



**Kenmare MD
Local Area Plan
2022-2028**



Issues Paper





What will the future vision and plan for Kenmare Municipal District's growing communities, places, housing, jobs, sustainable transport and the delivery of services be?

Making a Submission

This is YOUR opportunity to contribute towards the first steps in shaping and directing the future growth and development of the Kenmare MD area. Key strategic issues have been outlined below which you can have your say on or raise other issues of concern in YOUR area.

Join the conversation and let us know your views for the next Kenmare Municipal District Local Area Plan 2022-2028.

Please include your name, address, email, contact number and where applicable, details of the organisation or group you represent. Further information on this process and updates are available on <https://consult.kerrycoco.ie/en>

Submissions/observations may be made via the following methods:



<https://consult.kerrycoco.ie/en>



Pre-Draft Kenmare MD Local Area Plan,
Planning Policy Unit,
Kerry County Council,
County Buildings,
Rathass,
Tralee,
Co. Kerry.

All submissions should be signed and clearly headed '**Kenmare MD LAP Pre-Draft**'.

Closing date for submissions/observations is the 9th of September 2022.

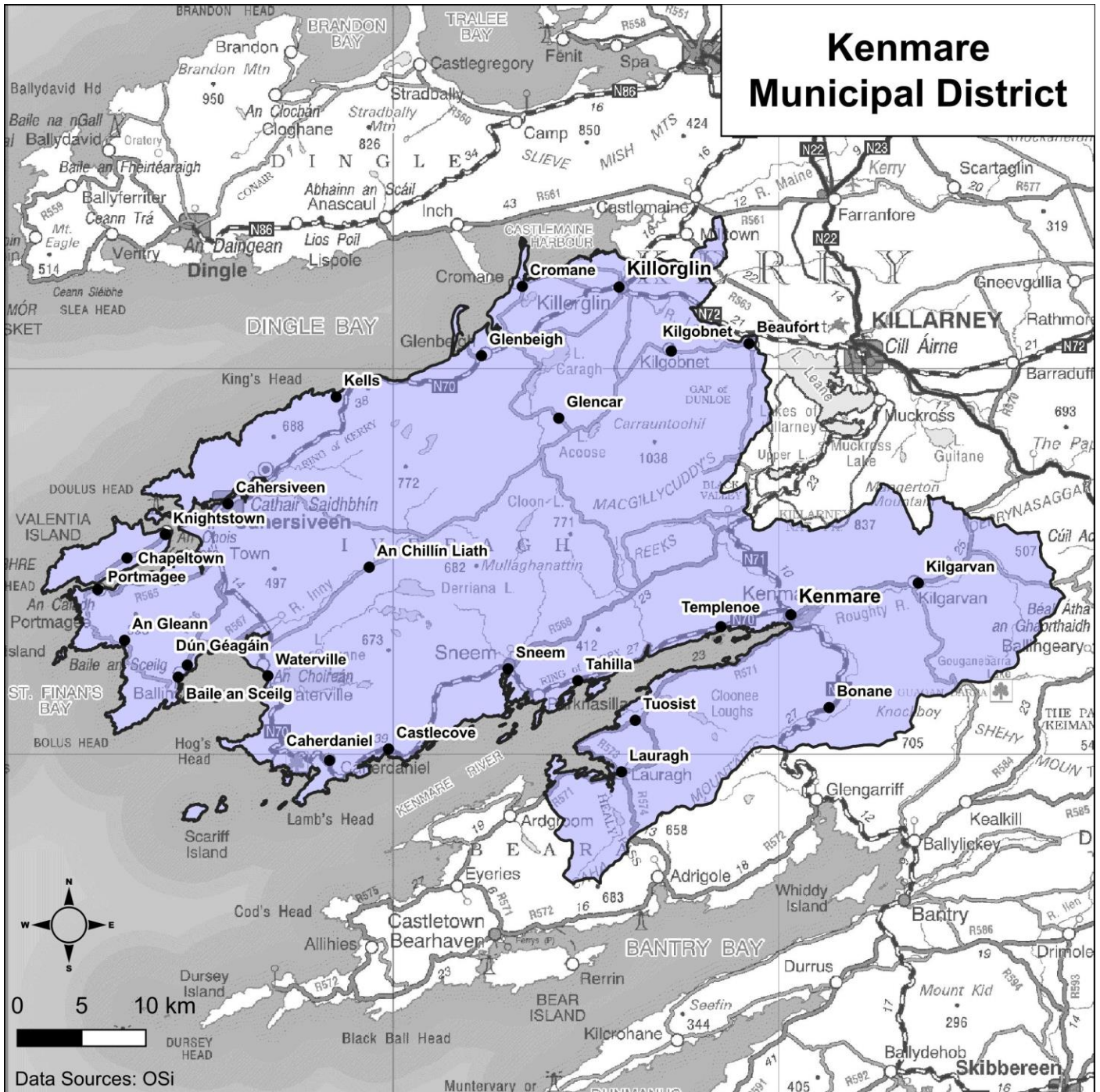
All written submissions/observations must be signed.

