeneration, planning, investment and community development and measures to improve educational attainment levels, up skilling in key competencies and skills acquisition.	1				
4.14	Support the proposed Drogheda Flood Relief Scheme, subject to the outcome of the planning process and appropriate environmental assessment.	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
4.15	An Urban Area Plan (UAP) shall be prepared by Louth County Council for Dundalk to provide a coordinated planning framework to identify and deliver strategic sites and regeneration areas for the future physical, economic and social development of the town to ensure targeted compact growth of a minimum of 30% is achieved. The UAP shall facilitate the sustainable, compact, sequential growth and urban regeneration in the town core by consolidating the built footprint of Dundalk through regeneration of the town centre Core Character Area with a focus on rejuvenation of Clanbrassil Street / St. Nicholas Quarter and development of key town centre infill / brownfield sites in this area. A significant proportion of future urban development shall be accommodated on infill/brownfield sites by encouraging development, including renewal and regeneration of underused, vacant or derelict town centre lands for residential development to facilitate population growth. The UAP shall: i. Support development on key town centre infill/brownfield sites include Long Walk Shopping Centre, Carroll's Village Shopping Centre, Williamson's Mall, and Dunne's Park Street ii. Improve accessibility and sustainable mobility in the town centre by enhancing modal choice through integration of rail, bus and taxi services iii. Promote the Seatown / Port Harbour Area for regeneration and repurpose of a water based urban quarter		1			An Urban Area Plan (UAP) shall be prepared by Louth County Council for Dundalk to provide a coordinated planning framework to identify and deliver strategic sites and regeneration areas for the future physical, economic and social development of the town to ensure targeted compact growth of a minimum of 30% is achieved. The UAP shall facilitate the sustainable, compact, sequential growth and urban regeneration in the town core by consolidating the built footprint of Dundalk through regeneration of the town centre Core Character Area with a focus on rejuvenation of Clanbrassil Street / St. Nicholas Quarter and development of key town centre infill / brownfield sites in this area. A significant proportion of future urban development shall be accommodated on infill/brownfield sites by encouraging development, including renewal and regeneration of underused, vacant or derelict town centre lands for residential development to facilitate population growth. The UAP shall: i. Support development on key town centre infill/brownfield sites include Long Walk Shopping Centre, Carroll's Village Shopping Centre, Williamson's Mall, and Dunne's Park Street ii. Improve accessibility and sustainable mobility in the town centre by enhancing modal choice through integration of rail, bus and taxi services iii. Promote the Seatown / Port Harbour Area for regeneration and repurpose of a water based urban quarter iv. Facilitate Urban Expansion through development of the Mount Avenue masterplan lands. <i>v. Support the implementation of the Dundalk Urban Design Framework Plan (2008) or any update thereof</i>
4.16	Promote and enhance cross-border interactions to realise the growth potential of Drogheda-Dundalk-Newry as an important cross-border network for regional development.	1				
4.17	Enhance Dundalk's role as a strategic employment centre on the Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor and provide for employment opportunities through identification of suitable sites for new industry including FDI.	1				
4.18	Support the role of Dundalk Institute of Technology as a centre of excellence for education.	1				
4.19	Enhance potential for economic development and regeneration at Dundalk Port / Harbour area subject to a feasibility study and appropriate coastal zone management.	1				
4.20	Support social inclusion measures including the revitalisation of areas by physical regeneration, planning, investment and community development and measures to improve educational attainment levels, up skilling in key competencies and skills acquisition.	1				
4.21	Support the proposed Dundalk Flood Relief Scheme, subject to the outcome of appropriate environmental assessment and the planning process.	1				
4.22	Core strategies in Local Authority development plans shall support objectives to achieve a minimum of 30% of development in key towns by way of compact growth through identification of key sites for regeneration.	1				
4.23	Key Towns shall act as economic drivers and provide for strategic employment locations to improve their economic base by increasing the ratio of jobs to workers.	1				
4.24	Support the continued development of Swords as part of an emerging 'Green City' concept, building on its strategic location near Dublin Airport and linked to the delivery of Metrolink to provide for high density and people intensive uses in locations that are accessible to quality public transport nodes, existing and planned.		1			Support the continued development of Swords <i>as a vibrant Key Town with a thriving economy; an integrated public transport network; an attractive and highly accessible built environment with the highest standards of housing, employment, services, recreational amenities and community facilities</i>
4.25	Future development required to achieve the growth vision for Swords shall: i. Support the regeneration of underused, vacant or derelict town centre lands for residential/mixed use development to facilitate population growth. ii. Provide for the sustainable, compact and sequential infill of yet-to-be developed Masterplan and Local Area Plan zoned lands along the R132 and future MetroLink corridor. iii. Require the preparation of a Local Area Plan at Lissenhall to inform policy for the longer term strategic area of Swords, in accordance with Your Swords: An Emerging City Strategic Vision 2035 or any update thereof.		1			<i>Support the regeneration of underused town centre lands along with the planned and sequential infill opportunities to provide for high density and people intensive uses in accessible locations that are accessible to high quality transport, existing and planned, and to support the preparation of a Local Area Plan for the strategic landbank at Lissenhall for the longer-term development of Swords</i>

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
4.26	Facilitate the strategic regeneration of Swords to increase the resilience of the local economy and provide for an enhanced urban environment with a particular focus on the following key objectives: i. Enhance the identity of the town centre through the development of Swords Civic Centre and Cultural Centre, the delivery of the conservation plan for Swords Castle, and the delivery of an enhanced public realm in Swords Town Centre, in accordance with a new healthy placemaking strategy to provide a prioritised, programmed and impactful package of measures to co-ordinate investment and decision making across multiple stakeholders. ii. Facilitate the creation of a new street fronting the river walk to the west of Main Street and support co-ordinated infill development on key strategic sites along Main Street and North Street. iii. Promote core recreational and amenity spaces, utilising in particular Ward River Valley Park, Swords Cultural Quarter including Town Park, Ward River Walk west of Main Street area.		1			Facilitate the strategic regeneration of Swords <i>to build on the</i> resilience of the local economy and provide for an enhanced urban environment with a particular focus <i>on the</i> development of Swords Civic Centre and Cultural Centre, the delivery of the conservation plan for Swords Castle, and the delivery of an enhanced public realm <i>in the town centre and to promote recreational and amenity uses in accordance with a healthy placemaking strategy.</i>
				1		<i>Support Swords-Dublin Airport as a key location for airport related economic development and employment provision linked to the protection and enhancement of access to Dublin Airport lands including the delivery of Metrolink.</i>
				1		<i>Encourage transition towards sustainable and low carbon transport modes in Swords through the provision of high quality walking and cycling permeability offering direct routes to local destination and public transportation hubs.</i>
4.27	Support the continued development of Maynooth, co-ordinated with the delivery of strategic infrastructure including DART expansion to support future population growth and build on synergies with Maynooth University to promote research and economic development opportunities.		1			Support the continued development of Maynooth, co-ordinated with the delivery of strategic infrastructure including <i>pedestrian and cycle linkages within the town and to the Royal Canal Greenway</i> , DART expansion <i>and road linkages forming part of the Maynooth Outer Orbital Route in a manner which supports future development and</i> population growth and builds on synergies with Maynooth University <i>promoting a knowledge-based economy</i>
				1		<i>Support Maynooth as a key town to act as an economic driver for north Kildare and provide for strategic employment at key locations to improve the economic base of the town and provide for an increased number of local jobs.</i>
				1		<i>A cross boundary Joint Local Area Plan (LAP) shall be prepared by Kildare County Council and Meath County Council to provide a co-ordinated planning framework for the Maynooth area. The Joint LAP shall identify a boundary for the plan area, strategic housing and employment development areas and infrastructure investment requirements and promote greater co-ordination and sequential delivery of serviced lands for development.</i>
				1		<i>To promote the consolidation of the town centre with a focus on the regeneration of underused buildings and strategic sites and the establishment of residential uses to encourage greater vibrancy outside of business hours and the enhancement of the public realm.</i>
4.28	Support the continued development of Bray including the enhancement of town centre functions, increased employment opportunities and the westward extension of the town, linked to the delivery of key infrastructure including Bray-Fassaroe public transport links.		1			Support the continued development of Bray including the enhancement of town centre functions, <i>development of major schemes at the former Bray golf course and Bray harbor along with increased employment opportunities and co-ordination between Wicklow County Council and transport agencies to facilitate the delivery of key infrastructure required for the westward extension of the town, including Bray-Fassaroe public transport links</i>
				1		<i>Support the development of Bray as a strategic employment location with a particular focus on attracting high value investment in 'people' based industries at accessible locations, in order to increase the number of local jobs</i>
				1		<i>To promote the consolidation of the town centre with a focus on placemaking and the regeneration of strategic sites to provide for enhanced town centre functions and public realm, in order to increase Bray's attractiveness as a place to live, work, visit and invest in</i>
				1		<i>To support ongoing investment in public transport infrastructure, including the appraisal, planning and design of the LUAS extension to Bray, to ensure its continued renewal, maintenance and improvement to a high level to ensure high quality of frequency, safety, service, accessibility and connectivity. The development of Bray-Fassaroe should be undertaken in collaboration between Wicklow County Council and the transport agencies to ensure the delivery of enabling transportation infrastructure.</i>
