

Board Order ABP-319882-24

Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Kilkenny County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: VSR18-23

Appeal by Digital Wren RE Limited care of Fewer Harrington and Partners of Studio 14, The Atrium, Maritana Gate, Canada Street, Waterford in accordance with section 18 of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015, as amended, against a demand for payment of vacant site levy issued by Kilkenny County Council on the 14th day of May 2024 in respect of the site described below.

Description: Site at Rockshire Road, Ballyrobin, Ferrybank, County Kilkenny

Decision

The Board in accordance with section 18(3) of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015, as amended, and based on the reasons and considerations set out below, hereby determines that the above site was a vacant site within the meaning of that Act, and the amount of the levy has been correctly calculated in respect of the vacant site.

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Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to:

- (a) the information submitted to the Board by the planning authority in relation to the entry of the site on the Vacant Sites Register,
- (b) the grounds of appeal submitted by the appellant,
- (c) the report of the Inspector, and
- (d) the need for housing, that the site is zoned residential and is suitable for the provision of housing and that insufficient reason is put forward to cancel entry on the Vacant Sites Register, the Board is satisfied that the site was vacant or idle on the 1st day of January, and that the amount of the levy has been correctly calculated at 7% of the site value of €240,000 in 2023.
- (e) the Board is satisfied there has been no change in the ownership of the site during the period concerned, that is, 2023, and the demand for payment of the vacant site levy of €16,800 (sixteen thousand eight hundred euros) under Section 15 of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 is, therefore, confirmed.

The Board considers that it is appropriate that a notice be issued to the planning authority who shall confirm the demand for payment.

Mick Long

Member of An Bord Pleanála oduly authorised to authenticate the seal of the Board.

Dated this 3rd day of Jamas 2025