Submissions/observations received will be published online.

Introduction

A draft Local Area Plan (LAP) is being prepared for lands in the Kenmare Municipal District in accordance with the requirements and provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. The purpose of the plan is to set out a comprehensive local planning framework with clear policies and objectives including land-use zoning in the interest of the common good.

This new plan will replace the existing West Iveragh LAP 2019-2015, Killorglin Functional Area LAP 2010-2016 and the Kenmare Functional Area LAP 2010-2016 and the Cahersiveen, Waterville & Sneem Functional Areas LAP 2013-2019, and what was proposed to be the future South Kerry LAP.



Map 1 Kenmare Municipal District Area and Settlements

What is a Local Area Plan (LAP)?

A Local Area Plan consists of a written statement and maps, which set out the local authorities' objectives for the plan area. The plan provides the standards that will guide development in the area. It is valid for six years from the date of adoption by the Council, this period can be extended by a further 5 years by resolution passed by Council members. Local Area Plans should be compatible with national and regional guidance documents and the core strategy and policies of the Kerry County Development Plan. It must respond to opportunities and challenges presented by the current economic climate and promote continued economic and social development. The LAP must achieve balance between the needs and aspirations of the community with the requirements of the Planning Authority and the expectations of stakeholders.

A Municipal District M.D. plan should:

- Provide a framework for Sustainable Development
- Promote local economic development & employment growth
- Integrate environmental considerations
- Deliver high quality urban design
- Encourage smarter travel patterns
- Improve people's quality of life & focus on Community Needs
- Protect the built, natural and linguistic/cultural heritage of the area

Vision & Aims of the Plan

The first stage of the process includes undertaking pre-draft consultation [issues paper] to explore current issues and inviting all stakeholders and interested parties to identify the issues that they feel need to be addressed in the plan, and how the area should be developed. The Local Area Plan will be underpinned by a strategic vision which is intended to guide the future development of the area in a sustainable manner, in a way that reflects the existing character and amenities of the area and improves quality of life for the existing and future population.

This is followed by the preparation of a Draft Plan and then the making of the Local Area Plan. At both this stage and subsequently to the preparation of a draft plan, the planning authority undertakes a public consultation exercise and invites your comments.

The aim of this issues paper is to clarify the areas and topics which the Local Area Plan covers and to stimulate public thinking and debate on the future planning of the Kenmare MD Area. We would welcome your views on any issues identified in this paper or any other issues that you would consider important and relevant to the future planning and sustainable development of the area. It is important that you convey your views to us right from the beginning so that everyone (elected members, council officials, the wider public, statutory agencies, service providers, businesses and interested groups) work together in building ownership of this Local Area Plan and its implementation.

The Gaeltacht area of Uíbh Ráthach is also situated in the Kenmare MD. The plan will seek to protect the linguistic/cultural heritage of the area and promote the use of the language.

What is the purpose of the Issues Paper?

The purpose of this Issues Paper is intended to get you thinking about the type of land-use issues that might be addressed in the new Kenmare M.D. Local Area Plan, and to encourage you to make a submission on these issues, or any other planning issues that you think are important and provides an important opportunity for people living in Kenmare M.D. area to get involved in the plan preparation process. We are interested in hearing from everybody to identify issues that need to be addressed in the LAP on how Kenmare M.D. area should develop into the future.