				1		<i>Encourage transition towards sustainable and low carbon transport modes through the promotion of alternative modes of transport and 'walkable communities' whereby a range of facilities and services will be accessible within short walking or cycling distance</i>

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
4.29	Support the delivery of the distributor road at Farganstown to release strategic residential and employment lands for development.		1			<i>Support the delivery of a network of distributor roads and bridges to release strategic residential and employment lands for development and improve connectivity and the efficient movement of people and services in the town</i>
4.30	Support the implementation of the Public Realm Plan 'Navan 2030' to make the town a more attractive place to live, shop, visit, and do business.	1				
4.31	Support development of a regional hospital to serve the north east of the country.	1				
4.32	Support the extension of the Boyne Greenway to include Navan to promote sustainable transport choices and as a recreation asset for the town, subject to the outcome of the planning process and environmental assessments.	1				
				1		<i>Support the development of strategic employment lands on the Trim Rd in Navan</i>
4.33	Promote the improvement of the transport network within and serving Naas town, including delivery of a robust and efficient walking and cycling and bus network with strong links to Sallins Railway Station, key destinations within the town and to the North West Quadrant and town centre area.	1				
4.34	Support the use of the Grand Canal for amenity, recreation and sustainable transport purposes.		1			<i>Support the development of the Grand Canal for amenity, recreation and sustainable transport purposes including the Naas to Sallins and Naas to Corbally harbour greenways and linking these to the national Grand Canal Greenway.</i>
				1		<i>Regeneration and consolidation of the historic centre to improve the retail and commercial functions of the town core, with enhanced permeability and sustainable mobility within the town centre and improve links between the core and surrounding residential and employment areas through the further development of walking and cycling routes and improved public transport</i>
				1		<i>Strengthen the local employment base through the development of MERITS, Millennium Park in the North West Quadrant and the regeneration of underutilised lands including industrial lands in the north east of the town</i>
				1		<i>Support the delivery of a dedicated public transport interchange in Naas with associated Park and Ride</i>
				1		<i>Support an enhanced role and function of Naas as the County town of Kildare, particularly as a hub for high quality employment, residential and amenities.</i>
4.35	Support an enhanced role and function of Wicklow-Rathnew as the County town, particularly as a hub for employment, training and education.	1				
4.36	Support Wickow-Rathnew's role in the provision of third level education in association with Institute of Technology Carlow.		1			<i>Support Wickow-Rathnew's role in the provision of third level education at the Wicklow County Campus Rathnew (in association with Institute of Technology Carlow) and in particular, to support the development of the campus as a hub for the Film Industry and Screen Content Creation Sector</i>
4.37	Support enhancement and expansion of Wicklow port and harbour, to expand commercial berthing and pleasure craft capacity subject to a feasibility study with particular focus on avoiding adverse impacts on the integrity of adjacent European Sites.	1				
4.38	Support the development of Wicklow-Rathnew as a tourism hub having regard to its accessibility to key tourist destinations in the Region.	1				
				1		<i>To support ongoing investment in rail infrastructure to ensure its continued renewal, maintenance and improvement to a high level to ensure high quality of frequency, safety, service, accessibility and connectivity.</i>
4.39	Improve accessibility and sustainable mobility in the town centre by enhancing modal choice through integration of rail, bus and taxi services.	1				
4.40	Support the development of Longford as a tourism hub having regard to its accessibility to key tourist destinations in the Region including Center Parcs, and proximity to natural amenities, recreational opportunities and the town's location on the Rebel Longford Trail.	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
4.41	Support social inclusion measures including the revitalisation of areas by physical regeneration, planning, investment and community development and measures to improve educational attainment levels, up skilling in key competencies and skills acquisition.	1				
4.42	Support the proposed Longford Flood Relief Scheme subject to the outcome of appropriate environmental assessment and the planning process.	1				
				1		<i>Support the plan-led development and regeneration of publicly owned land banks in the town for residential, employment, education, community, cultural and recreational opportunities and the consolidation of the town centre and the enhancement and linking of Brownfield and outlying sites to the town centre, with a focus on the regeneration of underused buildings and strategic site</i>
				1		<i>Support Longford Town as a strategic portal to the northwest and south in recognition of its location at the junction of the N55; 'M4 /N4 Dublin/Sligo' and N5; and due to its proximity to the regional growth centre of Athlone.</i>
				1		<i>To ensure that the future strategic development of Longford takes account of the close proximity of sites of international nature conservation interest</i>
4.43	Support Mullingar's role as a tourism hub having regard to its accessibility to key tourist destinations in the Region including proximity to natural amenities and recreational opportunities including the Galway to Dublin Greenway.	1				
4.44	Promote the plan led development and regeneration of publicly owned land banks in the town for employment, education, community, cultural and recreational opportunities.		1			Promote the plan led development and regeneration of publicly owned land banks in the town for employment, education, community, cultural and recreational opportunities <i>and to support the economic development and regeneration of the town centre</i>
4.45	Support the development and expansion of the Midlands Regional Hospital		1			Support the development and expansion of the Midlands Regional Hospital <i>including any necessary supporting infrastructure</i>
				1		<i>Support Mullingar's role as an important employment hub by promoting economic development and clustering of related enterprises</i>
				1		<i>To ensure that the future strategic development of Mullingar takes account of the close proximity of sites of international nature conservation interest</i>
4.46	Support Tullamore's role as a tourism hub having regard to its accessibility to key tourist destinations including proximity to natural amenities and recreational opportunities including Grand Canal Greenways and Blueways and outdoor recreation parks.		1			Support Tullamore's role as a tourism hub <i>and development as a Tourism Destination Town</i> having particular regard to its <i>distilling heritage and industry</i> , accessibility to key tourist destinations including proximity <i>and accessibility</i> to key tourist destinations, natural amenities and recreational opportunities including the Grand Canal Greenways and, <i>Lough Boora Discovery Park, Slieve Bloom Mountains. Also to support Tullamore as a hub for the 'Midlands Cycle destination – Offaly'. Further, to recognise Tullamore's potential as a conferencing and event hub, given the town's central location, accessibility and experience</i>
				1		<i>Support the role of Tullamore as a major employment centre with key assets being its existing positive jobs to resident employees ratio, excellent quality of life and future strategic development sites. Also to support infrastructural development to facilitate this role.</i>
				1		<i>To support the examination of a University in the Midlands and in particular Tullamore's and Co. Offaly's role in its provision</i>
4.47	Support delivery of the Portlaoise Regeneration and Development Demonstration Project and assist the Local Authority in seeking funding opportunities for delivery of regeneration development.	1				
4.48	Support transition of Portlaoise to a low carbon town centre by reducing car use and promoting walking and cycling and improving the mix of uses within the town centre.	1				
				1		<i>Support the vision and objectives of the J17 National Enterprise Park Masterplan which aims to deliver a viable economic zone within Portlaoise which will accommodate a range of potential businesses and industries whilst having regard to spatial planning, infrastructural, environmental and transportation requirements and compatibility with adjoining land uses</i>
				1		<i>Support the development and expansion of the Midlands Regional Hospital to be a centre of excellence for Portlaoise and its catchment area</i>

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
4.49	A cross-boundary Joint Urban Area Plan (UAP) shall be prepared for Carlow by Carlow County Council and Laois County Council having regard to its location within the combined functional area of both local authorities. The Joint UAP shall provide a coordinated planning framework to identify and deliver strategic sites and regeneration areas for the future physical, economic and social development of Carlow to ensure it achieves targeted compact growth of a minimum of 30% and ensure a co-ordinated approach is taken to the future growth and development of the town to ensure that it has the capacity to grow sustainably and secure investment as a Regional Growth Centre. The Joint UAP shall identify a boundary for the plan area and strategic housing and employment development areas and infrastructure investment requirements to promote greater co-ordination and sequential delivery of serviced lands for development. Regard shall be had to the respective housing, retail and other Local Authority strategies that may be in place.		1			A cross-boundary Joint Local Area Plan (LAP) shall be prepared for Carlow by Carlow County Council and Laois County Council having regard to its location within the combined functional area of both local authorities. The Joint UAP shall provide a coordinated planning framework to identify and deliver strategic sites and regeneration areas for the future physical, economic and social development of Carlow/ <i>Craigucullen</i> to ensure it achieves targeted compact growth of a minimum of 30% and ensure a co-ordinated approach is taken to the future growth and <i>development of the combined urban area</i> to ensure that it has the capacity to grow sustainably and secure investment as a <i>Key Town</i> . The Joint LAP shall identify a boundary for the plan area and strategic housing and employment development areas and infrastructure investment requirements to promote greater co-ordination and sequential delivery of serviced lands for development. Regard shall be had to the respective housing, retail and other Local Authority strategies that may be in place
				1		<i>Support development of underused lands along the River Barrow.</i>
4.50	In Development Plan policy Local Authorities shall prioritise the regeneration of rural towns and villages through identification of significant ready-to-go regeneration projects for rural villages and rural areas which could harness untapped assets with community and wider private and public sector support and investment including the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund.		1			In Development Plan policy Local Authorities shall prioritise the regeneration of rural towns and villages through identification of significant regeneration projects for rural villages and rural areas which could harness untapped assets with community and wider private and public sector support and investment including the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund.
