

CORK COUNTY COUNCIL

Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

and

Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2013

The Cork County Development Plan, 2014 was made by the Council on the 8th December 2014.

Draft Direction in the matter of Section 31 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

TAKE NOTICE THAT:

On 22nd December 2014, the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government notified Cork County Council of his intent to issue a Direction pursuant to Section 31 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). The draft Ministerial Direction relates to the County Cork Development Plan 2014 and Objective ZU 3-7 Appropriate Uses in Industrial Areas.

The reasons given for the draft Direction are:

- A written submission on the Draft Cork County Development Plan 2013 was made to Cork County Council on behalf of the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government on the 26th February 2014.

The written submission outlined that the proposed variation concerning the Planning Authority's policy framework for waste would be significantly inconsistent with the Governments waste policy, A Resource Opportunity-Waste Management Policy in Ireland, which sets out the actions through which Ireland will make the further progress necessary to become a recycling society, with a clear focus on resource efficiency and the virtual elimination of land filling of municipal waste. The policy contains measures to ensure that prevention, reuse, recycling and recovery are favoured to the disposal of waste; the measures already in place to encourage the development of alternatives to landfill include a landfill levy of €75 per tonne and regulations which require the diversion from landfill of food waste arising on specified premises.

It is this policy approach, consistent with the waste hierarchy as set out in the Waste Framework Directive, rather than determination in favour of or against any particular process or technology, that must guide the necessary process of infrastructural diversification, which can be expected to involve the deployment of a variety of technologies and treatment processes across a network of facilities.

In this context, the County Cork Development Plan Objective ZU 3-7 is considered to undermine, and indeed, run counter to Government policy by imposing restrictions on particular processes or technologies. While a restriction on waste disposal (through landfill) could be seen to be consistent with the objectives set out in A Resource Opportunity, any prohibition on energy recovery through incineration would be out of step with the waste hierarchy and therefore with national waste policy.

- The decision by the members to alter the policies and objectives in regard to the waste policy objectives as outlined in this direction does not provide for proper planning and sustainable

development and therefore the County Cork Development Plan 2014 is not in compliance with the requirements of s.9, s.10 and s.12 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

A copy of the draft direction may be inspected each working day, exclusive of public holidays, between the hours of **9.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. at the following locations:**

1. Planning Department, Floor 1, County Hall, Cork.
2. Planning Department, Norton House, Skibbereen, Co. Cork.
3. Cork County Council Divisional Office, Annabella, Mallow.
4. County Library and Branch Libraries during normal library opening hours–
5. Online at www.corkcoco.ie at all times.

for a period of 2 weeks from **Wednesday 14th January 2015 to Wednesday 28th January 2015.**

Written submissions or observations in respect of the draft direction may be made to the Planning Authority during the stated period and shall be taken into consideration by the Minister before he directs the Planning Authority pursuant to this section.

Submission or observations in respect of the draft direction can be made from **Wednesday 14th January 2015 to Wednesday 28th January 2015 at 4pm.** Please make your submission by one medium only, either electronic or hard copy;

- By making an online submission through the website: www.corkcoco.ie

OR

- By making a written submission and addressing it to:

**Senior Planner,
Planning Policy Unit,
Cork County Council,
Floor 13,
County Hall,
Cork.**

Submissions or observations should be marked "**Cork County Development Plan 2014, Section 31 Draft Direction**". The deadline for receipt of all submissions is **4pm on Wednesday 28th January 2015.**

Dated this 14th day of January, 2015

John O'Neill

Director of Services (Planning)