

**PLANNING & RURAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2025 IN THE SEMINOLE ROOM,**  
**COUNTY BUILDINGS, WICKLOW**

**Present:** Cllr. Patsy Glennon (Chair), Cllr. Peter Stapleton, Cllr. Pat Mahon,  
Paul Armstrong, Tessa Stewart

**In attendance:** L. Earls, S. Walsh, S. Clarke, M. McNamara, C. Ruane

**Apologies:** Cllr. Sylvester Bourke, Jim Wood

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**Item 1: Adoption of the Minutes of Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

Following introductions by those present the minutes were proposed by Cllr. Peter Stapleton and seconded by Tessa Stewart

**Item 2: Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising

**Item 3: Update on the Local Area Plans**

**Wicklow Town/Rathnew:**

Sorcha Walsh advised that the Wicklow Town/Rathnew plan went before the Members on February 10<sup>th</sup> 2025 to discuss the Chief Executive's recommended amendments. With the exception of one CE recommendation they were agreed by the Members who also agreed their own amendments. These material changes are currently going through flood risk assessment, strategic environmental assessment and appropriate assessment (habitats directive) in preparation for public display.

It is envisaged that the plan will be considered by Members at the May Council Meeting with final publication approx. 4 weeks later.

During this 4 week period the amendments will be reviewed by the Office of the Planning Regulator. Any aspects deemed unacceptable by the OPR may be sent to the Minister.

**Blessington Plan:**

The Chief Executive's report on the Blessington Plan has been circulated with some recommended amendments and the Planning team will be liaising with the Members for feedback and discussion on any amendment which the Members themselves may have. The final set of amendments will go before the Members at the March Council meeting. The process continues as with the Wicklow/Rathnew Plan, for consideration of the Plan at the June meeting.

### **Greystones:**

The Greystones plan has gone through all assessments and publication should be in approx. 3 weeks (from the date of today's meeting)

### **Arklow:**

Colleagues in the Roads Department are working towards bringing the Arklow transport plan to a point where it can lock in with the Local Area Plan. It is anticipated that work will recommence on the Arklow Plan in the coming weeks and publication will follow shortly.

It is necessary for some area plans to proceed in advance of transport plans although it would be preferable for both to coincide.

As part of the Blessington plan a transport assessment was carried out to support the objectives of same and the Planning team are recommending an objective that a local transport plan will be prepared.

In response to a question about the Bray Plan, Sorchá Walsh advised that there is no date for publication as yet.

A request was made for an update on the Biodiversity Plan and it was agreed that this will be forwarded to the SPC Members.

### **Item 4: Meeting Schedule**

15.05.2025	11.30	Wurzburg Room
11.09.2025	11.30	Seminole Room
11.12.2025	12.00	Seminole Room

A discussion followed about possible future agenda items as follows;

1. Presentation by Stephen Clarke, Town Regeneration Officer, on the Town Centre First Policy
2. Presentation by Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer, on the Heritage Plan
3. Development Contribution Scheme
4. Infrastructure in relation to development

Next meeting is May 15<sup>th</sup> 2025 @ 11.30