4.51	In Development Plan policy Local Authorities shall identify small towns and villages that have the potential for services sites as an alternative to one-off rural housing.		1			<i>Development Plans should support the development of a “New Homes in Small Towns and Villages” initiative which would augment the delivery of actions by Local Authorities, Irish Water, communities and other stakeholders in the provision of services and serviced sites to create “build your own home” opportunities within the existing footprint of rural settlements to provide new homes to meet housing demand.</i>
4.52	Local Authorities shall identify and provide policies to support and protect existing rural economies such as valuable agricultural lands to ensure sustainable food supply, and to protect the value and character of the open countryside.		1			Local Authorities shall identify and provide policies to support and protect existing rural economies such as valuable agricultural lands to ensure sustainable food supply, and to protect the value and character of the open countryside <i>and to support the diversification of rural economies to create additional jobs and maximise opportunities in emerging sectors, such as agri-business, energy, tourism, forestry enterprise</i>
4.53	Local Authorities shall manage urban generated growth in Rural Areas Under Strong Urban Influence (i.e. the commuter catchment of Dublin, large towns and centres of employment) and Stronger Rural Areas by ensuring that in these areas the provision of single houses in the open countryside is based on the core consideration of demonstrable economic or social need to live in a rural area, and compliance with statutory guidelines and plans, having regard to the viability of smaller towns and rural settlements.	1				
4.54	In rural areas outside the Rural Areas Under Strong Urban Influence Local Authorities shall encourage sustainable growth in areas that have experienced decline or stagnation, facilitate the provision of single houses in the countryside based on siting and design criteria for rural housing in statutory guidelines and plans, having regard to the viability of smaller towns and rural settlements.	1				
4.55	Local Authorities shall ensure that economic development that is urban in nature should be in the first instance located in urban areas.	1				
				1		<i>Support the consolidation of the town and village network to ensure that development proceeds sustainably and at an appropriate scale, level and pace in line with the Core Strategies of the County Development Plans</i>
				1		<i>Support the rural economy and initiatives in relation to diversification, agri business, rural tourism and renewable energy so as to sustain the employment opportunities in rural areas</i>
SUBTOTAL		33	22	31	0	

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
5.1	Support continued collaboration between infrastructure providers, state agencies and local authorities in the metropolitan area to inform cross sectoral investment plans and capital spending plans to accelerate the development of strategic development areas and secure the best use of public lands in the Dublin metropolitan area.	1				
5.2	Support the delivery of key sustainable transport projects including Metrolink, DART and LUAS expansion programmes, Bus Connects and the Greater Dublin Metropolitan cycle Network and ensure that future development maximises the efficiency and protects the strategic capacity of the metropolitan area transport network, existing and planned.	1				
5.3	Future development in the Dublin Metropolitan area shall be planned and designed in a manner that facilitates sustainable travel patterns, with a particular focus on increasing the share of active modes (walking and cycling) and public transport use and creating a safe attractive street environment for pedestrians and cyclists.	1				
5.4	Future development of strategic residential development areas within the Dublin Metropolitan area shall provide for higher densities and qualitative standards as set out in the 'Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas'[1], 'Sustainable Urban Housing; Design Standards for New Apartments' Guidelines[2], and Draft 'Urban Development and Building Heights Guidelines for Planning Authorities'.		1			Future development of strategic residential development areas within the Dublin Metropolitan area shall provide for higher densities and qualitative standards as set out in the 'Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas'[1], 'Sustainable Urban Housing; Design Standards for New Apartments' Guidelines[2], and 'Urban Development and Building Heights Guidelines for Planning Authorities'.
5.5	Future residential development in the Dublin Metropolitan Area shall follow a clear sequential approach, with a primary focus on the consolidation of Dublin and suburbs, supported by the development of Key Metropolitan Towns in a sequential manner as set out in the Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP) and in line with the overall Settlement Strategy for the RSES. Identification of suitable residential development sites shall be supported by a quality site selection process that addresses environmental concerns.		1			Future residential development in the Dublin Metropolitan Area shall follow a clear sequential approach, with a primary focus on the consolidation of Dublin and suburbs, and the development of Key Metropolitan Towns as set out in the Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP) and in line with the overall Settlement Strategy for the RSES. Identification of suitable residential development sites shall be supported by a quality site selection process that addresses environmental concerns.
5.6	The development of future employment lands in the Dublin metropolitan area shall follow a sequential approach, with a focus on the re-intensification of employment lands within the M50 and at selected strategic development areas and provision of appropriate employment densities in tandem with the provision of high quality public transport corridors.	1				
5.7	Coordinate across Local Authority boundaries to identify manage and develop regional green infrastructure to enhance strategic connections and develop a regional greenbelt policy in the Dublin metropolitan area.		1			Coordinate across Local Authority boundaries to identify manage, develop and protect regional green infrastructure to enhance strategic connections and develop a Green Infrastructure policy in the Dublin Metropolitan Area.
5.8	Support the promotion and development of greenway infrastructure and facilities in the Dublin metropolitan area and to support the expansion and connections between key strategic cycle routes and greenways as set out in the NTA Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan	1				
SUBTOTAL		5	3	0	0	
Chapter 6 - Economy and Employment (39 RPOs)						
6.1	Support the national economic agencies, Local Enterprises Offices, Regional Action Plan for Jobs implementation committees and Local Authorities with their plans for job creation with an emphasis on: a) an enterprise base with increased productivity and more diversification –including diversification of their markets - with high levels of innovation, skills adaptability, and relatively low costs of doing businesses b) maintaining full-employment with unemployment rates of each Strategic Planning Area not exceeding the State average by more than one percentage point c) applying the guiding principles for strategic employment and investment prioritisation in placemaking for enterprise development presented in this draft RSES.		1			Support the national economic agencies, Local Enterprises Offices, Regional Enterprise Plan Steering Committees, Local Authorities and other relevant stakeholders, with their plans for job creation and enterprise development with an emphasis on: a) an enterprise base with increased productivity and more diversification –including diversification of their markets - with high levels of innovation, skills adaptability, and relatively low costs of doing businesses b) maintaining full-employment with unemployment rates of each Strategic Planning Area not exceeding the State average by more than one percentage point c) applying the guiding principles for strategic employment and investment prioritisation in placemaking for enterprise development presented in this draft RSES.

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
6.2	Local Authorities shall have regard to environmental and sustainability considerations for meeting sustainable development targets and climate action commitments, in accordance with the National Adaptation Framework. In order to recognise the potential for impacts on the environment, Local Authorities shall address the proper site/route selection of any new development and examine environmental constraints including but not limited to biodiversity, flooding, landscape, cultural heritage, material assets, including the capacity of services to serve any new development.	1				
6.3	Support Local Authorities to ensure their LECs and City and County Development Plans are sufficiently agile to account for unexpected opportunities, to accommodate valid propositions for enterprise development that may emerge and for which there are strong locational drivers that do not apply to the same extent elsewhere.	1				
6.4	Support the effective planning and development of large centres of population and employment along the main economic corridor, in particular Drogheda and Dundalk.	1				
6.5	Local Authorities shall identify measures in LECs for regeneration in small towns and villages cores.	1				
6.6	Local Authorities shall explore projects in LECs for the enhancement of the competitiveness of their rural areas by supporting innovation in rural economic development and enterprise through the diversification of the rural economy into new sectors and services, including ICT-based industries and those addressing climate change and sustainability. Cross-boundary and inter-regional partnerships are encouraged and they will be supported.	1				
6.7	Support Local Authorities to explore mechanisms for the emergence of a diversified sectoral mix in rural areas. This includes the identification of appropriate locations to drive regeneration of these rural towns and villages for example by the provision of serviced sites for housing and co-working/incubator space near Institutes of Technology to facilitate technological spillovers through greater connections and linkages.	1				
6.8	Support Local Authorities to develop sustainable and economically efficient rural economies through initiatives to enhance sectors such as agricultural and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities, while at the same time noting the importance of maintaining and protecting the natural landscape and built heritage.		1			Support Local Authorities to develop sustainable and economically efficient rural economies through initiatives to enhance sectors such as agricultural and food, forestry, fishing and aquaculture, energy and extractive industries, the bio-economy, <i>tourism, quarrying and mining</i> and diversification into alternative on-farm and off-farm activities, while at the same time noting the importance of maintaining and protecting the natural landscape and built heritage.