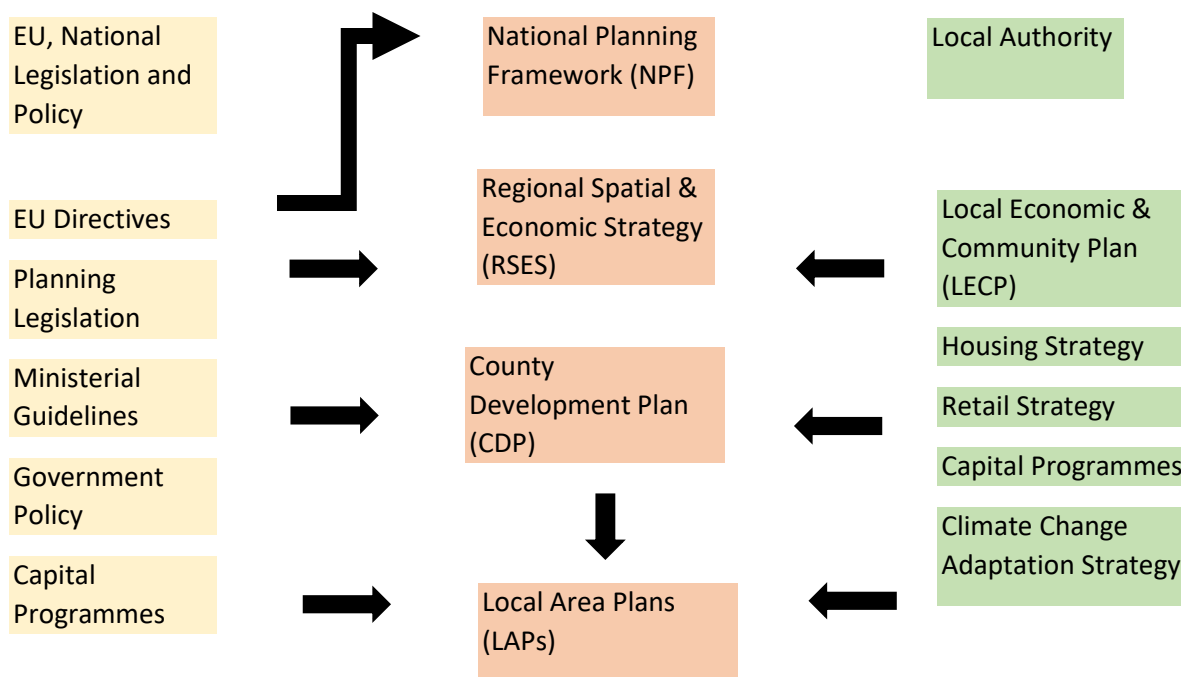
Whether you are a younger or an older person, an individual or a community/sports group, a business, a resident, an entrepreneur or a voluntary organisation, your opinion matters.

Public participation (including the interests of children) is an essential element in the planning process, and in particular in the formation of planning policies which will shape the future development of the Kenmare Municipal District.

Planning Context

The Kenmare MD LAP must be consistent with the objectives of the higher order plans, including the Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Southern Region and the National Planning Framework. Local Area Plans are located at the lower end of the hierarchy of national, regional and county level plans.

Strategic Planning Context of Local Area Plan



The Process Timeline			
Stage	Stage Description	Process Timeframe	
1	Pre-Draft Stage	Pre-draft Public Consultation Issues Paper – September 2022	
2	Draft Plan Stage	Public Display of Draft LAP (6 Weeks)	
		Chief Executive’s Report on Submissions Received (6 Weeks)	
		Council Members Consider the Chief Executive’s Report (6 Weeks)	
3	Amendments to Draft Plan	Adopt or Amend LAP (3 weeks)	
		Amendments SEA/AA Screening of amendments commences	
		Public Notice of Material Alterations and Screening Report, Full Environmental Report if Deemed Necessary and Available Subject to Section 20(3) (G). (3 Weeks)	
		Public Display (4 Weeks)	
		Preparation of Chief Executive’s Report (4 Weeks)	
		Chief Executive’s Report (6 Weeks)	
		Council Members Decision (6 Weeks)	
5	Adopted Plan	Adoption of Local Area Plan (This comes into effect 4 weeks from the date of adoption)	

Note: Exact dates may change over the course of the process



Settlements

The area and main settlements of the LAP are listed in Table 1 and shown on Map 1. The regional towns are Cahersiveen, Kenmare and Killorglin while Sneem and Waterville occupy an important role as district towns for the area as identified in the settlement hierarchy of the Kerry County Development Plan (KCDP) 2022-2028.

Settlement Hierarchy	Settlement
Regional Towns	Cahersiveen, Kenmare, Killorglin.
District Towns	Sneem, Waterville.
Villages	Baile an Sceilg, Beaufort, Chapelstown, Dún Géagáin, Glenbeigh Kilgarvan, Knightstown, Portmagee.
Small Village Settlements	An Chillín Liath, An Gleann, Bonane, Caherdaniel, Castlecove Cromane, Glencar, Kells, Kilgobnet, Lauragh, Tahilla, Templenoe and Tuosist.

Table 1

The regional towns of **Cahersiveen, Kenmare** and **Killorglin** are strong, active and economically vibrant towns. These towns serve significant rural hinterlands as important service centres for retail, business and often providing large numbers of local employment. These towns generally provide a wide range of facilities including primary and secondary schools, Garda stations, public libraries, health facilities, Post offices, and many other diverse community services.

The settlements in the Kenmare MD Area function as local drivers for their surrounding areas through well-established economic, administrative and social functions. They support clusters of services, have a significant share of homes and jobs, and act as transport hubs for a much wider rural community.

Emphasis will be on the growth of the main settlements of Cahersiveen, Kenmare and Killorglin, and in Sneem and Waterville to a lesser extent, as the principal locations for future investment in housing, employment, infrastructure,

social and community facilities. The development of other settlements including Beaufort, Glenbeigh, Kilgarvan and Knightstown is restricted due to absence of adequate water infrastructure and plans for capital investment.

