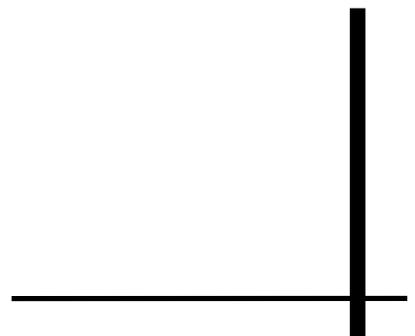




Foreword



Background

The Local Area Plan (LAP) for Carrick-on-Shannon sets out the policies and objectives, specific to Carrick-on-Shannon, for the proper planning and sustainable development of the town from 2010-2016. The plan seeks to develop and improve, in a sustainable manner, the social, cultural and environmental assets of the town.

Plan Area

The Plan covers a total area of approximately 191 hectares.

Legal Preamble

The legal basis for this plan is laid out Sections 18-20 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). Section 19 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) requires that the Planning Authority prepare a new Local Area Plan at least every 6 years after the making of the previous Local Area Plan. This process has been on-going since the 1st of April 2009 and has now arrived at the publication of the Carrick-on-Shannon Local Area Plan 2010-2016.

Period of Plan

The plan is valid for a six year period from the date the plan is made. The Carrick-on-Shannon Local Area Plan was made on the 10th May 2010 and it came into effect 4 weeks later on the 7th June 2010.

Plan Layout

This Local Area Plan comprises of a written statement and maps. The written statement is divided into five main sections.

Following the foreword the plan puts forward a long term vision of the town as it grows and evolves. The Council aims to realise this Vision in partnership with other agencies, voluntary organisations and the people of Carrick-on-Shannon.

The first section is an audit of the town, as it exists at the moment. It gives a profile of the town, its strengths and weaknesses are analysed and opportunities and threats are identified.

Section 2 of the plan sets out how the vision is to be realised. The **Objectives and Policies** of Leitrim County Council for the future development of Carrick-on-Shannon are set out.

Section 3 sets out **Development Management Standards**. These standards are designed to ensure all new development is designed and built to a high standard.

Section 4 is a statement on the **Likely Significant Effects on the Environment** of implementing the plan. This section sets out the findings of the screening report which was carried out in accordance with the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2007 and the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004.

The final section – Section 5, consists of the **Appendices** to the plan i.e. issues raised during the Pre-Draft & Draft Consultation Phases, issues raised during the Draft Consultation Phase, Recommended Standards for Apartments, the Record of Protected Structures, Guidelines on Flood Risk & Development and a Bibliography.

Using the Plan

The plan can be read as an entire document on planning for the town of Carrick-on-Shannon up to the year 2016 or as a reference manual for particular topics of interests or development proposals. It is important to note that while some cross referencing between the policies and objectives (Section 2) and the development management standards (Section 3) for various topics have been included, it is not intended to be a definitive list of all relevant development management standards. Where cross referencing occurs, it should be considered only as a guide, as further development management standards may also be relevant depending on the development proposal, it's location etc.

If any conflict or ambiguity arises between what is contained in the written statement and the supporting maps, the written statement will take precedence.

It should also be noted that the parent planning document is the Leitrim County Development Plan 2009-2015. It is a requirement of the legislation that the local area plan be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan. In many instances, throughout the Local Area Plan for Carrick-on-Shannon, reference is made to this document within which further relevant guidance on policies, objectives and standards can be obtained. As with the cross referencing between Sections 2 and 3, cross referencing between the two plans is not definitive and where it occurs, it should only be considered as a guide and not a definitive guide.