					1	<i>The Regional Assembly supports the Regional Enterprise Strategies to focus on;</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Position and support the growth of the Midlands as an advanced manufacturing centre of excellence.</i> • <i>Leverage opportunities in big data and data analytics from iLOFAR.</i> • <i>Ensure that the Midlands is well positioned to address the challenges posed by the transition to a low carbon economy and renewable energy Increase enterprise engagement in innovation, research and development to ensure Dublin's continued competitiveness and productivity.</i> • <i>Build a pipeline of sustainable and scalable start-ups in Dublin and provide quality support</i> • <i>Develop the Mid-East as a hub for the Screen Content Creation Sector</i> • <i>Build an ecosystem framework to support the Agri-food sector in the Mid-East</i> • <i>Develop a network of innovative co-working spaces in the region to mitigate long commuting times, promote remote working opportunities and life-style benefits.</i>
				1		<i>To support the sustainable development of tourism in the Midlands in line with the strategic objectives of both the Ireland's Ancient East and Ireland's Hidden Heartlands experience brand propositions</i>
6.9	EMRA will support the preparation of a Retail Strategy / Strategies for the Region in accordance with the Retail Planning Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2012 to update the retail hierarchy and apply floorspace requirements for the Region.	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
6.10	Future provisions of significant retail development within the Region shall be consistent with the Retail Planning Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2012 and the retail hierarchy for the Region, expressed in the RSES, until such time as this hierarchy is updated.	1				
6.11	Local Authorities shall include objectives in Development Plans and Local Area Plans supporting emphasis on placemaking for town centres, for example through inclusion of a Placemaking Strategy for towns and implementation of Town Centre Renewal Plans.	1				
6.12	Local Authorities shall support the preparation of Design Guidelines to provide for improvements in the appearance of streetscapes and for revitalising vacant spaces for example with cost effective, temporary uses that build on the longer-term vision for space.	1				
6.13	EMRA will support the use of targeted financial incentives to re-establish the dominant role of town centres provided for in planning policy to encourage a greater take up of town centre development opportunities for retail, residential, commercial, and leisure uses.	1				
6.14	Support the preparation and implementation of Visitor Experience Development Plans within the Region to underpin the overarching regional tourism brands and to deliver greater tourism benefits and to promote the natural and cultural assets of the Region.	1				
6.15	Support working with relevant landowners and recreational/ tourism agencies to increase access to the countryside and coastal areas to ensure maintenance of the existing network.		1			Support working with relevant landowners and recreational/ tourism agencies to increase access to the countryside and coastal areas to ensure maintenance of the existing network <i>and to seek to develop and add to the offer where appropriate</i>
6.16	Support the maintenance of, and enhanced access to, state lands such as National Parks, Forest Parks, Waterways, etc for recreation and tourism purposes.		1			Support the maintenance of, and enhanced access to state lands such as National Parks, Forest Parks, Waterways, etc., <i>together with Monuments and Historic Properties</i> , for recreation and tourism purposes. <i>access should be planned and managed in a manner that protects environmental sensitivities, ecological corridors, and the ability of local infrastructure to support increased tourism</i>
6.17	Support the preparation and implementation of Local Authority Tourism Strategies and Diaspora Strategies. All tourism strategies and plans should include clear monitoring protocols to monitor the ongoing effect of tourism on sensitive features with particular focus on natural and built heritage assets.	1				
				1		<i>Support the local strategies which are already in place to link the River Shannon Blueway, the Royal and Grand Canal Greenways and the proposed Barrow Blueway right across the Midlands, incorporating the towns of Longford, Athlone, Mullingar, Tullamore and Portllington</i>
				1		<i>Support Offaly County Council, Bord na Mona and Coillte in the development of the 'Midlands Cycling Destination – Offaly'</i>
6.18	EMRA will work with Local Authorities and Fáilte Ireland to identify Destination Towns within the Region for the prioritisation of investment and supports to drive tourism growth in the Region.		1			EMRA will work with Local Authorities and Fáilte Ireland to identify a network of destination towns within the Region for the prioritisation of investment and supports to drive tourism growth in the Region, <i>to spread the benefit of tourism throughout the region and to encourage the increase of tourism product development</i>
6.19	EMRA support the preparation of the Marine Spatial Plan (MSP) to ensure alignment, and consistency between land use and ocean based planning, and to ensure co-ordination which supports the protection of the marine environment and the growth of the Marine economy.	1				
6.20	Support enterprise development agencies and LEOs on the development of industries that create and employ green technologies and take measures to accelerate the transition towards a low carbon economy and circular economy.	1				
				1		<i>Support the Departments of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, and Communications Climate Action and Environment to enhance the competitiveness of the agriculture sector with an urgent need for mitigation as well as adaptation measures</i>
6.21	Support RAPJs, LEOs and Local Authorities to collaborate with the Regional Skills Fora managers, Education and Training Boards and local stakeholders to address skills shortages and lifelong learning challenges in the Region.	1				
6.22	Support and foster the collaboration of industry and research to identify areas of research, development and innovation, and to identify projects for funding.	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
						<i>Support community and adult education providers who are already providing formal and non-formal education to targeted disadvantaged groups and who have already identified the barriers to participation in lifelong learning, such as childcare, transport and rural isolation to increase participation rates and support progression into further education and employment</i>
6.23	Support the development of sites where high-tech and high potential start-ups (HPSU) can thrive, in conjunction with IoTs and Universities, to create collaborative and innovative growth.	1				
6.24	Support existing smart city initiatives such as Smart Dublin and the All Ireland Smart Cities Forum and support the development of smart city programmes in Athlone, Dundalk and Drogheda.	1				
6.25	Support enterprise development agencies and LEOs in their efforts to increase business innovation capacity, to create a distributed network of co-working hubs, to promote Ireland's Edge to strengthen linkages between Irish-owned enterprises and foreign owned enterprises, and to support existing Irish Entrepreneurs and to attract overseas entrepreneurs.	1				
6.26	Support enterprise development agencies to map, monitor and evaluate the Region's enterprise and innovation ecosystem, benchmarking against other relevant jurisdictions nationally and internationally.	1				
6.27	With the allocation outcomes from the competitive calls EMRA, in co-ordination with the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER), will prepare a Regional Investment Plan for the Region in accordance with Project Ireland 2040 and the Public Spending Code.	1				
6.28	EMRA will support the construction of a regional brand that is consistent with, and complementary to, current local and national branding, to promote the Region domestically and abroad.	1				
				1		<i>Support Local Authorities in the design, development and roll-out of social enterprise practices, with a strong emphasis on collaboration</i>
6.29	Design and implement a framework to provide technical support to Local Authorities, government agencies and regional stakeholders to develop and strengthen their 'bidding' capacity, that is their capacity to identify infrastructure deficits and opportunities, to prepare strong business cases, to identify funding sources, to bid, and successfully attract competitive funding.	1				
6.30	Design and implement a basic framework with the CSO to build a common, up-to-date, dynamic and shared evidence base and monitoring framework at regional and local level with information on assets, economic base, settlement functions, and economic performance.	1				
6.31	Prepare and operate an economic risk management system, with preventive action plans, considering social and environment factors.	1				
6.32	Support enterprise agencies, RAPJs, LECs, Regional Skill fora and local stakeholders on their introduction of contingency plans and pilot projects based on the strengths of the Region to counteract the effects from industrial decline and potential external shocks in the Region. This may include lifelong learning programmes, appropriate business supports and upskilling to facilitate moving to alternative sectors in the locality or region.			1		Support enterprise agencies, RAPJs, LECs, Regional Skill fora and local stakeholders on their introduction of contingency plans and pilot projects based on the strengths of the Region to counteract the effects from industrial decline and potential external shocks in the Region. This may include lifelong learning programmes, appropriate business supports and upskilling to facilitate moving to alternative sectors in the locality or region. <i>include reference and support for the Bord na Mona Regaional Transition Team</i>
SUBTOTAL		26	6	6	0	
Chap 7 Environment and Climate (43 RPOs)						
7.1	To ensure consistency and alignment between the upcoming National Maritime Spatial Plan (due in 2021) and regional approaches to marine spatial planning and to integrate the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and Marine Spatial Planning implementation into future land use plans in the Region in recognition of the opportunity to harness Ireland's ocean potential.	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
7.2	To achieve and maintain 'Good Environmental Status' for marine waters and to ensure the sustainable use of shared marine resources in the Region, and to promote the development of a cross-boundary and cross-border strategic management and stakeholder engagement framework to protect the marine environment.	1				
7.3	EMRA will support the use of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) to enable collaborative and stakeholder engagement approaches to the management and protection of coastal resources against coastal erosion, flooding and other threats.	1				
7.4	Statutory land use plans shall take account of the risk of coastal erosion, whereby new development should be avoided in areas at risk of coastal erosion to the extent practicable.	1				
7.5	EMRA shall work with coastal stakeholders to support the sustainable development of the national Fishery Harbour Centre in Howth and the sustainable growth of the seafood sector in the Region, to ensure that marine resources are sustainably managed and that planned activities on land do not adversely affect the marine economy and environment.		1			EMRA shall work with coastal stakeholders to support the sustainable development of the national Fishery Harbour Centre in Howth and the sustainable growth of the seafood and on-shore aquaculture sector in the Region, and to ensure that marine resources are sustainably managed and that planned activities on land do not adversely affect the marine economy and environment.