Key challenges for these areas include, population growth, Regeneration of town centres, digital connectivity, community and social Facilities, local infrastructure and sustainable tourism.

SETTLEMENTS

Q. What policies or strategic objectives should be included in the Plan to secure the development of the overall Kenmare MD area?

Q. How do you think the Local Area Plan can promote the development of the Kenmare Municipal District to serve the needs of the local community and drive economic development?

Q. How can we promote sustainable development?

Q. What are the key strengths and weaknesses of your area?



Climate Change & Achieving a Sustainable Future

The effects of climate change pose a serious threat to quality of life, communities, businesses, the environment and biodiversity. Kerry County Council has a Climate Change Adaption Strategy addressing adaption (to minimise the effects of climate change, such as extreme weather events, greenhouse gas emissions) and mitigation (to seek ways to prevent climate change such as innovative green construction methods and materials).

Spatial planning is a key player in climate change action - particularly adaptation where more compact, less energy-intensive forms of urban development are crucial in the adaptation to climate change specifically at a local level. These principles inform this LAP. This Lap will secure the implementation of the climate change objectives and policies as set out in the Kerry County Development plan 2022-2028. This LAP also recognises the growing importance of biodiversity and nature conservation as a means to both mitigate and adapt to climate change. As international and national trends show a rapid decline in biodiversity, this plan seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity in the plan area.

Climate change will have diverse and wide-ranging impacts on our environment, society, economic sectors and natural resources. Management of areas prone to flooding and the coastal zone must be addressed in the new Local Area Plan along with measures to adapt to climate change by transitioning to a low carbon and climate resilient town, with an emphasis on reduction in energy demand and greenhouse gas emissions.

CLIMATE CHANGE & ACHIEVING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Q. How can the plan support our transition to a low carbon climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy?

Q. What methods should be encouraged to maximise renewable energy provision for commercial/industrial and residential developments?

