

27 April 2022

Strategic and Economic Development,  
Cork City Council  
City Hall  
Anglesea Street  
Cork

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**Company Reg. No.**  
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**Re: Submission to the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028  
Proposed Amendment Ref. 1.135 to Objective 6.17**

Dear Sir/ Madam

We act on behalf of Michael & Evelyn Kearney and wish to make the following observation to the proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 (Draft DP) in relation to Proposed Amendment Ref. 1.135 to Objective 6.17 of the Draft City Plan.

Our clients are the owners of lands at Fairhill in the North West Local Electoral Area and note and support the Council's ambition to develop a regional park to serve the area. The objective to create a regional park to serve the north west suburbs is now almost 20 years old and we note that Section 10.27 of the 2004 Cork City Development Plan noted that

*The creation of a regional park to the north of Knocknaheeny is proposed. A linkage from Kilmore Heights will be provided to create accessibility from the surrounding residential areas. There is also scope for redevelopment of the former reservoir on the Kilmore Road for recreation-related purposes.*

Until recently the North West Suburbs straddled the boundary with Cork County Council and the ambition to develop a regional park in this area was identified in the 2003 Cork County Development Plan. Section 11.3.8 of the Plan noted that

*A substantial area has been set aside for the proposed regional park. This area not only includes a significant area that is generally level and suitable for playing pitches but also includes an extensive steeply sloping area more suited to informal recreation. It is considered that the inclusion of this larger area in the plan will encourage the development of a regional park that will provide a broader range of facilities and contribute to an improvement in the range of recreational facilities available to a wide area of Metropolitan Cork.*

Transboundary and land ownership complications have prevented progress on the development of the North West Regional Park, but with the City Boundary Extension in May 2019, we consider that administrative barriers have been removed and the City Council can now progress with their long standing objective to develop a regional park.

The location, nature, extent and scale of the proposed North West Regional Park is one of the primary landuse considerations for the future development of the north west suburbs and one which all future development should have regard to. Having regard to this we consider that there needs to be certainty regarding the North West Regional Park in the short term and our clients welcome Objective 6.17 of the Draft Cork City Development Plan and Proposed Amendment 1.135. However, given the long standing objective to develop the North West Regional Park and its potential impact and influence on all future developments in the area, we consider that further non material amendments are required to Objective 6.17 in order to provide a firmer commitment to the identification of the location, nature and extent of the North West Regional Park.

### Request

We request that the following non material amendments are made to Objective 6.17 of the Draft City Development Plan

Cork City Council will seek to prepare a citywide Open Space Strategy during the **early in the** life of this Plan **and in advance of the Chief Executive's Two Year Progress Report** to ensure that Cork City has a framework to define strategy, projects and standards to ensure that Cork City will have an excellent network of open spaces to meet the needs of its residents. **The strategy shall include the identification of existing, emerging and future GBI route networks within the city's neighbourhoods, urban towns and hinterland area. Extensions and connections to the metropolitan GBI network shall also be investigated and planned for. The strategy shall identify and define the location, nature and extent of the proposed North West Regional Park.**

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

Yours Sincerely



Harry Walsh  
HW Planning