7.6	Local Authorities shall include in Development Plans, where relevant, policies for the protection and enhancement of ship wrecks and underwater cultural heritage and shall consult the Wreck Inventory of Ireland Database when assessing planning applications located in marine, riverine or lacustrine environments.	1				
7.7	To reduce harmful emissions and achieve and maintain good air quality for all urban and rural areas in the Region and to work with Local Authorities and the relevant agencies to support local data collection in the development of air quality monitoring and to inform a regional air quality and greenhouse gas emissions inventory.	1				
7.8	Local Authorities shall incorporate the objectives of the EU Environmental Noise Directive in the preparation of strategic noise maps and action plans that support proactive measures to avoid, mitigate, and minimise noise, in cases where it is likely to have harmful effects.	1				
7.9	Local Authorities shall consider measures to minimise the harmful effects of light pollution in the future provision of outdoor lighting, including improving their approach to street lighting and ensuring that new developments are lit appropriately and to ensure that environmentally sensitive areas are protected.	1				
7.10	Support the implementation of the Water Framework Directive in achieving and maintaining at least good environmental status for all water bodies in the Region and to ensure alignment between the core objectives of the Water Framework Directive and other relevant Directives, River Basin Management plans and Local Authority Development Plans.		1			Support the implementation of the Water Framework Directive in achieving and maintaining at least good environmental status for all water bodies in the Region and to ensure alignment between the core objectives of the Water Framework Directive and other relevant Directives, River Basin Management plans and Local Authority land use Plans.
7.11	Local Authorities shall incorporate into the development of local planning policy and decision making any measures for the continued protection of areas with high ecological status in the Region and for mitigation of threats to waterbodies identified as 'At Risk' as part of a catchment-based approach in consultation with the relevant agencies. This shall include recognition of the need to deliver efficient wastewater facilities with sufficient capacity and thus contribute to improved water quality in the Region.	1				For water bodies with 'high ecological status' objectives in the Region, Local Authorities shall incorporate measures for both their continued protection and to restore those water bodies that have fallen below high ecological status and are 'At Risk' into the development of local planning policy and decision making any measures for the continued protection of areas with high ecological status in the Region and for mitigation of threats to water bodies identified as 'At Risk' as part of a catchment-based approach in consultation with the relevant agencies. This shall include recognition of the need to deliver efficient wastewater facilities with sufficient capacity and thus contribute to improved water quality in the Region
7.12	Future statutory landuse plans shall include Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and seek to avoid inappropriate land use zonings and development in areas at risk of flooding and to integrate sustainable water management solutions (such as SUDS, non-porous surfacing and green roofs) to create safe places in accordance with the Planning System and Flood Risk Assessment Guidelines for Local Authorities	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
7.13	EMRA will work with local authorities, OPW and other relevant Departments and agencies to implement the recommendations of the CFRAM programme to ensure that flood risk management policies and infrastructure are progressively implemented.	1				
7.14	Local Authorities shall take account of and incorporate into the development of local planning policy and decision making the recommendations of the Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs), including planned investment measures for managing and reducing flood risk.	1				
7.15	Local Authorities shall take opportunities to enhance biodiversity and amenities and to ensure the protection of environmentally sensitive sites and habitats, including where flood risk management measures are planned.	1				
7.16	Support the implementation of the Habitats Directives in achieving an improvement in the conservation status of protected species and habitats in the Region and to ensure alignment between the core objectives of the EU Birds and Habitats Directives and Local Authority Development Plans	1				
7.17	Facilitate cross boundary co-ordination between Local Authorities and the relevant agencies in the Region to provide clear governance arrangements and coordination mechanisms to support the development of ecological networks and enhanced connectivity between protected sites whilst also addressing the need for management of alien invasive species and the conservation of native species.	1				
7.18	Work with local authorities and state agencies to promote the development of improved visitor experiences and facilities in the Wicklow National Park		1			Work with local authorities and state agencies to promote the development of all aspects of park management in the Wicklow National Park and the Slieve Bloom Mountains .
7.19	Support the consideration of designating a National Park for the peatlands area in the Midlands.	1				
7.20	Promote the development of improved visitor experiences, nature conservation and sustainable development activities within the Dublin Bay Biosphere.		1			Promote the development of improved visitor experiences, nature conservation and sustainable development activities within the Dublin Bay Biosphere in cooperation with the Dublin Bay UNESCO Biosphere Partnership .
7.21	Local authority Development Plan and Local Area Plans, shall identify, protect, enhance, provide and manage Green Infrastructure in an integrated and coherent manner and should also have regard to the required targets in relation to the conservation of European sites, other nature conservation sites, ecological networks, and protected species.	1				
7.22	Support the further development of Green Infrastructure policies and coordinate the mapping of strategic Green Infrastructure in the Region.	1				
				1		<i>Develop guidance for assessment of proposed land zonings in order to achieve appropriate riparian setback distances that support the attainment of high ecological status for water bodies, the conservation of biodiversity and good ecosystem health, and buffer zones from flood plains.</i>
7.23	Promote the development of a sustainable Strategic Greenway Network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and /or linked with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure.		1			Promote the development of a sustainable Strategic Greenway Network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and /or linked with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure, notwithstanding that capacity of a greenway is limited to what is ecologically sustainable .
7.24	Support Local Authorities and state agencies in the delivery of sustainable strategic greenways, blueways, and peatways projects in the Region under the Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways.	1				
7.25	Following the adoption of a national landscape character assessment, the Assembly will prepare a Regional Landscape Character Assessment to promote better landscape management and planning in the Region.	1				
7.26	Work with Local Authorities and relevant stakeholders, to identify areas of high value agricultural land and to ensure food security in the Region and to promote sustainable farming practices that maintain the quality of the natural environment, protect farm landscapes and support the achievement of climate targets.	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
7.27	Support collaboration between Local Authorities and relevant stakeholders and the development of partnership approaches to integrated peatland management that incorporate any relevant policies and strategies such as the Bord na Mona Biodiversity Plan 2016-2021 and the national Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Plans. This shall include support for the rehabilitation and/or re-wetting of suitable peatland habitats.		1			Support collaboration between Local Authorities, the Transition Team and relevant stakeholders and the development of partnership approaches to integrated peatland management that incorporate any relevant policies and strategies such as the Bord na Mona Biodiversity Plan 2016-2021 and the national Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Plans. This shall include support for the rehabilitation and/or re-wetting of suitable peatland habitats.
7.28	Within 1 year of the adoption of the RSES, the EMRA shall seek with other stakeholders to carry out an assessment of transport emissions in the Region to identify GHG forecasting and to analyse the emissions impacts of development in the Region.	1				
7.29	Within one year of the publication of the RSES, the Climate Action Regional Office's shall compile a greenhouse gas emissions inventory for the Region to allow for planning of strategic mitigation action through a Regional Decarbonisation Plan. The Climate Action Regional Office's shall track the success of the Plan through annual inventories completed each year. Annual reporting of the inventories and critical analysis of the proposed measures will be undertaken to track progress within the Region and to track progress with national targets on a regional basis.				1	OMIT
7.30	On publication of the first regional emission inventory, the EMRA in conjunction with the Climate Action Regional Office's shall identify the sectoral emissions and assign a series of sectoral emissions reductions targets for each sector within the Regional Decarbonisation Plan. These emissions reductions targets will be based on an aggregate 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 in line with the EU 2030 Framework.		1			On publication of the first regional emission inventory, the EMRA in conjunction with appropriate stakeholders shall identify the sectoral emissions and assign a series of sectoral emissions reductions targets for each sector within the Regional Decarbonisation Plan. These emissions reductions targets will be based on an aggregate 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 in line with the EU 2030 Framework.