Q. How can we increase awareness and help reduce the impacts of climate change in the plan area?

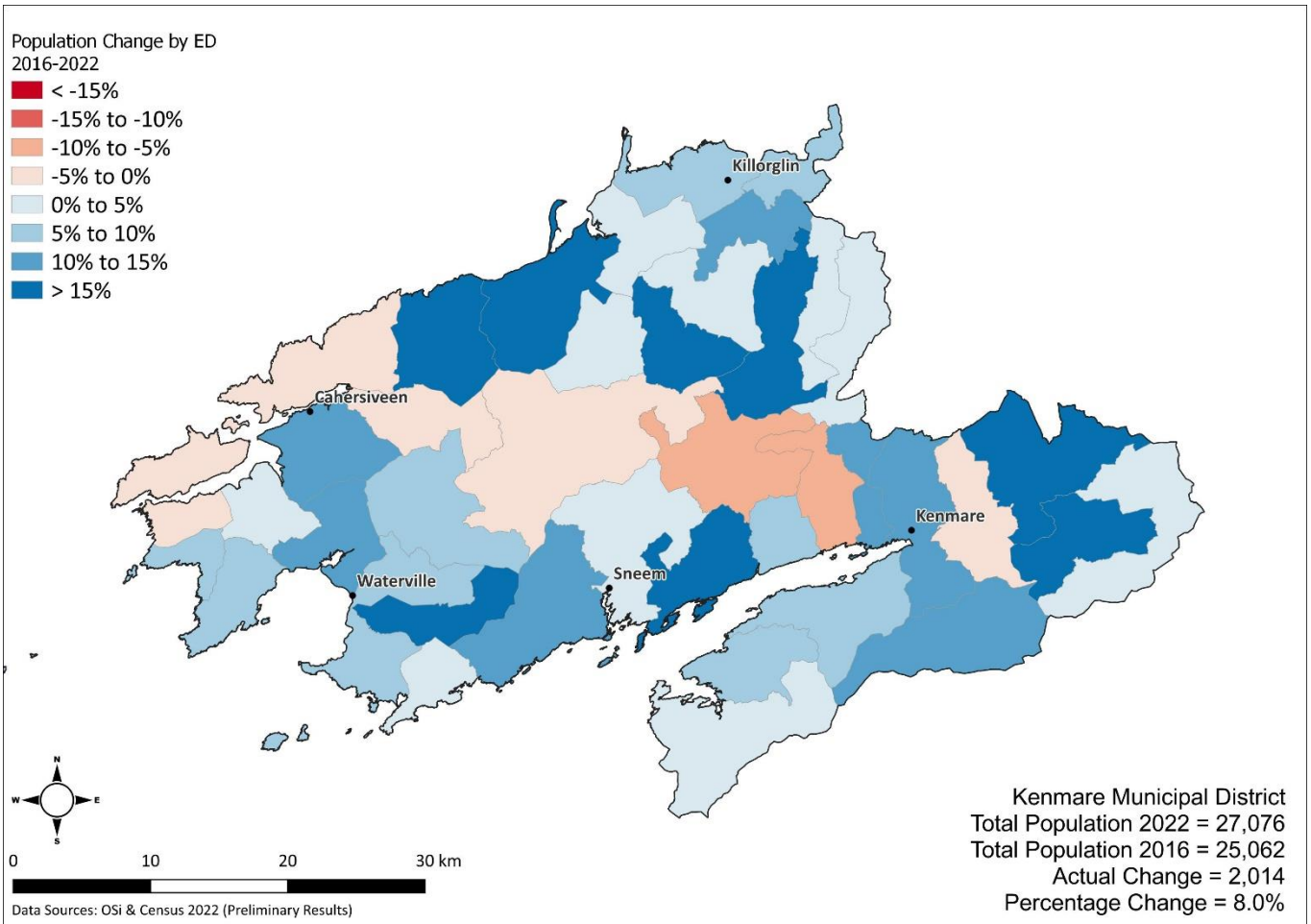


Core & Settlement Strategy

The Core Strategy of the Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028 provides for a population allocation of 9,363 persons for over the 6 year plan period, which equates to approximately 7,000 new houses. Kerry County Council are required to identify and reserve an appropriate amount of land in the correct locations to meet housing and population targets.

	2011 Population	2016 Population	% Change
Kerry	145,502	147,707	1.5%
Kenmare	2,175	2,376	9.2%
Killorglin	2,082	2,199	5.6%
Cahersiveen	1,168	1,041	-10.9%

Future housing supply in the Kenmare MD Area must be provided in a sustainable manner and demonstrate consistency with the objectives of the Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028, in particular with the core strategy of County Plan, especially in relation to the quantum and location of lands identified for development. Development should be within the existing settlement and emphasis is placed on brownfield sites, infill sites and re-use of existing housing stock/vacant buildings. New residential areas should be connected, attractive and well designed with a range of adaptable dwelling types and densities, creating a sense of place and a high-quality public realm. Continued population growth will create pressure on the housing market and on certain services and infrastructure including childcare, schools, transport, water, wastewater, recreation and amenity.



Map 2 Population Change by Electoral Division 2016-2022 (preliminary Census 2022 results)

CORE & SETTLEMENT STRATEGY

- Q. How can we encourage efficient use of zoned and serviced land and where are the key opportunity sites in your area that are suitable for (re)development?
- Q. Given the amount of undeveloped residential zoned land, how do you think development can be reconciled and managed having regard to the target population.
- Q. What do you think are the priorities for housing in terms of size & type of housing? Are more town centre apartments needed, family housing or specialist housing, for example older people?



Towns & Villages and Compact Growth

The towns and villages of the LAP all have their own strengths and character from a social, cultural, heritage and economic perspective. Towns and villages play a critical role in the overall socio-economic, environmental, cultural development and quality of life of the citizens and visitors alike. They create local distinctiveness, identity and sense of place and are traditionally where major social and economic activity takes place. The policies of the Local Area Plan must consider the cumulative impacts of regeneration and redevelopment of major sites in tandem and ensure that commensurate social, community and cultural facilities are provided to both facilitate and address projected population growth.

The Planning Authority recognises that there is a changing profile and function of towns and villages and that they have faced considerable challenges in recent years to retain vibrancy and vitality. Building critical population mass and addressing the challenges of town centre/village renewal is a key issue to ensure the long-term sustainability of many of the settlements in terms of sustainable jobs growth and retail sales.

Urban Design in towns and villages is an important element which contributes to a place (buildings, uses, streets, footpaths, open spaces) and ensures that those elements create an attractive and distinct environment. Public realm is defined as all external spaces that are publicly accessible, including streets, parking areas, footpaths, squares and parks. A high-quality public realm enhances the character of any place and encourages people to utilise and enjoy public spaces, thereby contributing to placemaking and the overall vitality of an area. Measures to improve the public realm can include harmonising signage and reducing overall visual clutter by adopting a consistent approach in terms of street furniture, lighting and paving.

TOWNS & VILLAGES AND COMPACT GROWTH

- Q. How do we facilitate compact growth patterns?
- Q. How do we increase residential living in the town centre?
- Q. How can we encourage the reuse of vacant properties and address dereliction to revitalise town centres so that they are vibrant, welcoming, attractive places to live and work in, visit and shop?
- Q. Where should new retail/ commercial developments be located?
- Q. Would pedestrianisation of town centres improve the retail experience within the towns?
- Q. Is there adequate provision of street furniture in the towns? e.g. public seating, planters?
- Q. How can alternative options to rural housing be provided within smaller towns and villages?
- Q. What urban design standards should apply in your towns and villages?
- Q. How can the RRDF funding secured for the Cahersiveen 'Destination Town' Project and the Strategic Regeneration of Killorglin Town be maximised?
- Q. What public realm and town/village regeneration projects are needed to enhance the overall vibrancy in your town or village?



