

**An Roinn Oideachais
agus Scileanna
Department of
Education and Skills**



Senior Executive Officer
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department
Fingal County Council
County Hall
Main Street
Swords
County Dublin
K67 X8Y2

07 February 2020

Re: Proposed Variation No. 2 Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023

To whom it may concern,

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of notification of the above variation. The Department notes that the proposed variation seeks to respond to the recent changes in National and Regional planning policy, namely the publication of the National Planning Framework (NPF) in 2018 and the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) in 2019.

The Department has analysed the document and notes a number of changes within. The Department recognises from Table 6.2 that the projected growth figures for the county in 2026 and 2031 are now 333,000 and 349,000 respectively, which represents an increase of over 50,000 on the 2016 census figure for the county over this period.

The Department accepts that the plan's population projections will be adjusted to coincide with the life of the plan but also notes that future projections to 2031 will now be an addition to the CDP. In this regards, the ramifications for any future educational requirements extend beyond the life of this plan. Therefore, in an effort to identify future education requirement within the county, it is vitally important that ongoing and future engagements between the Department and the Council take into consideration both the short term and the longer term population projections that are being proposed.

It is also worth noting that Individual variations or planning developments may not of themselves result in a requirement for significantly increased educational provision but when taken cumulatively there could be a need for increased provision that will not be identified in a timely manner without collaboration. This further endorses the need for a regular structured engagement to take place between our respective organisations so that we can work together proactively to ensure that adequate educational provision is available in the appropriate locations in order to meet the needs of the increased population.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Hanlon
Site Acquisitions and Property Management Section