



Development Plan Submissions,
Strategic & Economic Development Directorate,
Cork City Council,
Anglesea Street,
City Hall,
Cork
T12 T997

28 April 2022

Dear Sir / Madam,

**RE: Proposed Material Amendments to the Draft Cork City Development Plan
2022-2028**

Further to the notice given to this Department of the publication of the Proposed Material Amendments to the Draft Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028, the following submission outlines its observations in respect of a number of policy areas for which the Department is responsible.

The Department notes and welcomes the inclusion of updated and specific references to the Climate Action Plan 2021, the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act, 2021, the Circular Economy (e.g. amendment nos. 1.153, 1.161, 1.194 and 1.208). It is considered important that these updated references should be included in the final Plan. The clear commitment of the Council in respect of bolstering the climate action references and policies in the Draft Plan across a significant number of the proposed material amendments and the tabulation of the policies in amendment no. 1.106 is commended.

With respect to amendment no. 1.110, while the broadening of the text of this provision is welcomed, it would benefit from additional and specific references to the revised targets for renewable energy set out in the Climate Action Plan 2021. Reference to



supporting the implementation of the Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan is also welcomed, although we submit that reference to “or any successor thereof” could be added in order to future proof this provision.

The Department supports the widening of the scope of paragraph 5.34 – District Heating (amendment nos. 1.111 and 1.112), which is considered to be in line with emerging district heating considerations. The Council could also consider including a provision in either of these amendments requiring that applications for all new developments demonstrate that they have considered district heating systems / technologies in their design and that they have the capacity to connect to such systems in the future if they cannot do so at present (in addition to the requirements of objective 5.21).

With reference to amendment no. 1.198, this amendment is very much welcome but it may benefit from additional specific reference to the national renewable energy targets set out in the Climate Action Plan 2021. With reference to the commitment that “Cork City will input into the SEAI’s revised methodology and prepare a LARES for the City in due course, which will include specific targets on renewable energy,” on a technical point, the reference to LARES as a document should not be confused with the method for calculating capacity. The commitment should more appropriately be to publish a renewable energy strategy using LARES methodology or any successor thereto. The commitment to amend or vary the Development Plan once this work is complete is, however, very much welcome and commended.

With respect to amendment no. 1.202 (telecommunications), the Council may consider the appropriateness of adding references to the recent Government-approved policy document “*Harnessing Digital – the Digital Ireland Framework*” launched by Department of the Taoiseach, with particular regard to Dimension 2 of the framework which places importance on supporting 5G rollout across all populated areas of Ireland by 2030.

Geological Survey Ireland

Additional observations from Geological Survey Ireland are attached to this submission.



Conclusion

We would be grateful if Cork City Council would take these matters under consideration in the finalisation of the City Development Plan.

Department officials can make themselves available for a discussion on any matters raised in this submission or any other matters within the remit of the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications relevant to the preparation of this plan.

Officials can provide support to the City Council in the following areas:

- Climate Action, Engagement and Adaptation
- The Circular Economy
- Energy Generation and Networks
- Energy Use / Demand in the Built Environment
- Communications
- Environmental Policy and Governance
- Waste and Natural Resources

Please direct any requests for further consultation to planningadvisory@decc.gov.ie

Regards,

Planning Advisory Division

Department of Environment, Climate and Communications

Encl. Divisional observations from Geological Survey Ireland



Development Plan Submissions
Strategic & Economic Development Directorate
Cork City Council
Anglesea Street
City Hall
Cork

25 April 2022

Re: Proposed Material Amendments to the Draft Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Your Ref: n/a

Our Ref: 22/153 [c.f. 20/137, 20/266, 21/272]

Dear Sir/Madam,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. We provide independent geological information and advice and gather various data for that purpose. Please see our [website](#) for data availability. We recommend using these various data sets, when conducting the EIAR, SEA, planning and scoping processes. Use of our data or maps should be attributed correctly to 'Geological Survey Ireland'.

With reference to your email received on the 21 April 2022, concerning the Proposed Material Amendments to the Draft Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028, Geological Survey Ireland would like to acknowledge our previous submissions, (20/137, 20/266, 21/272), in relation to the new draft CDP, and have the following additional comments to make.

Groundwater

We note amendment no. 1.357, to add "(Geological Survey Ireland)" at the end of the title to Figures 4.12 'Groundwater Vulnerability' and 4.13 'Groundwater Productivity'" in the draft SEA Report.

Cork City Council should consider Groundwater Protection Schemes for groundwater protection (see Circular Letter SP 5-03). We recommend the ongoing use of Geological Survey Ireland's Groundwater maps and datasets within the Development Plan. These maps and datasets are updated regularly and refined as new data becomes available, further information is available on our [Map viewer](#).

Geological Mapping

We note amendment no. 1.358 and welcome the addition of Geological Survey Ireland's GeoUrban Bedrock Geology and 3D Quaternary Models to the list of datasets that would be useful in "planning and assessing individual projects with regard to the environmental topic(s) of soil and/or material assets".

Geochemistry and Geophysics

We note amendment no. 1.358 and are pleased to see the addition of Geological Survey Ireland's Geochemistry and Geophysical datasets to the list of datasets that would be useful in "planning and assessing individual projects with regard to the environmental topic(s) of soil and/or material assets"

Geothermal Energy

We welcome the inclusion of the Geothermal Energy paragraph in amendment No. 1.112.