7.31	Local Authorities shall develop, adopt and implement local climate action strategies which shall assess local vulnerability to climate risks, quantify the emissions produced within their jurisdictions, and identify, cost and prioritise adaptation actions in accordance with the guiding principles of the National Adaptation Framework.		1			With the assistance and support of the Climate Action Regional Offices, Local Authorities shall develop, adopt and implement local climate adaptation and mitigation strategies which shall address issues including local vulnerability to climate risks and identify and prioritise actions , in accordance with the guiding principles of the National Adaptation Framework, National Mitigation Plan.
7.32	Climate regional action offices shall provide guidelines and support to the Local Authorities on the development, adoption and implementation of local climate action strategies (both mitigation and adaption). These guidelines shall include the specific actions and obligations and timescales for same that must be undertaken by the Local Authorities to comply with national policy.		1			Climate regional action offices shall provide support to the Local Authorities on the development, adoption and implementation of local climate action strategies (which can address both adaptation and mitigation). Ongoing support should relate to the specific actions, and obligations and timescales for same that must be undertaken by the Local Authorities in accordance with local climate change adaptation strategies and compliance with national policy.
7.33	EMRA supports the National Policy Statement on Bioeconomy (2018) and supports the exploration of opportunities in the circular resource-efficient economy including undertaking a bio-economy feasibility study for the Region to identify the area of potential growth in the Region to inform investment in line with the national transition objective to a low carbon climate resilient economy.	1				
7.34	EMRA shall, in conjunction with Local Authorities in the Region, identify Strategic Energy Zones as areas suitable for larger energy generating projects, the role of community and micro energy production in urban and rural settings and the potential for renewable energy within industrial areas. The Strategic Energy Zones for the Region will ensure all environmental constraints are addressed in the analysis. A regional landscape strategy should be developed to support delivery of projects within the Strategic Energy Zones.		1			EMRA shall, in conjunction with Local Authorities in the Region, identify Strategic Energy Zones as areas suitable for larger energy generating projects, the role of community and micro energy production in urban and rural settings and the potential for renewable energy within industrial areas. The Strategic Energy Zones for the Region will ensure all environmental constraints are addressed in the analysis. A regional landscape strategy should be developed to support delivery of projects within the Strategic Energy Zones.
				1		That the RSES prepare policies/ objectives that anticipate the identification of "Projected Climate Impact Areas"
7.35	Planning policy at Local Authority Level shall reflect and adhere to the principles and planning guidance set out in Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government publications relating to 'Wind Energy Development' and the DCCA Code of Practice for Wind Energy Development in Ireland on Guidelines for Community Engagement and any other relevant guidance which may be issued in relation to sustainable energy provisions	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
7.36	A bio-economy plan for the Region should be developed that outlines the capacity of the Region to supply the range of bioenergy resources required for the fuel mix as well as the current and projected consumption requirements for growth in this market.	1				
7.37	Local Authorities shall consider the use of heat mapping to support developments which deliver energy efficiency and the recovery of energy that would otherwise be wasted. A feasibility assessment for district heating in Local Authority areas shall be carried out and statutory planning documents shall identify local waste heat sources.	1				
7.38	Local authorities shall report annually on energy usage in all public buildings and will achieve a target of 33% improvement in energy efficiency in all buildings in line with the requirements of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP).	1				
7.39	Local Authorities shall include policies in statutory land use plans to promote high levels of energy conservation, energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources in existing buildings, including retro fitting of energy efficiency measures in the existing building stock and energy efficiency in traditional buildings. All new buildings within the Region will be required to achieve the Nearly Zero-Energy Buildings (NZEB) standard in line with the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD).	1				
7.40	Support and promote structural materials in the construction industry that have low to zero embodied energy & CO2 emissions.	1				
7.41	Local Authorities shall include proposals in statutory land use plans to facilitate and encourage an increase in electric vehicle use, including measure for more recharging facilities and prioritisation of parking for EVs in central locations.	1				
7.42	Climate Action Regional Offices and Local Authorities should consider the identification of critical infrastructure within their functional area, and particularly of the interdependencies between different types of sectoral infrastructure, as a first step in 'future-proofing' services and to help to inform longer-term adaptation planning and investment priorities.	1				
SUBTOTAL		31	10	2	1	
Chap 8 - Connectivity (26 RPOs)						
8.1	The integration of transport and land use planning in the Region shall be informed by the guiding principles expressed in the transport strategy of the draft RSES.		1			The integration of transport and land use planning in the Region shall be consistent with the guiding principles expressed in the transport strategy of the draft RSES.
8.2	The capacity and safety of the Region's strategic land transport networks will be managed and enhanced, including through the management of travel demand in order to ensure their optimal use.	1				
8.3	That future development is planned and designed in a manner which maximises the efficiency and protects the strategic capacity of the metropolitan area transport network, both existing and planned and to protect and maintain regional accessibility.	1				
8.4	Land use plans within the GDA shall demonstrate a consistency with the NTA's Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area and plans outside of the GDA shall be informed by the guiding principles expressed in the draft RSES.	1				Land use plans within the GDA shall demonstrate a consistency with the NTA's Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area and plans with or outside of the GDA shall be consistent with the guiding principles expressed in the draft RSES.
				1		To promote the use of mobility management and travel plans to bring about behaviour change and more sustainable transport use.
				1		To prepare a regional strategy for freight transport in collaboration with the relevant transport agencies and the other Assemblies
8.5	In order to give local expression to the regional level Transport Strategy within the Region in conjunction with the NTA, Local Transport Plans (LTP) will be prepared for selected settlements in the Region.	1				
8.6	The RSES supports delivery of the rail projects set out in Table 8.2 subject to the outcome of appropriate environmental assessment and the planning process.	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
8.7	The RSES supports delivery of the bus projects set out in Table 8.3 subject to the outcome of appropriate environmental assessment and the planning process.	1				
8.8	The RSES supports delivery of the road projects set out in Table 8.4 subject to the outcome of appropriate environmental assessment and the planning process.	1				
8.9	Support the improvement, and protection, of the EU TEN-T network and the strategic function of the Dublin to Belfast road network.	1				
8.10	Support the delivery of a higher speed rail connection between Belfast and Dublin and Cork.	1				
8.11	Support the Local Link Rural Transport Programme throughout rural areas of the Region.	1				
8.12	The draft RSES supports delivery of the strategic park and ride projects set out in Table 8.5 subject to the outcome of appropriate environmental assessment and the outcome of the planning process.	1				
8.13	The critical role of EMRA's international gateways will be protected by ensuring that local land use policies facilitate their functions and their landside access capacity for all transport modes.	1				
8.14	Support the improvement and protection of the TEN-T network to strengthen access routes to Ireland's ports, including investment in the ongoing development of the M11 to improve connectivity to Rosslare.	1				
8.15	Support the National Aviation Strategy and the growth of Dublin Airport to include its status as a secondary hub airport, in particular the provision of a second runway and improved terminal facilities. Improved access to Dublin Airport is supported, including Metrolink and improved bus services as part of BusConnects, connections from the road network from the west and north and in the longer term, consideration of heavy rail access to facilitate direct services from the national rail network in the context of potential future electrification.		1			Support the National Aviation Policy for Ireland and the growth of movements and passengers at Dublin Airport to include its status as a secondary hub airport. In particular, support the provision of a second runway, improved terminal facilities and other infrastructure .
8.16	Improve cycle access to Dublin Airport and surrounding employment locations.		1			Improved access to Dublin Airport is supported, including Metrolink and improved bus services as part of BusConnects, connections from the road network from the west and north and in the longer term, consideration of heavy rail access to facilitate direct services from the national rail network in the context of potential future electrification. Improve cycle access to Dublin Airport and surrounding employment locations. Support appropriate levels of car parking and car hire parking.
8.17	Spatial planning policies in the vicinity of the airport shall recognise and reflect the airport noise zones associated with Dublin Airport. In particular within the Inner Airport Noise Zone provision of new residential and/or other noise sensitive development shall be actively resisted. Within the outer noise zone provision of new residential and/or other noise sensitive development shall be strictly controlled.		1			Spatial planning policies in the vicinity of the airport shall recognise and reflect the airport noise zones associated with Dublin Airport. In particular within the Inner Airport Noise Zone provision of new residential and/or other noise sensitive development shall be actively resisted. Within the outer noise zone provision of new residential and/or other noise sensitive development shall be strictly controlled and require appropriate levels of noise insulation in all cases .