Rural Areas

The balance between housing delivery in our towns, villages and rural areas needs to be carefully balanced so as not to undermine the long-term viability of the individual towns and villages ensuring in particular that key local community facilities are retained and continue to be viable.

This pattern of development outside of existing settlements will continue to weaken the attractiveness of these towns and villages to inward investment, future jobs and services. Conversely unsustainable patterns of high rates of development in rural areas can result in excessive car based commuting patterns in order to access employment, shops and other services and places greater demands on uneconomical infrastructure development and the need for other services outside of the main settlement areas. In addition, this settlement pattern is at variance with climate action policy which seeks to consolidate urban settlements. This will ensure protection of natural resources such as greenfield sites, water resources while allowing more combined public services like water and local transport initiatives.

As an alternative to one off housing, and to consolidate the existing pattern of development around focal points and to utilise existing services in an area, clusters of housing served by individual wastewater treatment systems where there is no wastewater infrastructure or no plans for such infrastructure can now be considered.

RURAL AREAS

- Q. How can we address rural decline and strengthen our rural areas?
- Q. What role can our small towns and villages play?
- Q. How do we encourage economic diversification in rural areas?
- Q. What services are required in the countryside to support vibrant rural communities?



Sustainable Communities

Community infrastructure plays a vital role in contributing to the quality of life for all. The physical environment should develop in such a way that it facilitates the healthy functioning of sustainable community and cultural life. Services and amenities including crèches, schools, amenities, recreation and other community facilities should be provided in tandem with residential development. The provision of an adequate level and distribution of community facilities and amenities that meet the current and future needs of the local community will be a priority in the new Local Area Plan.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

- Q. What type of community facilities and local services are currently needed in your area and in new residential communities?
- Q. Are adequate childcare facilities available throughout the area?
- Q. How can the Plan utilise and enhance existing amenity areas in the towns and villages and provide for adequate open space and recreational facilities for both passive and active recreation?
- Q. What community infrastructure and sports facilities are lacking and where should these be located?
- Q. What natural features/ routes can be developed as interconnecting walking routes and cycleways?
- Q. Are there enough facilities for younger and older residents of the town, and people with disabilities?



Gaeltacht Areas, Culture & Heritage

The Gaeltacht area of Uíbh Ráthach is situated in the Kenmare MD LAP and forms an important part of the linguistic, social, and cultural tradition of the area. Every effort must be made to preserve, maintain and promote Gaeltacht traditions. The cultural heritage of the Iveragh peninsula area is very strong. Its landscape, folklore, historic, archaeological, musical, linguistic heritage and literary diversity gives the area a unique character and sense of identity. In particular, the area is identified with its linguistic heritage, being one of the remaining areas in the Country where the Irish language is spoken.

This plan aims to ensure that the Irish language will be preserved and promoted as the living community language of the Gaeltacht and that Gaeltacht communities will be supported to strengthen and expand the social networks that nourish Irish as the community language. This will also reaffirm Cahersiveen's role as a regional town servicing and supporting the West Iveragh area and Gaeltacht region.

The Plan area has a vibrant living culture that is engrained in the local communities, including a wealth of heritage and traditional arts, design & crafts as well as contemporary arts practice, across disciplines. The Plan area continues to attract creative people as a place to live and create work, who are inspired by the landscape, seascape and living culture of the area. Importantly, this creative culture enhances the visitor offerings for those visiting the area and contributes to the Kenmare MD area in terms of employment, economic and local enterprise.

It is important that the natural and built heritage of the towns and villages and surrounding areas are safeguarded against inappropriate development. The built heritage of the plan area refers to the Record of Protected Structures and Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs) and special aspects of a settlement's-built heritage will be highlighted in the LAP. There are seven ACAs in the Kenmare MD area. These are listed in Volume 3 of the Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028.

GAELTACHT AREAS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

- Q. How can the plan help to ensure that the Gaeltacht economies and communities prosper in a sustainable manner?
- Q. How can the plan help to encourage and promote the use of the Irish language as the living community language of the Gaeltacht?
- Q. How can Cahersiveen's role as a Bailte Seirbhísí Gaeltacht (Gaeltacht Service Town) be used to enhance the use of the Irish language?
- Q. How can the plan facilitate and support measures to secure the designation of Valentia Trans-Atlantic Cable Station, Cable Terrace, "First Message" Building, Structure in the Telegraph Field, and ensemble of associated sites as a trans-national serial UNESCO World Heritage Site?
- Q. What aspects of the built and natural heritage do you consider important and should be protected from inappropriate development?
- Q. How can the landscape, and built heritage be suitably protected, conserved and enhanced while accommodating the development needs of the area?
- Q. How can the LAP encourage the reuse, integration and regeneration of protected structures and older vacant structures located in town and village centre areas?
- Q. How can public realm projects help to enhance the heritage of the Kenmare MD area?



