

Our Case Number: ACP-323980-25



**An
Coimisiún
Pleanála**

Offaly County Council
Áras an Chontae
Charleville Road
Tullamore
Co. Offaly

Date: 04 August 2026

Re: Proposed Water Supply Project for the Eastern and Midlands Region
in the counties of Clare, Limerick, Tipperary, Offaly, Kildare, and Dublin.

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received your submission in relation to the above-mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

The Commission will revert to you in due course in respect of this matter.

Please be advised that a copy of all submissions/observations received in relation to the application will be made available for inspection on the Commission's website at the following link:
<https://www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/case/323980>.

If you have any queries in the meantime, please contact the undersigned officer of the Commission. Please quote the above mentioned An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Commission.

Yours faithfully,


Eimear Reilly
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737184

PA09

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Eimear Reilly

From: LAPS
Sent: Wednesday 22 July 2026 10:24
To: Eimear Reilly
Subject: FW: ACP -323980
Attachments: scan165853.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Categories: PA Only

From: Ellen Cashen <ecashen@offalycoco.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 21 July 2026 17:01
To: LAPS <laps@pleanala.ie>; Communications <communications@pleanala.ie>
Subject: ACP -323980

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Good Afternoon,

Please find attached submission for your attention in relation to ACP-323980-25.

Kind regards,

Ellen Cashen

Oifigeach Foirne | An Roinn Pleanáil
Staff Officer | Planning Department

Comhairle Contae Uíbh Fhailí
Offaly County Council

Áras an Chontae, Bóthar Bhaile an Bhóthair, Tulach Mhór, Co. Uíbh Fhailí R35 F893
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Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí
Offaly County Council

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e-mail or any part thereof may be prohibited by law and may constitute a criminal offence. Comhairle Chontae Uibh Fhaili: Tá an t-eolais san ríomhphost seo, agus in aon ceanglái leis, faoi phribhléid agus faoi rún agus le h-agmaigh an seolaí amháin. D'fhéadfadh ábhar an seoladh seo bheith faoi phribhléid profisiúnta nó dlíthiúil. Mura tusa an seolaí a bhí beartaithe leis an ríomhphost seo a fháil, tá cosc air, nó aon chuid de, a úsáid, a chóipeál, nó a scaoileadh. Má tháinig sé chugat de bharr dearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríos an t-ábhar ó do ríomhaire le do thoil.

21 July 2026

Re: Further Observations in respect of UÉ's (Submissions) response report

An Coimisiún Pleanála Case reference: 323980.

Water Supply Project – *Eastern & Midlands Region Project*.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the above and An Coimisiún Pleanála's (ACP) request in relation to the Council's making of a submission or observation on Uisce Eireann's response report dated 06 May 2026 and 02 June 2026.

In this regard, please be advised of the following:

- **Compliance Framework**
Offaly County Council support the principal of 'Compliance Framework' to be submitted by the Applicant, which would set out how and when various pre-commencement documents will be submitted to the relevant local authorities as referred to in para. 66 and 164.
- **Development Contributions**
The applicants view expressed in para 280 that a levy of €100,000 per kilometre would represent a disproportionate amount is noted.
It is advised that the current Offaly Development Contribution Scheme 2026-2032 is effective since 23 March 2026.
As part of the consultation process of the Draft Scheme, it is to be noted that the Council issued a notification to Uisce Eireann seeking submission(s) on the Draft Scheme. No response was received as part of this statutory consultation process.
The scheme ensures that contributions are transparent and proportionate and was formally adopted at the March Meeting (2026) of Offaly County Council in accordance with the statutory provisions set out within Section 48 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).
It is therefore respectfully submitted that the Scheme will apply to any order made by ACP whereby in the event of permission being granted, a condition of the order must ensure that the Council's Development Contribution Scheme is enforced insofar as it relates to the proposed development.

The full version of the Adopted Development Contribution Scheme 2026 - 2032 for the County of Offaly is available to download on the Council's website. The Council draws the inspector's attention and that of the Commissioners to Section 15, Table 2 – N of the operative Scheme, and confirms that no ambiguity exists in that the Scheme makes clear that the amount of 100,000 euros per kilometre of the Water Supply Project Eastern and Midlands Region (Shannon to Dublin pipeline) applies in this case.

- Community Fund Duration

With regard to para 288 and the 5-year community fund duration, the Council reiterates its position that a period of five years is considered too short and would exclude many communities from participating fully and receiving optimum value from the fund. The Council therefore formally requests that Uisce Éireann adopt a minimum of a 10 year, operational-phase community benefit model, ensuring that local communities have the time and capacity to participate fully and deliver high-quality, compliant, and impactful projects.

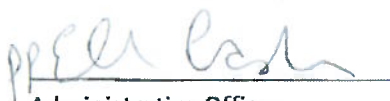
It is noted that the applicant states in para 290 that the fund allocations are appropriate for the proposed project.

Notwithstanding this, the Council repeats its position that;

- A higher percentage allocation of community benefit funding for Offaly is justified on account of the acute and significant disruption to communities and businesses in the county arising at the construction phase of the proposed development, including 300 km of haul routes, 53 public road crossings and impacts on the residual road network from diversions, detours and motorists avoiding HGV's on identified haul routes.
 - The maximum allocation per project under the Community Benefit Scheme should be at least €100,000 having regard to the significant rise in construction costs and inflation, and the need to support projects of scale and long term impact in the host County/Counties.
- The matters put forward in respect of controlling the potential spread of disease on individual farm holdings is noted. No further matters are raised in this regard.

Overall, Offaly County Council wish to reiterate its broad support for the proposed development. Notwithstanding, we respectfully request that the Commission considers the above points in informing its decision in respect of the proposed SID application.

Yours faithfully



Administrative Officer
Planning Department