10th April 2019

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

By e-mail only to: rses@emra.ie

Re: Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Eastern and Midland Region PUBLIC CONSULTATION

PROPOSED MATERIAL AMENDMENTS 65 & 67

Dear Sir,

This is a submission on behalf of *Ms. Jane Tripp and Ms. Rita Shah,* in respect of the proposed material amendments to the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Eastern and Midland Region published in March 2019.

Our clients wish to place on the record their support for proposed material amendment Nos. 65 (amend RPO 4.52 – Rural Areas) and 67 (New RPO – Rural Areas) but would request the following addition "retirement villages" in respect of No.65

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 retirement villages, agribusiness, energy, tourism, forestry enterprise.

Please acknowledge receipt of this submission and direct any future correspondence to this office.

Regards

Ms Rita Shah/Ms Jane Trip