8.18	Spatial planning policies for areas located within the Public Safety Zones shall reflect the guidance set out in the ERM Report "Public Safety Zones, 2005" (or any update thereof) commissioned by the then Department of Transport and the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, in assessing proposals for development falling within Airport Public Safety Zones.	1				
8.19	EMRA will support the role of Dublin Port as a Port of National Significance (Tier 1 Port) and its continued commercial development, including limited expansion and improved road access, including the Southern Port Access Route.	1				
8.20	EMRA supports ports of Regional Significance that serve an important regional purpose and/or specialised trades or maritime tourism; and the accessibility requirements of regional ports within the Region, from within their regional catchments will be addressed through the provision of improved access routes, where necessary and improved access to the national and regional road networks. Opportunities for the use of rail, where such ports are connected to the rail network is also promoted.	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
8.21	EMRA supports the protection of the marine related functions of ports in the Region in order to ensure the future role of ports as strategic marine related assets is protected from inappropriate uses, whilst supporting complimentary economic uses including the potential for facilitating offshore renewable energy development at ports.	1				
8.22	EMRA supports the undertaking of feasibility studies to determine the carrying capacity of ports in relation to potential for likely significant effects on associated European sites including SPAs and SACs.	1				
8.23	Local Authorities shall: o Support and facilitate delivery of the National Broadband Plan o Facilitate enhanced international fibre communications links, including full interconnection between the fibre networks in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland o Promote and facilitate the sustainable development of a high-quality ICT network throughout the Region in order to achieve balanced social and economic development, whilst protecting the amenities of urban and rural areas o Support the national objective to promote Ireland as a sustainable international destination for ICT infrastructures such as data centres and associated economic activities at appropriate locations. o Promote Dublin as a demonstrator of 5G information and communication technology.	1				
8.24	EMRA supports the preparation of planning guidelines to facilitate the efficient roll out and delivery of national broadband.	1				
SUBTOTAL		20	4	2	0	
Chap 9 - Quality of Life (32 RPOs)						
9.1	Local Authorities shall ensure the integration of age friendly and family friendly strategies in Development Plans and other relevant local policy and decision making, including provision for flexible housing typologies, buildings and public spaces that are designed so that everyone, including older people, disabled people and people with young children can move around with ease, avoiding separation or segregation.	1				
9.2	Support Local Authority and sectoral initiatives to increase active participation and social integration of minority groups, including non-Irish nationals and travellers.	1				
9.3	Support Local Authorities, approved housing bodies and other sectoral agencies in the provision of a greater diversity of housing type and tenure, including social and affordable housing and exploring new models of low cost rental and affordable homeownership.	1				
9.4	Design standards for new apartment developments should encourage a wider demographic profile which actively includes families and an ageing population.	1				
9.5	Support Local Authorities, either individually or combined, in the provision of a Housing Need Demand Assessment that will inform housing policy that provides for diverse housing demand and is in accordance with statutory guidelines.	1				
9.6	Support Local Authorities and other relevant agencies such as the Dublin Region Homeless Executive in relation to addressing the issue of homelessness in the Region.	1				
9.7	Local Authorities shall support the preparation of Design Guidelines to provide for improvements in the appearance of streetscapes and for revitalising spaces for example with cost effective, temporary uses that build on the longer-term vision for space.	1				
9.8	In Planning policy formulation and implementation Local Authorities and other stakeholders shall be informed by the need to cater for all levels of disability, through the appropriate mitigation of the built environment, and in particular on the needs of an ageing population.	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
9.9	Local Authorities, in their core strategies shall set out measures to achieve compact urban development targets of at least 50% of all new homes within or contiguous to the built up area of Dublin city and suburbs and at least 30% of all new homes within or contiguous to the built-up area of metropolitan settlements within the wider Dublin metropolitan area.	1				
9.10	Support the National Land Development Agency in co-ordinating and developing large, strategically located landbanks, particularly publicly owned lands, in city and town centres that require consolidation and aggregation of land to enable regeneration.	1				
9.11	To work with Local Authorities, government departments and relevant agencies to promote increased urban densities in all existing settlements and the use, where appropriate, of Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO) and other incentives including development contributions to encourage urban regeneration of brownfield lands over the development of greenfield sites and to promote more active land management and co-ordinated provision of enabling infrastructure particularly on publicly owned lands.	1				
9.12	Local Authorities shall, in their Core Strategies, set out specific objectives relating to the delivery of development on urban/brownfield regeneration sites in line with the Guiding Principles set out in the Draft RSES.		1			Local Authorities shall, in their Core Strategies, identify regeneration areas within existing urban settlements and set out specific objectives relating to the delivery of development on urban infill and brownfield regeneration sites in line with the Guiding Principles set out in the RSES and to provide for increased densities as set out in the 'Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas', 'Sustainable Urban Housing; Design Standards for New Apartment's Guidelines, and the 'Urban Development and Building Heights Guidelines for Planning Authorities.
9.13	To support, at a National level, efforts to explore ways to deal effectively with waste and contamination relating to brownfield regeneration.	1				
9.14	Support the implementation of Local Authority Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs) and through the use of spatial planning policies, to seek to reduce the number of people in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion in the Region.		1			Support the implementation of Local Authority Local Economic and Community Plans, in collaboration with Local and Economic Development Committees (LCDCs) and through the use of spatial planning policies, to seek to reduce the number of people in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion in the Region.
9.15	Support investment in the sustainable development of the Region's childcare services as an integral part of regional infrastructure to include: a) Support the Affordable Childcare Scheme. b) Quality and supply of sufficient childcare places. c) Support initiatives under a cross Government Early Years Strategy. d) Youth services that support and target disadvantaged young people and improve their employability.	1				
9.16	In areas where significant new housing is proposed, an assessment of need regarding schools provision should be carried out and statutory plans shall designate new school sites at accessible, pedestrian, cycle and public transport friendly locations.		1			In areas where significant new housing is proposed, an assessment of need regarding schools provision should be carried out in collaboration with the Department of Education and Skills and statutory plans shall designate new school sites at accessible, pedestrian, cycle and public transport friendly locations.
				1		To support the role of Higher Education Institutions and Educational Training Boards in addressing skills shortages and life-long learning needs in the region, and to support the further development of multi-campus Technological Universities to drive research and innovation.
9.17	EMRA shall work collaboratively with stakeholders including the wide range of service providers through the LECPs to effectively plan for social infrastructure needs.	1				
9.18	Local Authorities and relevant agencies shall ensure that new social infrastructure developments are accessible and inclusive for a range of users by adopting a universal design approach and provide for an age friendly society in which people of all ages can live full, active, valued and healthy lives.	1				
9.19	Local authorities shall seek to support the planned provision of easily accessible social, community, cultural and recreational facilities and ensure that all communities have access to a range of facilities that meet the needs of the communities they serve.	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
9.20	Local Authorities shall support the vision and objectives of the National Sports Policy, including working with local sports partnerships, clubs, communities and partnerships within and beyond sport, to increase sport and physical activity participation levels locally.	1				
9.21	Local Authorities shall support the objectives of public health policy including Healthy Ireland and the National Physical Activity Plan, through integrating such policies, where appropriate and at the applicable scale, with planning policies contained in development plans.	1				
9.22	Facilitate the development of primary health care centres, hospitals, clinics, and facilities to cater for the specific needs of an ageing population in appropriate urban areas in accordance with draft RSES settlement strategy and core strategies of development plans.	1				
				1		In planning for the creation of healthy and attractive places, there is a need to provide alternatives to the car and to prioritise and promote cycling and walking in the design of streets and public spaces. Local authorities shall have regard to the Guiding Principles for 'Healthy Placemaking' and 'Integration of Land Use and Transport' as set out in the RSES and to national policy as set out in 'Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas' and the 'Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS)
				1		To support Local Authorities in the development of regional scale Open Space and Recreational facilities particularly those close to large or growing population centres in the region.
