



**Planning and Development Acts 2000 – 2017
Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (as amended)**

**Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region
Pre-Draft Public Consultation**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 24(1) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2017 (the Act) of the intention of the Southern Regional Assembly to commence the process of making a Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the whole of the Southern Region. The purpose of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) is to support the implementation of the emerging National Planning Framework (Ireland 2040 Our Plan) and the economic policies and objectives of the Government by providing a long-term strategic planning and economic framework for the development of the region over a period of between 12 years and 20 years.

It is proposed to carry out a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) (incorporating a Regional Level Flood Risk Appraisal) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) as part of the making of the regional spatial and economic strategy, and for this purpose, the Regional Assembly will prepare a natura impact report and an environmental report on the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the regional spatial and economic strategy.

In order to stimulate debate and encourage participation in the process an Issues Paper has been prepared by the Assembly and it is available to view or download on its website www.southernassembly.ie and may be viewed at the offices of the Southern Regional Assembly, Assembly House, Waterford and the Local Authorities Headquarters within the region. This issues paper details the matters to be considered in the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (as specified at section 23 of the Act) including issues such as:

- The future role of our regional cities, towns and rural areas
- Industry, employment, training and regional economic performance
- Regional housing needs and settlement patterns
- Social, community and cultural facilities
- Future infrastructural investment priorities

The Regional Assembly invites submissions in writing in response to the Issues Paper and focusing on strategic spatial planning and economic issues for the region. Submissions can be made by 5pm on 26th January 2018 via **one** of the following media:

Email: rses@southernassembly.ie

Post: RSES Submissions, Southern Regional Assembly, Assembly House, O'Connell Street,
Waterford X91 K256

The Regional Assembly will consider all submissions made before preparing a Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy. All submissions will be acknowledged but it will not be possible to issue individual responses. Please note that public submissions may be published on our website and subject to Freedom of Information.