Natural Resources (Minerals/Aggregates)

In Chapter 7 'Economy and Employment under The Rural Economy', amendment no. 1.155, we are pleased to see the addition of the Quarries and Aggregate Resources text and the objective Objective 7.x 'Quarries and Aggregate Resources'.

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me Clare Glanville, or my colleague Trish Smullen at GSIPlanning@gsi.ie.



An Roinn Comhshaoil,
Aeráide agus Cumarsáide
Department of the Environment,
Climate and Communications



Geological Survey
Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta
Ireland | Éireann

Yours sincerely,

Clare Glanville
Senior Geologist
Geological Survey Ireland

Enc: Table - Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes.

Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes
following European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018
(S.I. No. 296 of 2018)

Geological Survey Ireland Programme	Dataset	Relevant EIA Topic	Coverage	Description / Notes / Limitations	Link to Geological Survey Ireland map viewer
Geohazards	Landslide: National landslide database and landslide susceptibility map	Land & Soil/Climate/Landscape	National	Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b68cf1e4a9044a5981f950e9b9c5625c
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Historic)	Water	Regional	Provide information of historic flooding, both surface water and groundwater. [A lack of flooding presented in any specific location of the map only indicates that a flood has not been detected. It does not indicate that a flood cannot occur in that location at present or in the future]	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Predictive)	Water	Regional	Provides information on the probability of future karst groundwater flooding (where available). [The maps do not, and are not intended to, constitute advice. Professional or specialist advice should be sought before taking, or refraining from, any action on the basis of the flood maps]	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc
Geohazards	Radon Map	Land & Soils/Air	National		http://www.epa.ie/radiation/radonmap/
Geoheritage	County Geological Sites as adopted by National Heritage Plan and listed in County Development Plans	Land & Soils/Landscape	Regional	All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0b2fbd2aaac3c228
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	National	1:100,000 scale and associated memoirs.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	Regional	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Sediments	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Geomorphology	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Physiographic units:	Land & Soils	National	Broad-scale physical landscape units mapped at 1:100,000 scale in order to be represented as a cartographic digital map at 1:250,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=afa76a420f54877843aca1bc075c62b
Geological Mapping	GeoUrban: Spatial geological data for the greater Dublin and Cork areas	Land & Soils	Regional	Includes 3D models	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9768f4818b794c16093beb2212a850ce6&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Geotechnical database	Land & Soils	National	Digitised geotechnical and Site Investigation Reports and boreholes which can be accessed through online downloads	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a21718be1873d47a585a3f0415b4a724c
Goldmine	Historical data sets including geological memoirs and 6" to 1 mile geological mapping records	Land & Soils/Water	National	available online	https://secure.dcca.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater resources (aquifers)	Water	National	Data limited to 1:100,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater recharge.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale; long term annual average recharge	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater vulnerability.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Group scheme and public supply source protection areas.	Water	National	Not all PWS / GWS have SPZ / ZOC. Check with IW / coco / NFGWS for private supplies.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater Protection Schemes	Water	National	Data is limited to scale of 1:40,000. Data does not include all of the source protection areas	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Catchment and WFD management units.	Water	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	karst specific data layers	water	National	For areas underlain by limestone, includes karst features, tracer test database; turf/lough water levels (gwlevel.ie)	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Wells and Springs	Water	National	Not comprehensive, there may be unrecorded wells and springs	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater body Descriptions	Water	National	Not exhaustive; only those in designated SACs; could be other GWDTEs; for more information contact NPWS / EPA / site investigations Also, Roadmap for a Policy and Regulatory Framework for Geothermal Energy, November 2020	https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater/Pages/Groundwater-bodies.aspx
Groundwater & Geothermal	Geothermal Suitability maps	Land & Soils/Water	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9e46be08de41278b90a9916d0c0b9e
Marine & Coastal Unit	INFOMAR - Ireland's national marine mapping programme; providing key baseline data for Ireland's	Water	National		https://secure.dcca.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/
Marine & Coastal Unit	CHERISH - Coastal change project (Climate, Heritage and Environments of Reefs, Islands, and Headlands)	Water	Regional		http://www.cherishproject.eu/en/
Marine & Coastal Unit	Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI).	water / Land & Soils	Regional	Currently the project is being carried out on the east coast and will be rolled out nationally	https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-Index.aspx
Minerals	Aggregate potential	Land & Soils/Material Assets	National	Consideration of mineral resources and potential resources as a material asset which should be explicitly recognised within the environmental assessment process	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956
Minerals	Active quarries	Land & Soils	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956
Minerals	Historic mines	Land & Soils/Cultural Heritage	National	Inventory and Risk Classification 2009. Environmental Protection Agency, Economic Minerals Division and Geological Survey Ireland (DECC).	https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/default?zasting=7&northing=7&lid=EPA:LEMA_Facilities_Extractive_Facilities https://www.epa.ie/enforcement/mines/
Tellus	Geochemical data: multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754
Tellus	Airborne geophysical data including radiometrics, electromagnetics and magnetics	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754
Tellus	urban geochemistry mapping (Dublin SURGE project).	Land & Soils	Regional		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754

- Notes:
1. The maps and data listed above are available on the Geological Survey Ireland map viewer <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx>
2. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data
3. Geological Survey Ireland and Irish Concrete Federation published guidelines for the treatment of geological heritage in the extractive industry in 2008.