9.23	Promote and facilitate the role of arts and culture in recognition of its importance to people's identity and the potential for economic development through a unique cultural tourism offering throughout the Region.	1				
9.24	Seek to work with all relevant stakeholders to promote equality of access to and engagement with arts and cultural services and in the promotion of culture and heritage led urban and rural regeneration.	1				
9.25	Seek to build on the success and support the clustering of the film and audio visual sector in the Dublin and Wicklow areas and to support training of film workers and crew around the Region, as well as exploiting opportunities for the industry outside of these hubs.	1				
9.26	EMRA will support Local Authorities to work with local communities to promote historic towns in the Region in the practice of heritage led regeneration, to promote the sensitive and adaptive reuse of historic building stock and industrial structures where appropriate, and to strengthen their capability to draw down European and national funding.	1				
				1		Support the sensitive reuse of protected structures
9.27	Support the implementation of language plans for the Region's Gaeltachts and the identification of Gaeltacht Service Towns and Irish Language Networks in the Region, and to promote the development of the Gaeltacht in Meath in a manner that protects and enhances the distinctive linguistic and cultural heritage, whilst meeting the needs and aspirations of both residents and visitors alike.	1				
9.28	Support the designation of the UNESCO candidate sites in the Region.	1				
SUBTOTAL		25	3	4	0	
Chap 10 Infrastructure (25 RPOs)						
10.1	Local Authorities shall include proposals in Development Plans to ensure the efficient and sustainable use and development of water resources and water services infrastructure in order to manage and conserve water resources in a manner that supports a healthy society, economic development requirements and a cleaner environment.	1				
10.2	EMRA supports the delivery of the strategic water services projects set out in Table 10.1, subject to appropriate environmental assessment and the planning process.	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
10.3	The Regional Assembly and Local Authorities shall liaise and cooperate with Irish Water to ensure the delivery of Irish Water's Investments and other relevant investment works programme of Irish Water that will provide infrastructure to increase capacity to service settlements in accordance with the settlement strategy of the RSES and Local Authority Core Strategies, and provide for long term solutions for waste water treatment for the Region.	1				
10.4	Support Irish Water and the relevant Local Authorities in the Region to reduce leakage, minimising demand for capital investment.	1				
10.5	Support Irish Water and the relevant Local Authorities in the Region to eliminate untreated discharges from settlements in the short term, while planning strategically for long term growth in tandem with Project Ireland 2040 and in increasing compliance with the requirements of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive from 39% today to 90% by the end of 2021, to 99% by 2027 and to 100% by 2040	1				
10.6	EMRA supports the delivery of the waste water infrastructure set out in Table 10.2, subject to appropriate environmental assessment and the planning process.	1				
10.7	Development Plans shall support strategic wastewater treatment infrastructure investment and provide for the separation of foul and surface water networks to accommodate the future growth of the Region.	1				
10.8	EMRA shall support appropriate options for the extraction of energy and other resources from sewerage sludge in the Region.	1				
10.9	EMRA supports the servicing of rural villages (serviced sites) to provide an alternative to one-off housing in the countryside.		1			EMRA supports the servicing of rural villages (serviced sites) to provide an alternative to one-off housing in the countryside <i>in line with RPO 4.51</i>
10.10	Support the relevant local authorities (and Irish Water where relevant) in the Region to improve storm water infrastructure to improve sustainable drainage and reduce the risk of flooding in the urban environment and in the development and provision at a local level of Sustainable Urban Drainage solutions.	1				
10.11	Implement policies contained in the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (GDSDS), including SuDS.	1				
10.12	Implement the specific recommendations of the GDSDS in relation to Climate Change Regional Drainage Policies for all relevant developments within the Region.	1				
10.13	Local Authorities shall ensure adequate surface water drainage systems are in place which meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and the associated River Basin Management Plans.	1				
10.14	Support roll-out of the Smart Grids and Smart Cities Action Plan enabling new connections, grid balancing, energy management and micro grid development.	1				
				1		<i>Work closely with Irish Water to revise the Draft Investment Plan (2020- 2024) and subsequent investment plans to align the supply of water services with the settlement strategy and objectives of the EMRA Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.</i>
				1		<i>Delivery and phasing of services shall be subject to the required appraisal, planning and environmental assessment processes and shall avoid adverse impacts on the integrity of the Natura 2000 network.</i>
				1		<i>Local Authority Core Strategies shall demonstrate compliance with DHPLG Water Services Guidelines for Planning Authorities and demonstrate phased infrastructure led growth to meet demands on the water supply, suitability of new and/or existing drinking water sources (for example hydromorphological pressures) and prevent adverse impacts</i>
				1		<i>Encourage the development of a new rural settlement investment approach, coordinating Irish Water, Local Authority, developer and community led solutions to ensuring that sustainable water services solutions are progressively implemented</i>
				1		<i>Local Authorities and Irish Water should work together to examine significant raw water sources which may be made redundant by the Water Supply Project for the Eastern and Midlands Region with a view to reserving and protecting them for future back up or 'windfall' type economic development opportunities where high water use is required</i>

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO
10.15	Support and facilitate the development of enhanced electricity and gas supplies, and associated networks, to serve the existing and future needs of the Region and facilitate new transmission infrastructure projects that might be brought forward in the lifetime of this Strategy including the delivery of the necessary integration of transmission network requirements to facilitate linkages of renewable energy proposals to the electricity transmission grid in a sustainable and timely manner subject to appropriate environmental assessment and the planning process.		1			Support and facilitate the development of enhanced electricity and gas supplies, and associated networks, to serve the existing and future needs of the Region and facilitate new transmission infrastructure projects that might be brought forward in the lifetime of this Strategy including the delivery of the necessary integration of transmission network requirements to facilitate linkages of renewable energy proposals to the electricity <i>and gas</i> transmission grid in a sustainable and timely manner subject to appropriate environmental assessment and the planning process
10.16	Support an Integrated Single Electricity Market (I-SEM) as a key priority for Ireland.	1				
10.17	Support the reinforcement and strengthening of the electricity transmission and distribution network to facilitate planned growth and transmission/distribution of a renewable energy focused generation across the major demand centres to support an island population of 8 million people, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Facilitating interconnection to Europe, particularly the ‘Celtic Interconnector’ to France and further interconnection to Europe/the UK in the longer term o Facilitating interconnection to Northern Ireland, particularly the ‘North-South Interconnector’ and further co-operation with relevant Departments in Northern Ireland to enhance interconnection across the island in the longer term o Facilitating transboundary networks into and through the Region and between all adjacent Regions to ensure the RSES can be delivered in a sustainable and timely manner and that capacity is available at local, regional and national scale to meet future needs o Facilitate the delivery of the necessary integration of transmission network requirements to allow linkages of renewable energy proposals to the electricity transmission grid in a sustainable and timely manner o support the safeguarding of strategic energy corridors from encroachment by other developments that could compromise the delivery of energy networks. 	1				
10.18	Support EirGrid’s Implementation Plan 2017 – 2022 and Transmission Development Plan (TDP) 2016 and any subsequent plans prepared during the lifetime of the RSES that facilitate the timely delivery of major investment projects subject to appropriate environmental assessment and the outcome of the planning process, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Support reinforcement of the Greater Dublin Area between Dunstown and Woodland 400 kV substations to increase the capacity of the often congested and highly loaded Dublin transmission network to enable the transmission system to safely accommodate more diverse power flows and also facilitate future load growth in the area o Support the installation of additional transformer capacity and increased circuit capacity to meet Dublin demand growth to strengthen the network for all electricity users and improve the security and quality of supply o Support the Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project to strengthen the network in large parts of the Midlands and provide additional capacity for potential demand growth in the wider Region and strengthen the Region’s transmission network by improving security and quality of supply and ensuring there is the potential for demand growth. 	1				
10.19	Support the sustainable development of Ireland’s offshore renewable energy resources in accordance with the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources ‘Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan’ and any successor thereof including any associated domestic and international grid connection enhancements.	1				

RPO No	RPO	Existing RPO	Amended RPO	Additional RPO	Omitted RPO	Final RPO	
10.20	Development Plans shall identify how waste will be reduced, in line with the principles of the circular economy and how remaining quantum of waste will be managed and shall promote the inclusion in developments of adequate and easily accessible storage space that supports the separate collection of dry recyclables and food		1			Development Plans shall identify how waste will be reduced, in line with the principles of the circular economy, <i>facilitating the use of materials at their highest value for as long as possible</i> and how remaining quantum of waste will be managed and shall promote the inclusion in developments of adequate and easily accessible storage space that supports the separate collection of dry recyclables and food <i>and shall take account of the requirements of the Easter-Midlands Region Waste Management Plan</i>	
SUBTOTAL		17	3	5	0		25
Chap 11 - All Island Cohesion (1 RPO)							
11.1	In co-operation with relevant departments in Northern Ireland, the Eastern and Midlands Regional Assembly will support mutually beneficial policy development and activity in the areas of spatial and infrastructure planning and related spheres.		1			In co-operation with relevant departments in Northern Ireland, the Eastern and Midlands Regional Assembly will support mutually beneficial policy development and activity in the areas of spatial and infrastructure planning, <i>economic growth</i> and related spheres.	
SUBTOTAL		0	1	0	0		1
Chap 12 - Implementation (5 RPOs)							
12.1	Following adoption of the RSES the EMRA will establish a RSES implementation group to oversee progress on the implementation of the MASP for Dublin.	1					
12.2	The Draft RSES will support Local Authorities in promoting compact and sustainable development and in future proofing our cities and towns through the drawdown of investment funds including national rural, urban, technology and climate funds, through EU Regional Operational Programmes and other internal and external collaborations and partnership opportunities.	1					
12.3	EMRA supports smart growth initiatives that develop new solutions to existing and future urban challenges, including climate risks in the Region and will support Local Authorities in the draw down of climate and smart technology funds.	1					
12.4	Following adoption of the RSES EMRA will establish a RSES implementation group to oversee progress on the implementation of the RSES and to identify opportunities to drive regional development and leverage new funding, partnership and collaboration opportunities in the Region.	1					
12.5	EMRA will carry out a regular update of baseline data for monitoring purposes and will make this data publicly available to facilitate evidence-based policy making and evaluation in the Region.	1					
SUBTOTAL		5	0	0	0		5
TOTAL		165	53	51	1		269