Economic Development

The Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028 has recognised two areas within the County that have the potential of Economic Development of Regional significance due to the existing level of population, employment, education and research facilities and potential due to location as part of a wider regional economic zone. One of these, The Kerry Hub and Knowledge Triangle is located within the Kenmare MD LAP area.

The Kerry Hub and Knowledge Triangle is recognised as an innovative economic hub within the established network of Killorglin, Tralee, Killarney and the Atlantic Economic Corridor. The RSES recognises the important economic role of Killorglin in this network and its strong association with Tralee, Killarney and third level institutions. It is the objective of the Council as set out in Chapter 9 of the Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028 to support the further development of the Kerry Hub and Knowledge Triangle and its potential to create substantial economic benefit to the County.

Economic development provides the backbone for progress and sustainability for the many settlements in the Kenmare MD area. A key focus of the new Local Area Plan will be to ensure that the conditions for the creation of enterprise and innovation are embraced and developed and to encourage and facilitate a diversity of employment opportunities and promote inward investment. While many residents will continue to commute to other centres for employment, it is important that all towns and small villages retain and further develop their social and economic infrastructure to function as sustainable communities.

Skellig Centre for Research & Innovation (Skellig CRI) is an outreach university campus for higher education, research and entrepreneurship based in 'WEAVE', Cahersiveen. It is a space that fosters collaboration, community building, and a higher education research and entrepreneurial spirit. This Centre is a unique higher education and community development partnership between ACE at UCC, Kerry County Council & South Kerry Development Partnership (SKDP) which promotes local level collaboration with national and international research communities, emulating in a local context the impact of a third level institution on a community.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Q. How do you think the Local Area Plan can promote the development of the Kenmare Municipal District to drive economic development?

Q. What development should happen in your area do attract further investment, create local jobs and foster local economic development and entrepreneurship?

Q. What supports/ services are required in the town to sustain and grow employment and employment potential?

Q. How can we promote remote working and micro enterprise?

Q. How can a range of employment opportunities be provided locally so as to reduce unemployment and reduce dependency on the private car?

Q. How can Skellig Cri build on its success as an outreach university campus for higher education, research and development?



Tourism & Outdoor Recreation

The Kenmare MD LAP area has attractive towns, a fantastic natural environment and its attractions include the internally renowned Ring of Kerry driving route, Gap of Dunloe, Killarney National Park, the MacGillycuddy Reeks mountains, Valentia Island and Sceilig Mhichíl which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Derrynane House and National Historic Park, the birthplace of Daniel O’Connell, is located outside Caherdaniel. There are also superb activity amenities including Cappanalea and beaches including Kells, White Strand, Ballinskelligs, Derrynane and Rossbeigh which all have Blue Flags. The internationally renowned championship Waterville golf course is a huge draw for international golfers.

Continued investments over recent years in infrastructure, people and attractions have added to the competitiveness of the region internationally for tourists. Future major infrastructural projects committed to by the Local Authority include the impending development of the approved South Kerry Greenway between Cahersiveen and Glenbeigh, which when completed will bring significant year-round benefits to the area.

The plan aims to build a sustainable tourism future that maximises and diversifies the tourism product to the highest standard and to extend the tourist season taking particular care of the natural and built environment.

TOURISM & OUTDDOR RECREATION

Q. In addition to current provision, what are the opportunities for developing additional sustainable tourism in your area?

Q. Are there areas that have the potential to be developed for tourism and recreational purposes?

Q. Are there specific areas of tourism that should be targeted e.g. heritage, leisure, activity tourism, and how can the Local Area Plan facilitate these?

Q. How can the South Kerry Greenway help to maximise economic opportunities along the approved route?



Environment

High-quality open spaces and amenity areas are essential for a good quality of life and are key components of sustainable communities. Green infrastructure includes nature conservation areas, parks, open space, rivers, floodplains, wetlands, woodlands, farmland and town greenways which support and improve environmental conditions in a way that facilitates environmental, economic and societal benefits.

The Kenmare MD plan area has many designated nature conservation sites with International, European and National protection status. The plan area contains a wealth of coastal habitats, including estuarine, salt marshes and mudflats, dune systems, lagoons and rocky shores that make an essential contribution to the environmental quality and ecological biodiversity of the area.

Flood risk is a key consideration in preparing a Local Area Plan. The Council seeks to avoid flood risk, substitute less vulnerable uses, when avoidance is not possible, and mitigate/manage the risk where avoidance and substitution are not possible. The National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) mapping, published by the Office of Public Works, identifies these Flood Zones in the Kenmare MD LAP.

