



Our Ref: MM/LS

**Strategic Infrastructure Division,
An Bord Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1**

AN BORD PLEANÁLA

LDG- _____
ABP- _____

12 FEB 2020

Fee: € _____

Time: 10:04. By: Post

7th February 2020

**Re: App. Ref: 306146 Foynes to Limerick Road (including the Adare Bypass)
App. Ref: 306146 Foynes to Rathkeale Protected Road Scheme 2019,
Rathkeale to Attyflin Motorway Scheme 2019 and Foynes Service Area
Scheme 2019 (forming the Foynes to Limerick Road (including the Adare
Bypass)**

Dear Sirs

I refer to the above Strategic Infrastructure applications which have recently been lodged by Limerick City and County Council to An Bord Pleanála.

Kerry County Council elected members have raised the issue of N21 improvements through a series of Notices of Motions raised over many years. Kerry County Council very much supports these proposals which will strengthen Kerry's connectivity to Limerick the rest of the country by reducing journey times on the N21 and N69 which are key connecting links to the National Network.

We believe that the proposals are consistent with the *National Planning Framework* and in particular the National Strategic Outcomes (NSOs) listed below;

NSO 2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility The scheme proposals will help achieve this outcome and will help Counties Limerick and Kerry to link to the Atlantic Economic Corridor and the east of the Country.

NSO 3 Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities The proposals are also likely to strengthen the platform for economic growth in West Munster by improving linkage and reducing journey times between County Kerry and County Limerick and the by extension the remainder of the Country.

NSO 6 High Quality International Connectivity It is also recognised that the scheme will connect the Shannon Foynes Tier 1 Port to the TEN-T Core Network meeting the requisite standards in accordance with EU TEN-T Regulations. The current N21 from Rathkeale to east of Adare will be upgraded to meet the TEN-T Comprehensive requisite standards.

Kerry County Council will be constructing the N69 Listowel Bypass over the next three years. The proposal to link Foynes, by means of a dual carriageway, to the proposed Motorway Network at Rathkeale will increase the strategic importance of the N69 as an infrastructural link to North Kerry.

The Southern Regional Assembly has prepared a *Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES)* for the Southern Region which came into effect in recent weeks.

Tralee and Killarney are identified as Key towns in *RSES*. When combined with Killorglin they make up the *Kerry Hub Knowledge Triangle* which is a key economic driver within the County. The Foynes Limerick scheme proposals will strengthen the regional connectivity between the *Kerry Hub Knowledge Triangle* and the Limerick- Shannon Metropolitan Areas and Atlantic Economic Corridor.

In summary, Kerry County Council is very supportive of these proposals which are consistent with National Regional and Local Plans and policies. The introduction of this scheme will provide the opportunity for Kerry to further develop and grow its economy sustainably and we would hope that these applications reach a successful outcome.

Yours faithfully,

Ms. Moira Murrell

Chief Executive Kerry County Council

Príomh-Fheidhmeannach Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí

Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act/Oifigeach Ainmnithe de réir Acht um Brústocaireacht a Rialáil

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