



## Laois County Council

### Draft Portlaoise Local Area Plan 2024 – 2030

Pursuant to Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended, **Laois County Council** being the Planning Authority for the functional area of County Laois, hereby gives notice of the preparation of a **Draft Local Area Plan for Portlaoise 2024-2030**.

The Local Area Plan will be a statutory document setting out a strategic framework for the proper planning and sustainable development of Portlaoise over the plan period 2024-2030. The new LAP should be read in conjunction with the Laois County Development Plan (CDP) 2021 – 2027.

The Draft Local Area Plan will consist of a written statement, including policies and objectives and will be accompanied by:

- a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report of the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the Local Area Plan (in accordance with the SEA Directive (DIR 2001/42/EC) and pursuant to the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 as amended,
- a Screening Statement in support of Appropriate Assessment and Natura Impact Report in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (DIR 92/43/EEC),
- and a Local Transport Plan pursuant to Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) Guidance Notes (2018) and ABTA How to Guide (2021).

**DISPLAY OF DRAFT:** The Draft LAP and associated documents will be available to view at the following locations, during normal opening hours from **15<sup>th</sup> May to 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024** inclusive:

- **Laois County Council**, Áras an Chontae, JFL Ave., Portlaoise County Laois,

- **Portlaoise Library**, Main Street, Portlaoise, County Laois and
- The Council's **website**: [www.laois.ie](http://www.laois.ie)

Copies of the Draft LAP are available to download from the website.

Hard copies and CDs of the Draft LAP will be available to purchase, on request, at the Planning Counter, Laois County Council, Áras an Chontae, JFL Ave., Portlaoise, County Laois.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSIONS** will be held as follows:

Location	Date & Time
1. Portlaoise Library, Main Street, Portlaoise	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2024  11 am-1 pm
2. Portlaoise Library, Main Street, Portlaoise	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2024  11 am-1 pm

**MAKING A SUBMISSION:** Submissions or observations regarding the Draft LAP and the associated reports are hereby invited from the public and interested bodies. Children, or groups or associations representing the interests of children, are entitled to make submissions or observations.

Written submissions or observations made on or before **4pm, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024** will be taken into consideration before the making of the Local Area Plans.

Submissions may be made in one of the following ways:

1. Through the relevant Consultation Portal: <http://consult.laois.ie> or
2. Email: [portlaoiselap@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:portlaoiselap@laoiscoco.ie) or
3. Write to: Senior Planner, Planning Section, Áras an Chontae, JFL Ave., Portlaoise, County Laois.

All submissions should be in one medium only, i.e. hard copy or via the consultation portal online or by email. This will avoid the duplication of submission reference numbers and will streamline the process.

Include your name and address and, where relevant, details of any organisation, community group or company you represent on a separate page to the content of your submission, in order to assist in complying with the provisions of the Data Protection Act.

The Planning process is an open and public one. In that context, all submissions / observations will be taken into consideration, are a matter of public record and will be placed on the County Councils website. Please be advised that the name of the person(s)/group(s) who make submissions will be published, but personal data will be redacted. This processing of your personal data is lawful under Article 6(1)(e) of the GDPR Regulations.

*The Councils Data Protection Policy is available at:*

- <https://laois.ie/wp-content/uploads/Agreed-Laois-County-Council-revised-Data-Protection-policy-1.pdf>

**YOU ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO MAKE YOUR SUBMISSION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.**

**LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

**LATEST TIME FOR RECEIPT OF SUBMISSIONS (POST/ONLINE/EMAIL) IS:**

- **4.00 PM, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024.**

**Angela McEvoy, Director of Services, Laois County Council**