ENVIRONMENT

- Q. Are there any specific views, areas of local interest of special amenity value that you consider should be protected from inappropriate development?
- Q. What do you think are the big environmental issues (strengths and threats) facing the area?
- Q. How best can we integrate a Green Infrastructure approach to the area incorporating the themes of open space, biodiversity, landscape, water and archaeology?
- Q. Are there local Parks or green areas which you feel could benefit from enhancement or works to improve their biodiversity?
- Q. How can the Plan encourage the protection and enhancement of species and habitats?
- Q. How can the Plan address flood risk and build resilience to better cope with the increasing frequency of extreme weather events?
- Q. How can we manage areas at risk of flooding and coastal erosion?



Energy

The Regional, Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region focuses on strengthening the urban structure of the region. The strategy focuses on the growth of key settlements of the County, to improve accessibility, to conserve energy, to make the most efficient use of resources and to maintain the role and character of smaller towns and villages. In compliance with the RSES strategy the aim for the plan area is generally to improve the quality of life for people by strengthening the key settlements identified in the plan area.

ENERGY

- Q. How can the Plan promote renewable energy while protecting the landscape, residential amenity and ecology?
- Q. How can we encourage energy conservation, minimise usage and promote alternative sources of renewable energy?



Water & Waste Management

The provision and maintenance of high-quality service infrastructure is vital to attracting and retaining economic development and improving the quality of life for those who live in the area. These include, water supply and drainage, waste management, pollution management (Air, Noise, Light, Water, Litter, Major Hazards), utility supply, broadband/ telecommunications services and roads. There is a need to plan for all of these elements so as to ensure that there is adequate availability to support future sustainable development of the plan area.

Investment in new or additional capacity in water services will be informed by national, regional and local planning policy and addressed through Irish Water's Capital Investment Plans. Population growth will be identified in areas with public services and facilities and close collaboration with Irish Water in relation to the investment and upkeep of these facilities will be a key aim contained within the Kenmare MD LAP.

WATER & WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Q. What measures can be introduced to protect and safeguard the water quality of our rivers and groundwater?
- Q. Are there any concerns with regard to water and sewerage or other infrastructural matters, which you feel the Plan could address?
- Q. Are there adequate recycling facilities in your area and if not, where should they be located?



Connectivity

Options for travel, transport and movement are critical to achieving national climate targets, healthier lifestyles, and for progressive economic development. Where and how we build our residential and work environments and supporting transport infrastructure including roads, footpaths and cycleways, is fundamental for sustainable communities, climate action and quality of life considerations. It is essential that the new Local Area Plan promotes an integrated transport system in line with national transport policy to encourage a modal shift to more sustainable modes of transport such as walking, cycling and public transport.

Kerry County Council recognises the importance of a modern, efficient telecommunications sector for the future development of the Kenmare MD area. It recognises that high speed broadband is essential in a knowledge-based economy and that the Information Technology sector has huge potential for employment creation in the Kenmare MD area. It is an objective of the Planning Authority as set out in the County Development Plan to facilitate and support community innovation hubs, digital hubs, food hubs, start-ups and centres of excellence (with particular opportunities for innovation in agri-food, agri-tech, marine research, creative industries, knowledge economy etc.) as local drivers for growth. The policies and objectives of the KCDP with respect to digital connectivity will be underpinned by the new digital strategy which is currently under preparation by Kerry County Council.

The Council will seek to ensure that improvements in transportation and digital infrastructure services support the strategic development and settlement strategy for the Kenmare MD area as set out in the Kerry County Development Plan 2022 and 2028 and provide an appropriate level of accessibility to urban and rural facilities, services and opportunities.

CONNECTIVITY

- Q. How can we provide for better coordination and integration between land uses, maximising the potential of the transportation network?
- Q. Have you any specific suggestions to encourage the use of public transport, cycling and walking?
- Q. How do you think the Plan can provide for good connectivity for recreational walking and cycling purposes? Is there any specific location that you feel this Plan can address?
- Q. Are there areas where new or improved footpaths, cycle ways, parking, roadways and links to public transport services should be provided?
- Q. How can the Plan improve transport and connectivity for older and less-abled people and children?
- Q. How can the concepts of “Active Travel” be incorporated into the Plan?

- Q. How can rural transport and accessibility be improved?
- Q. How can greater emphasis be put on emerging technology solutions, e.g., electric vehicles?
- Q. How can the Sneem Digital Hub continue to grow and attract more people to live and work in the area?
- Q. How can the plan support the need to develop a sustainable approach to traffic management along the Gap of Dunloe into the future?
- Q. How can the plan support the provision of telecommunications & broadband providers?

CONTACT

LOCATION	SOCIAL MEDIA
Kerry County Council	 @kerrycountycouncil
County Buildings	 @countykerry
Rathass	 kerrycountycouncil
Tralee	
County Kerry	
(066) 7183500	